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(11)

EP 1 400 749 A2

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(43) Date of publication:
24.03.2004 Bulletin 2004/13

(51) Int Cl.7: **F21V 19/00**

(21) Application number: **03425588.5**

(22) Date of filing: **10.09.2003**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
**AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR
HU IE IT LI LU MC NL PT RO SE SI SK TR**
Designated Extension States:
AL LT LV MK

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(30) Priority: **19.09.2002 IT fi20020089 U**

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(54) **Support for lamp holders, especially for halogen lamps**

(57) Support for lamp holders, especially lam holders for halogen lamps, comprising a body (1) having an inner cavity (10) wherein a lamp holder (2) may be positioned and more appendixes (13) destined to hook the lamp holder (2) in correspondence of a surface (21) thereof. The said body (2) is provided with a mouth section (12) through which the lamp holder is inserted into

the said cavity (10) and is also provided with a base portion (11) opposite to the said mouth section. Each of said appendixes (13) protrudes from the lateral inner wall of the body (1) in proximity of the mouth (12), is provided with a free end which is oriented towards the said base portion (11) and is destined to hook the said surface (21) of the lamp holder.

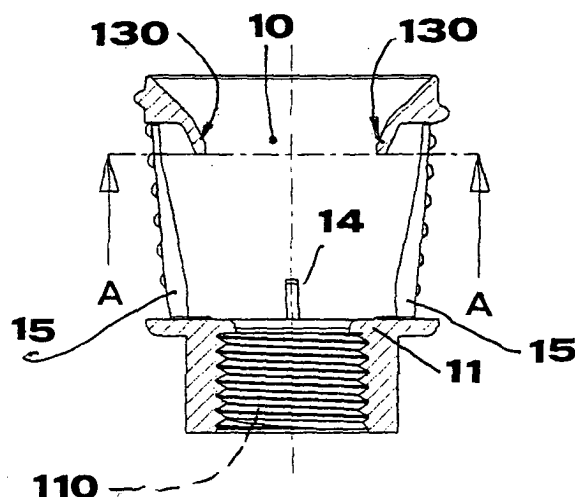


Fig. 3

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Description

[0001] The present invention relates to a support for lamp holders, especially for halogen lamps.

[0002] It is known that the lamp holders for halogen lamps, especially those for 220 V AC power supply, are associated with corresponding supports which allow their positioning or mounting on illumination devices.

[0003] There exist, available on the market, supports for lamp holders of the above-mentioned type which are provided with hook fins on their outer surface. Said fins protrude from the base of the support and the free ends thereof, i.e. the ends destined to hook the lamp holder, are oriented towards the lamp insertion side.

[0004] These known supports are affected by several drawbacks.

[0005] A drawback is due to the fact that the coupling of the lamp holder to the support is not perfectly irreversible and it may involve safety risks when the illumination devices provided with such supports for lamp holders are employed.

[0006] A further drawback is due to the production cost of the known supports for lamp holders, which is too high with respect to the low safety level.

[0007] The main object of the present invention is to overcome the above drawbacks.

[0008] This result has been achieved, according to the invention, by adopting the idea of making an apparatus having features as indicated in claim 1, further characteristics of the present invention being set forth in the dependent claims.

[0009] The present invention makes it possible to considerably increase the safety level, given the perfectly irreversible coupling of the lamp holder to the support. Furthermore, the present device is relatively simple to make, cost-effective and reliable even after a prolonged service life.

[0010] These and other advantages and characteristics of the present invention will be best understood by a reading of the following description in conjunction with the attached drawings given as a practical exemplification of the invention, but not to be considered in a limitative sense, wherein:

- Fig. 1 is a perspective bottom view of a support for lamp holders according to the present invention;
- Fig.2 is a top perspective view of the device shown in Fig.1;
- Fig.3 is a diametral section view of the device shown in Figs.1 and 2;
- Fig.4 is a section view taken along the line A-A of Fig.3;
- Figs.5A and 5B show the above support in a first step of positioning the lamp holder (Fig. 5A) and in a final step with the lamp holder coupled with the support (Fig.5B);
- Fig.6 is a bottom perspective view, partially sectioned, of the group shown in Fig. 5B;

- Fig.7 is a bottom perspective view of a support for lamp holders according to a further embodiment;
- Fig.8 is a top perspective view of the support for lamp holders shown in Fig.7.

[0011] Reduced to its basic structure, and reference being made to the figures of the attached drawings, a support for lamp holders according to the present invention is made by a hollow body (1) having a substantially cylindrical shape, which is destined to receive in its cavity (10) a lamp holder (2) for halogen lamps, for example a ceramic lamp holder.

[0012] Advantageously, said body (1) is provided with a base portion (11) and a mouth (12) through which the lamp holder (2) is inserted, said base (11) being provided with a through hole (110) for the electric supply cords (3), the said hole being, at least in correspondence of the base (11), narrower with respect of the lower base (20) of the lamp holder (2), so that it is allowed the positioning of the lamp holder (2) into the cavity of the body (1), through the mouth (12), but it is avoided the passage of the lamp holder (2) through the base (11); furthermore, the body (1) is provided with two appendixes or fins (13) protruding towards the inner side of said cavity (10), the free ends (130) of said appendixes or fins being oriented towards the said base (11). Said appendixes (13) protrude from the inner side wall of the body (1), the base portion of each appendix (13) being in proximity of the mouth (12).

[0013] The hole for the passage of the cords (3) may be internally threaded to permit the screwing of the body (1) onto a tie (not shown in the drawings).

[0014] Furthermore, the external side wall of the body (1) may be threaded, as shown in the drawings, to allow the screwing of a locknut (not shown in the drawings) on the body (1) so as to lock thereon an object such as a lampshade or the like, in analogy with the conventional supports for lamp holders.

[0015] Advantageously, two or more appendixes (14) protrude from side of the base (11) of said body (1) facing the mouth (12), said appendix being apt to act as spacer elements to avoid the direct contact of the lamp holder (2) with the base (11).

[0016] Furthermore, as shown in the accompanying drawings, the side wall of said body (1) may be provided with two openings or windows (15) for a better ventilation of the cavity (10).

[0017] The body (1) is advantageously made in a single element, including the appendixes (13) and the spacer elements (14), by molding of per se known plastic material (for example, PPS-RVM).

[0018] In order to couple the lamp holder with the support (1), it is sufficient to position the lamp holder coaxially with the body (1) in correspondence of the mouth (12), as shown in Fig.5A, and then push the lamp holder towards the base (11) until the ends (130) contact the step (21) of the lamp holder (2). In this way, the lamp holder is irreversibly coupled with the body (1), because

it cannot pass through the base (11), from the side of the cords (3), and it cannot pass through the mouth (12) due to the presence of the appendixes (13).

[0019] According to the example shown in Figs.7 and 8, the base portion (11) is also provided with two holes (100) which are on opposite sides with respect to the aforementioned hole (110) and may be used for fixing the body (1) to a fixed part of the illumination device to which the support is destined, with screw means (not shown in the drawings) passing through the holes (100). 5 10

[0020] The lamp holder (2) is of a type commonly available on the market.

[0021] Practically, the construction details may vary in any equivalent way as far as the shape, dimensions, elements disposition, nature of the used materials are concerned, without nevertheless departing from the scope of the adopted solution idea and, thereby, remaining within the limits of the protection granted to the present utility model patent. 15 20

Claims

1. Support for lamp holders, especially for lamp holders of halogen lamps, comprising a body (!) provided with an inner cavity (10) destined to receive a lamp holder and more appendixes or fins (13) destined to hook the lamp holder in correspondence of a surface (21) provided by the same lamp holder (2), said body (1) having a mouth (12) for the insertion of the lamp holder (2) into the said cavity (10) and an opposite base portion (11), **characterized in that** each of said appendixes or fins (13) protrudes from the inner side wall of the body (1) in proximity of the mouth (12) and is provided with a free end which is oriented towards said base portion (11) and is destined to hook said surface (21) of the lamp holder (2). 25 30 35
2. Support according to claim 1 **characterized in that** it is provided with two of said appendixes or fins (13). 40
3. Support according to claim 1 **characterized in that** said body (1) is made of molded plastic material including said appendixes or fins (13) and said base (11) . 45
4. Support according to claim 1 **characterized in that** said base (11) is provided with a through hole which may not be crossed by the lamp holder (2). 50
5. Support according to claim 1 **characterized in that** the external side wall of said body (1) is threaded. 55
6. Support according to claim 1 **characterized in that** the side wall of said body (1) is provided with more openings or windows (15).
7. Support according to claim 1 **characterized in that** said base (11) is provided, on its side facing the mouth (12), with spacer elements (14).

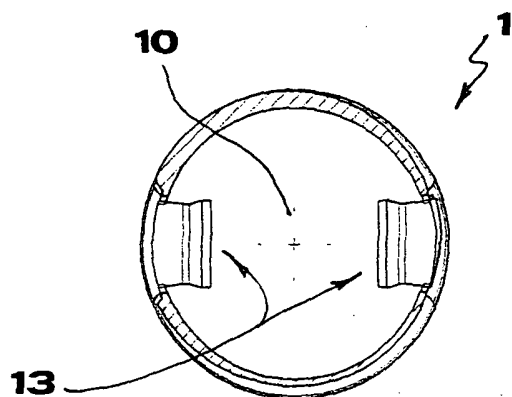


Fig. 4

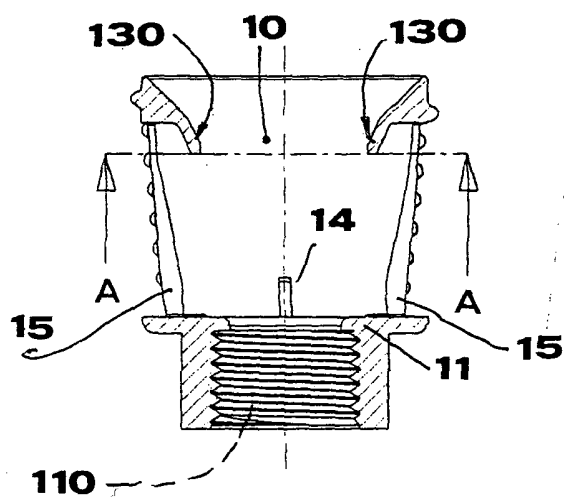


Fig. 3

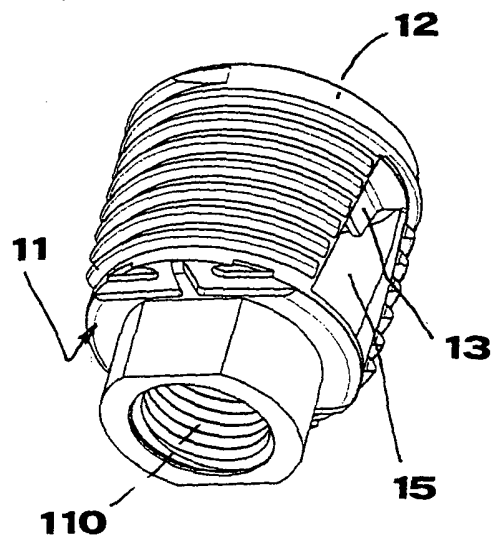


Fig. 1

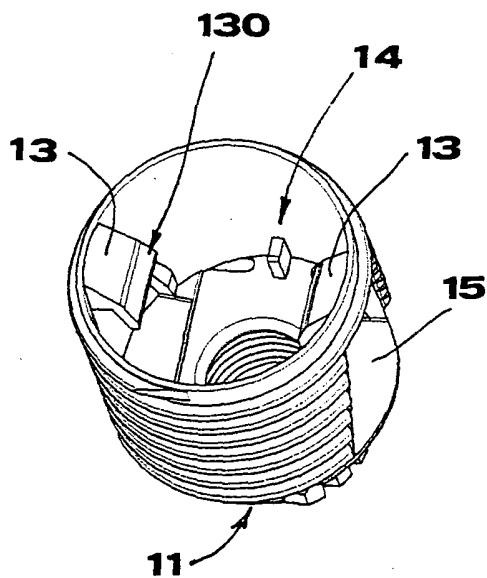


Fig. 2

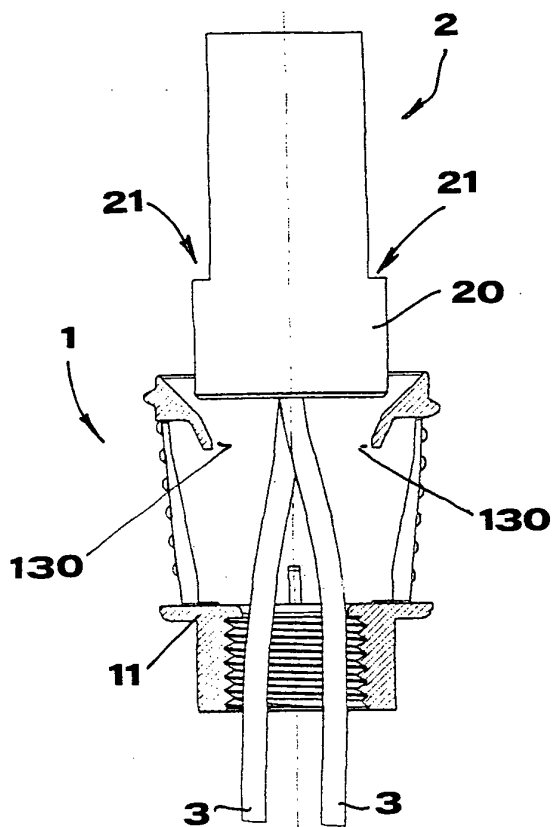


Fig. 5A

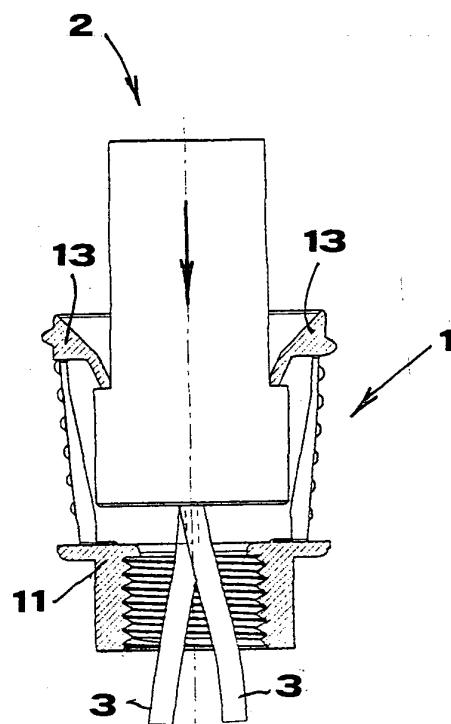


Fig. 5B

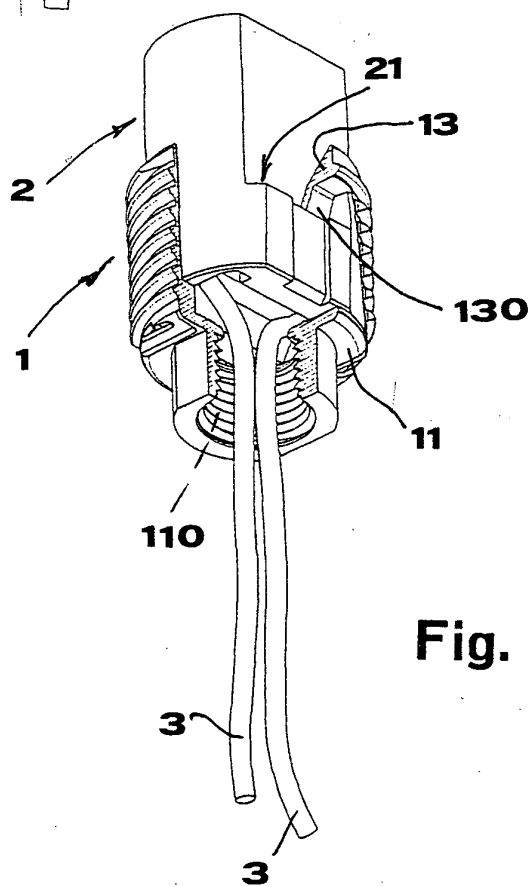


Fig. 6

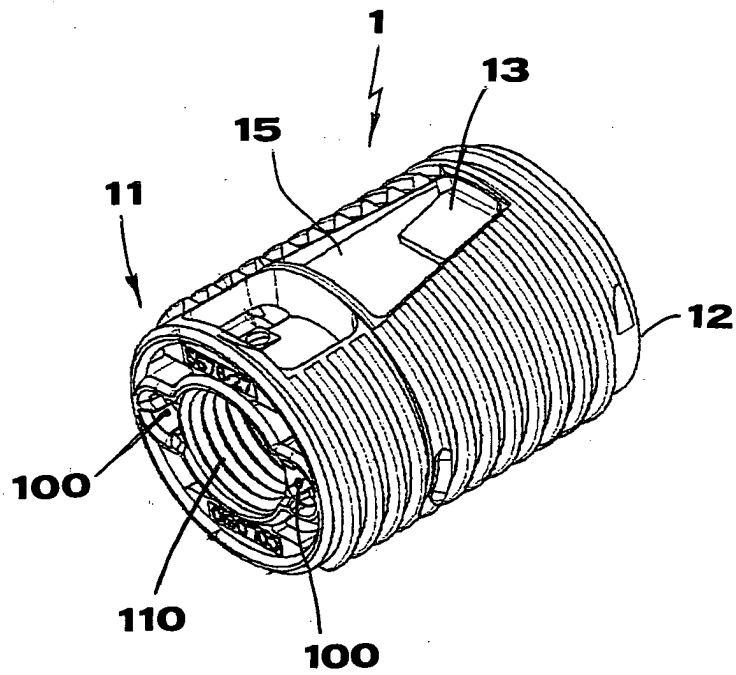


Fig. 7

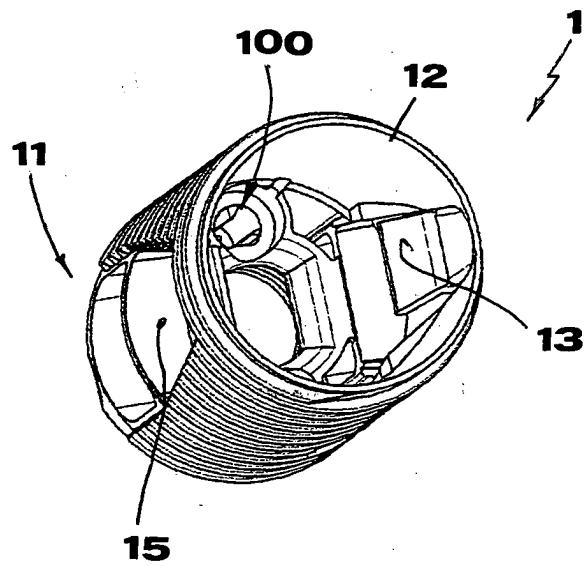


Fig. 8