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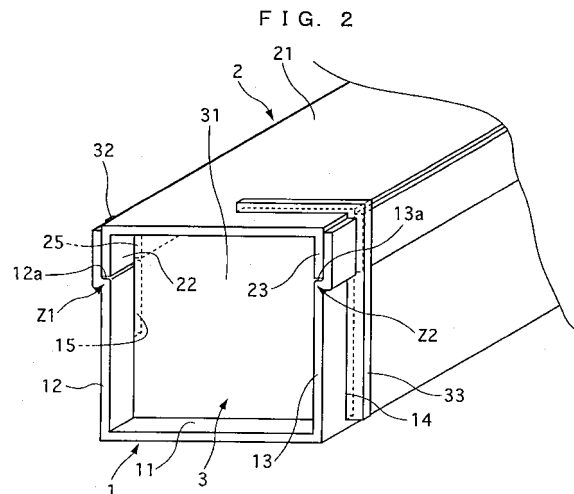
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(54) **Tank structure**

(57) In a tank structure of a heat exchanger, at least one of a first tank member (1) and a second tank member (2) which have substantially U-shaped cross sections has, in coupling portions thereof, bent portions (Z1, Z2) made of bent plate materials. The first tank member (1) and the second tank member (2) have first slits to fourth slits (14, 24, 15, 25) that are formed at least in the bent portions (Z1, Z2) near end faces. End face closing members (3) have main portions (31) capable of closing end-face openings formed by the first and second tank members (1, 2), and the main portions (31) have on outer peripheries thereof integrally formed first lock portions (33) and second lock portions (32) inserted in and locked by the slits (14, 24, 15, 25) to cover gaps formed between the first and second tank members (1, 2).



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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			F28F B23K B23P
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 5 March 2009	Examiner Martínez Rico, Celia
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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