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(54) **Tool for attaching clamps to a supporting surface**

(57) The present invention relates to a tool (14) for attaching clamps (10) for attaching an electric cable to a supporting surface, such as a wall. The tool comprises a sleeve shaped, hollow body (14) with an internal shape configured to retain a clamp (10) at least during an initial phase of clamp attachment process to the supporting surface. A ramming body (15) is slidably arranged in the hollow body (14), the ramming body (15) being intended to hit or ram the clamp (10) into the supporting surface. The ramming body (15) further have a length which is larger than the length of the sleeve shaped hollow body

(14) and wherein one end of the ramming unit (15) preferably being configured to form a proper supporting surface for the clamp (10).

One end of the ramming body (15) being provided with an attached clamp driver (24) intended to cooperate with a corresponding ramming surface (13) on the clamp (10). At least one inner side surface of the walls of the sleeve shaped body (14) is provided with a surface or a tongue (25) extending into the opening for attachment of the clamp (10) in the first phase of the clamp attachment process.

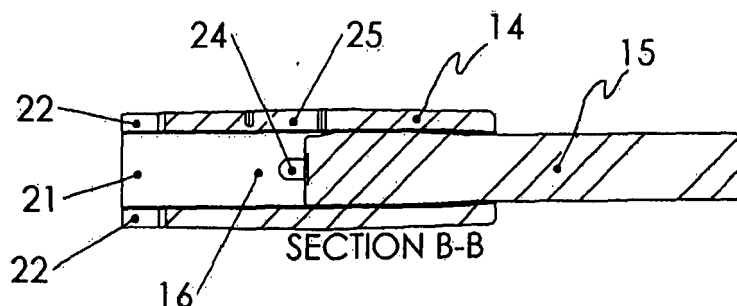


Fig.19



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 06 25 3708

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	US 3 193 168 A (ALEXANDER WEBER) 6 July 1965 (1965-07-06)	1	INV. B25C1/02
Y	* column 2, line 53 - column 3, line 52; figures 1-4 *	2-4	
X	US 2 973 520 A (WALTER BELL LEWIS) 7 March 1961 (1961-03-07)	1	
Y	* column 2, line 63 - column 3, line 14 * * column 4, lines 3-8; figures 4,5 *	2-4	
Y	DE 199 38 923 A1 (CHROMETZ HUBERT [DE]) 1 March 2001 (2001-03-01)	2-4	
A	US 5 934 139 A (TUCKER KEVIN N [US]) 10 August 1999 (1999-08-10)	1	
A	US 3 783 919 A (TORRES J) 8 January 1974 (1974-01-08)	1	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
A	US 4 062 483 A (BRIGANTE PAUL J) 13 December 1977 (1977-12-13)	1	
	* column 2, line 60 - column 3, line 2; figures *		B25C
5 The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 3 February 2010	Examiner Flodström, Benny
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			

5 EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)



Application Number

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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing claims for which payment was due.

☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):

☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.

☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.

☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:

☒ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:

1-4

☐ The present supplementary European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims (Rule 164 (1) EPC).



LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B

Application Number

EP 06 25 3708

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-4

A tool comprising potential special technical features relating to at least one end of the sleeve shaped body (14) being provided with a side wall (21) extending beyond the end of the remaining three walls.

2. claim: 5

A tool comprising potential special technical features relating to the surface or tongue (25) extending into the opening of the sleeve shaped body (14) being pivotably arranged about an axis (26), positioned closer to the opening for the clamp than the free end of the surface or the tongue (25).

3. claim: 6

A tool comprising potential special technical features relating to the surface or tongue (25) being positioned on a sidewall arranged perpendicular on the extended wall of sleeve shaped body.

4. claim: 7

A tool comprising potential special technical features relating to the ramming body (15) having a larger cross sectional area at the end intended to support the clamp (10) than the part of the ramming unit (15) intended to be arranged inside the opening of the sleeve shaped body (14).

5. claims: 8-9

A tool comprising potential special technical features relating to the ramming unit (15) on one side being provided with an elongated slot (28) intended to cooperate with a knob (19) extending into the slot (28), the slot (28) having a length that limits retraction of the ramming unit (15) into the opening (14) to a point where an edge of the clamp end of the ramming unit (14) rests in contact with said surface or tongue (25).

6. claim: 10



**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B**

Application Number

EP 06 25 3708

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

A tool comprising potential special technical features relating to both the sleeve shaped body (14) and the ramming unit (15) being made of plastic materials, and wherein the clamp driver is made of metal.

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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03-02-2010

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