



(22) Date de dépôt/Filing Date: 2005/08/16

(41) Mise à la disp. pub./Open to Public Insp.: 2006/02/17

(45) Date de délivrance/Issue Date: 2013/03/12

(30) Priorité/Priority: 2004/08/17 (US60/601,985)

(51) Cl.Int./Int.Cl. *E04B 2/82* (2006.01)

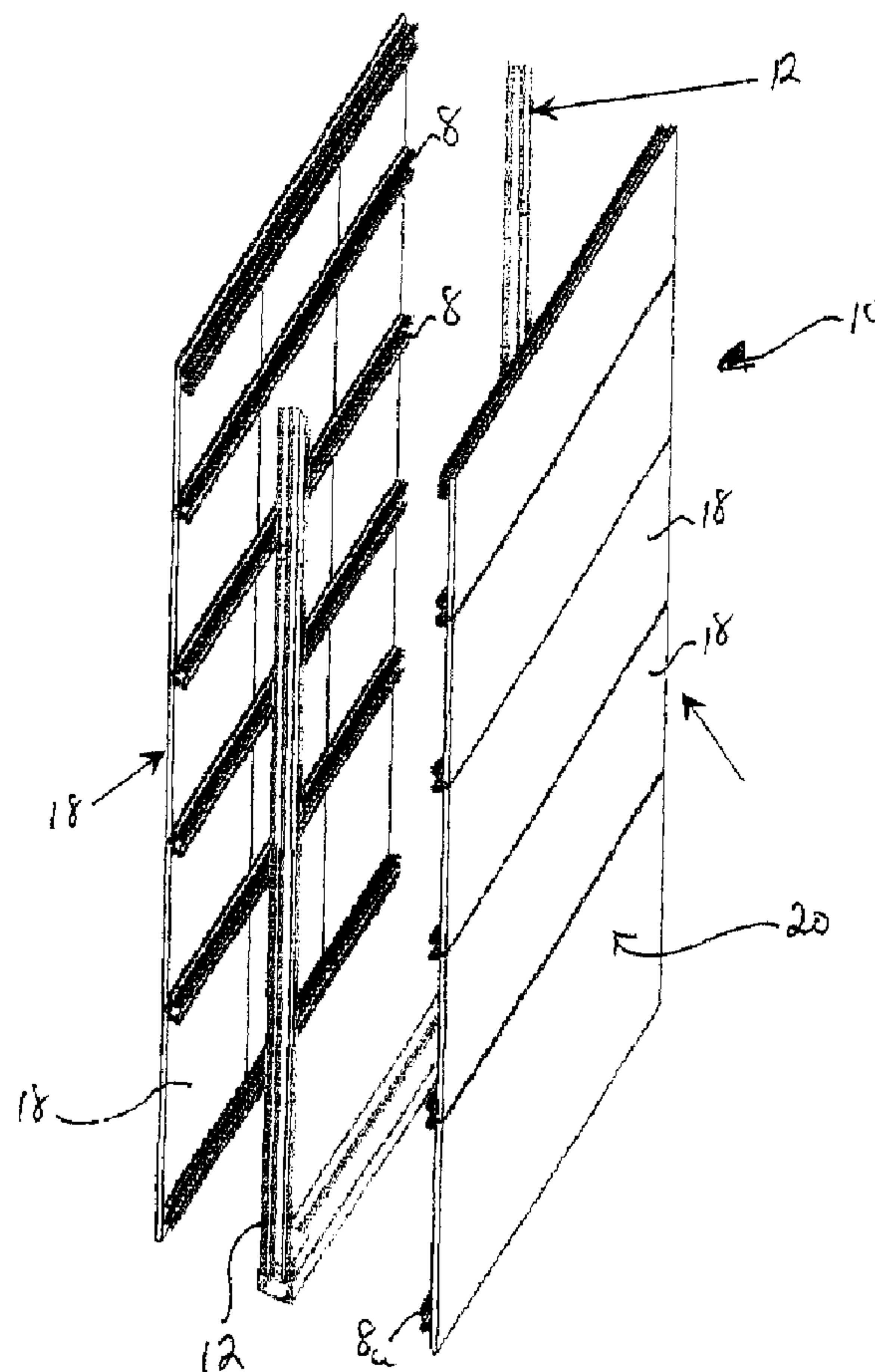
(72) Inventeurs/Inventors:
GOSLING, GEOFF, CA;
SMED, MOGENS, CA

(73) Propriétaire/Owner:
DIRTT ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS LTD., CA

(74) Agent: MOFFAT & CO.

(54) Titre : SYSTÈME MURAL RECONFIGURABLE INTEGRE

(54) Title: INTEGRATED RECONFIGURABLE WALL SYSTEM



(57) Abrégé/Abstract:

A movable reconfigurable wall system having at least one module having a front and rear surface, the at least one module having: vertical end frames disposed at least at its side edges, each the vertical end frame having a vertically extending flange directed



(57) **Abrégé(suite)/Abstract(continued):**

toward the front surface and a vertically extending flange directed toward the rear surface; a plurality of horizontal stringers affixed between the pair of vertical end frames; and an aesthetic surface affixed to the stringers; and a removable connecting strip, the connecting strip adapted to affix about one of the two flanges on one of the vertical end frames and join the one of the two flanges to a corresponding flange on one of a second module, a wall bracket, a finishing trim or a connection post.

ABSTRACT

A movable reconfigurable wall system having at least one module having a front and rear surface, the at least one module having: vertical end frames disposed at least at its side
5 edges, each the vertical end frame having a vertically extending flange directed toward the front surface and a vertically extending flange directed toward the rear surface; a plurality of horizontal stringers affixed between the pair of vertical end frames; and an aesthetic surface affixed to the stringers; and a removable connecting strip, the connecting strip adapted to affix about one of the two flanges on one of the vertical end frames and join the one of the
10 two flanges to a corresponding flange on one of a second module, a wall bracket, a finishing trim or a connection post.

INTEGRATED RECONFIGURABLE WALL SYSTEM

FIELD

- 5 [0001] The present invention relates to a wall moveable system, and more particularly to a reconfigurable moveable wall system comprising reconfigurable components and design elements.

BACKGROUND

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[0002] Wall systems, or dividers as they are sometimes called, are used most commonly in an office environment to separate work areas and to give people privacy where permanent walls are lacking. It is beneficial to have a wall system that is easily movable and easily reconfigured given the ever changing needs and requirements in these environments.

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Another important aspect in an office is to maximize available space. Aesthetics are also important, including the ability to provide the aesthetic element independently of underlying structural componentry.

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[0003] Previous wall systems have lacked some or all of these attributes. Some are difficult to reconfigure or to move without significant amounts of labour and dislocation. Most systems lack the flexibility to quickly change the height of a wall, or to use or substitute different types of panels, or replace a module in the middle of a wall without taking apart the entire wall.

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There also is a need to be able to use the wall system against an existing wall as a curtain wall for an integrated look and to provide the design flexibility needed in those spaces bordered by permanent walls.

SUMMARY

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[0004] In a preferred embodiment, the present wall system comprises at least one module, where each module includes a frame and a plurality of tiles mounted to the frame by means of a tile clip system. Clips are attached to the rear surface of each tile and the tile is then pressed into place, aligning the clips with a capture detail on the horizontal frame stringers. Tiles can span adjacent frames where required. Horizontal frame stringers may include a

cantilever channel detail where desired to allow objects to be hung along the width. A single frame comprised of two verticals frame members and a plurality of horizontal stringers mounted to an existing wall by connecting the horizontal members to brackets attached to the existing wall allows tiles to be mounted as a curtain wall on the existing wall. Two frames
5 may be supported back to back within a framework for modules used to divide adjacent work spaces. A spline is attachable to the top of the frame to extend the frame and allow for additional tiles to be added on to increase a module's height if so desired. The spline is also used to connect a different style of frame above the existing frame if so desired. For example, this allows a framed glass module to be attached above a framed wood substrate
10 module. Two adjacent modules are connected using a removable zipper interface. The zipper contains two flexible gasket components. Where tiles will span adjacent frames or meet one another without a gap, the gaskets bend back behind the tiles. Where tiles do not span adjacent frames and a gap is wanted, the gaskets point outward from the frame, between the tiles. At the edge of a module where no other module is to be connected, a
15 starter strip may be placed, wherein the starter strip includes an integral flexible gasket which conforms to the shape of the surrounding environment while providing both light and sound baffling. The cantilever channel between tiles allows for various accessories or mill work to be supported from the outside of the module at convenient locations and to be adjusted as needed.

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[0005] The present wall system also includes a glass wall module, where each module includes a frame and a plurality of glass tiles mounted within the frame. The glass may be center mounted, front mounted or rear mounted. A channel within each end frame extrusion holds a full length gasket extrusion or notch. The glass is retained within the gasket
25 extrusion, around the full perimeter of the glass tile. Extra horizontal or vertical extrusions are attached within the frame to further divide the module into smaller areas.

[0006] The present wall system also includes levelers. Levelers include upper, middle and lower sections. The upper section includes a hollow cylinder which is threaded along the
30 interior, and a flat upper plated perpendicular to the leveler. The middle section is a hollow cylinder where the interior and exterior surfaces are threaded in opposite directions, with a fixed nut at one end of the middle section for adjustment. The lower section includes a solid cylinder threaded to correspond with the middle section, a fixed lower nut and an inverted V-

shaped lower plate. The leveler is used by having the flat plate in the upper section engage a continuous channel in an the lowermost extrusion of a module's frame, and the lower plate engaging a continuous universal foot, located beneath each module. The V-shape of the lower plate distributes the weight of the wall in the direction of the connection channels of continuous universal foot. A leveler can be placed at any location along the width of the module, allowing for a plurality of levelers to be used if needed. Along the base of the universal foot is a plurality of grippers, which can be adapted for either carpet or hard flooring surfaces. The attachment of the leveler to the module is secure and without extra fastener requirement of any sort. Sliding the leveler plates into the extrusion channels, followed by the attachment of subsequent vertical members, secures the levelers in place.

[0007] A base trim is provided which, in one embodiment, can be removably secured to the universal foot to provide access to the levelers when needed but which otherwise provides a finished look to the modules. The base trim can be modular, or span multiple frames.

[0008] Wall modules can be adapted to include integrated rear projection video systems or digital whiteboards. Front projection screens or whiteboards can be mounted within the frame confines, or spanning adjacent frames.

[0009] The present wall system provides for true curved walls. Curved wall frames are comprised of straight vertical extrusions and stretch formed horizontal extrusions which are curved to the required radius. Glass or other substrate tiles are curved to match the radius of the frame and mounted in the same manner as planar wall modules.

[0010] The present wall system can incorporate universal slat wall constructions which would accept all standard slat wall accessories. The slat wall component is a horizontal structural extrusion, interlocking above and below the cantilever channel horizontal member or other slat wall extrusions.

[0011] The present wall system can also support desktops and work surfaces using support brackets in the cantilever channel.

[0012] The present wall system also integrates completely with a related furniture panel system. A furniture panel system is comprised of a frame and plurality of tiles attached to the frame. The furniture panel system is designed to serve as cubicle type dividers or desk type units, rather than full height walls. The integration to the furniture panel system is seamless,
 5 as the zipper connection detail, tile clip capture detail and cantilever detail are identical to the wall system connection details. All components used in or on the wall system can also be used in or on the furniture panel system.

[0013] According to the present invention then, there is provided a movable reconfigurable
 10 wall system comprising: at least one module having a front and rear surface, said at least one module having: vertical end frames disposed at least at its side edges, each said vertical end frame having a vertically extending flange directed toward said front surface and a vertically extending flange directed toward said rear surface; a plurality of horizontal stringers affixed between said pair of vertical end frames; and an aesthetic surface affixed to said stringers;
 15 and a removable connecting strip, said connecting strip adapted to affix about one of said two flanges on one of said vertical end frames and join said one of said two flanges to a corresponding flange on one of a second module, a wall bracket, a finishing trim or a connection post.

20 **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

[0014] Preferred embodiments of the applicant's integrated reconfigurable wall system will now be described in greater detail and will be better understood when read in conjunction with the following drawings in which:

25 Figure 1 is an exploded perspective view of a module representative of the present tile clad wall system;

Figure 2 is a perspective view of a wall system including two adjacent modules, one tile clad and one glass wall;

Figure 3 is an enlarged view of a portion of the wall system of Figure 3 showing the
 30 connection between adjacent modules;

Figure 4 is an exploded view of Figure 3;

Figure 5 is a perspective view of a frame member including a finishing trim;

Figure 6 is a perspective view of a frame member including a wall starter trim where a module meets an existing wall;

Figure 7 is a perspective view of a height extension to an existing module;

Figure 8 is a perspective view of a portion of a wall module showing the orientation of horizontal members with integrated cantilever channel;

Figure 9 is an enlarged view of a portion of Figure 8 showing cantilever bracket details and tile clip connection details;

Figure 10 is a perspective view of a wall panel incorporating slat wall construction;

Figure 11 is a side elevational view of the slat wall construction of Figure 10;

Figure 12 is a perspective view of the related panel furniture system utilizing the same connectors and slat wall extrusion to support a work surface;

Figure 13 is a perspective, partially exploded view showing the assembly of a leg used to support the panel furniture system, utilizing the same connection zipper as the wall components of Figure 12;

Figure 14 is a perspective, exploded view of a leveller for use with the present wall system;

Figure 15 is a perspective view of one embodiment of a leveller mounting system as it slides into the channel of a lower glass wall extrusion and universal foot extrusion;

Figure 16 is a side elevational view of the base trim connection to the leveller assembly;

Figure 17 is a perspective, schematic view of the present wall system including integrated media panels and storage areas;

Figure 18 is a perspective, schematic view of the present wall system incorporating an integrated media center;

Figure 19 is a plan view of a two-way rectilinear connector for the present wall system;

Figure 20 is a plan view of an alternative (radial) two-way connector for the present wall system;

Figure 21 is a plan view of a three-way connector for the present wall system;

Figure 22 is a plan view of a variance of a 90 degree connector for the present wall system;

Figure 23 is a plan view of a 120 degree connector for three merging walls according to the present wall system;

Figure 24 is a plan view of an end vertical and gasket for abutting existing walls with the present wall system;

Figure 25 is a plan view of a connector for connecting to existing walls according to the present wall system;

5 Figure 26 is a side elevational view of a floor leveller and ceiling connector for a solid (tile clad) wall;

Figure 27 is a side elevational view of a floor leveller and ceiling connector for a glass wall;

Figure 28 is a plan view of two wall panels having a gap between adjoining panels;

10 Figure 29 is a plan view of two wall panels directly abutting each other and being sealed with a zipper;

Figure 30 is a plan view of two wall panels directly abutting each other and having a zipper with no fins;

15 Figure 31 is a plan view of an end vertical and gasket for abutting existing walls with the present glass wall system; and

Figure 32 is a plan view of a connector for connecting to existing walls according to the present glass wall system.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

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[0015] With reference to Figure 1, the present invention is directed towards a wall system 10 made up of one or more modules 20. Each module comprises a pair of vertical end frames 12 that will be spaced apart by the desired width of each module. Modules 20 may be clad with tiles 18 and can be one or two sided with a finished wall surface on both sides or a
25 finished wall surface on one side only. Tiles 18 can be made of wood, plastic, metal fabric glass or other material, and end frames 12 may be interconnected by a plurality of horizontal stringers 8 that will be described in greater detail below.

[0016] With reference to Figure 2, the next adjacent module 20 can be identical to its
30 neighbour, or, as shown in this figure, may consist of two vertical end frames 17 and one or more dividers 14 which can be, for example, glass or plastic if transparency is desired. End frames 17 used for such dividers are shaped as shown most clearly in Figure 4 and include a notch 19 that receives and holds the divider's vertical edge.

[0017] Stringers **8** are horizontally spaced apart at intervals along the height of the module for strength and rigidity. To support objects, cantilever channel stringers **40**, including a cantilever channel portion **41**, are used, as shown in Figures 8 and 9. Stringers **8** that do not include channel portion **41** can be used anywhere structure is required but the channel portion is not required for supporting objects. For example, the lowest stringer **8a** may not include cantilever channel portion **41**. The stringers are connected to end frames **12** by fasteners, usually threaded screws, in a manner to be described below.

[0018] If the module will be visible from both sides, finishing tiles **18** can be connected to the stringers on both sides of module **20**. It is not necessary that the tiles on one side of the wall be at all like the tiles on the other. They can be different materials or even aligned differently as shown in Figure 1, in which the tiles on one side of the module are horizontally mounted and the tiles on the other side of the wall are vertically mounted for a different look. The tiles can also span adjacent modules, if required. If only one side of the module will be visible, which can be the case for example if the module is used as a curtain wall to cover an existing wall, its necessary to apply tiles **18** to only one side of the module as needed.

[0019] The depth or thickness of the module can be selected by varying the width of frame **12**. For example, as will be described below, the modules can house a rear projection or digital video system and the greater depth is needed to enclose the componentry.

[0020] With reference to Figures 3, 4, 28 and 29, each end frame **17** includes a pair of rearwardly extending L-shaped flanges **23** that align vertically with correspondingly positioned and shaped flanges **23** on opposite end frame **12** so that frames **12** and **17** can be connected together by connecting strips ("zippers") **25**. If the adjacent module **20** itself comprises an end frame **12**, flanges **23** will abut and will be connected together in the same manner using zippers **25**. Each of flanges **23** is formed with a bead **27**. Each zipper **25** is generally T-shaped in cross-sectional shape and includes a central spine **29** that fits between flanges **23** and a pair of arms **30** on opposite sides of the spine. Each arm includes a bead **31** that snap fits with beads **27** on flanges **23** for a secure but releasable connection. When two adjacent modules are connected together in this way, there is enough of a gap between them that the

zippers can be accessed for removal, allowing an individual module to be removed should the need arise.

[0021] As illustrated in Figures 28 and 29, each zipper can also include a pair of flexible extended fins **32** extending rearwardly from the spine **29**. Depending on the application, a user may wish adjacent modules to be abutted together completely or to have a gap between them. In Figure 28, a gap exists between the modules, and this gap is sealed using extending fins **32**. As will be appreciated by those skilled in the art, the width of the gap is variable since extensions **32** are flexible and can accommodate various widths.

[0022] If no gap is desired, or if tiles span adjacent modules, Figure 29 illustrates an embodiment having adjacent panels. In this case extensions **32** are behind each panel, and the force of extensions **32** against the rearward side of the module creates an acoustic seal for the wall.

[0023] In an alternative embodiment illustrated in Figure 30, it is also possible to have a zipper **25** without extensions **32**. This may be desirable when modules **20** abut and an acoustical seal is not required.

[0024] Figure 5 shows an end piece **35** similar to end frame **17** but lacking notch **19**. This end piece is therefore used to finish the vertical edge of module **20** using zippers **25** if no additional module is to be connected to it.

[0025] If either of frames **12** or **17** is to start, or end, at an existing wall, flexible starter strips **37** can snap-fit onto flanges **23** as shown most clearly in Figure 6. Starter strips **37** include curved flexible gaskets **38** which will conform to the shape of the existing wall and will provide sound and light barriers. This can also be seen in Figures 24 and 31.

[0026] Alternatively, as illustrated in Figures 25 and 32, a wall start **43** can be mounted to an existing wall to provide a start to a module. Wall start **43** is preferably an aluminium extrusion mounted vertically to an existing wall using known mounting techniques. The mounting technique of screws shown in Figure 25 is not meant to be limiting.

[0027] Wall start **43** includes a flange **23** and is connected to an end frame **12** using a zipper **25**. As indicated above, extension **32** can provide a seal against the wall and panel.

[0028] To increase the height of an existing module **20**, or to combine a glass module above or below a tile-clad module, a spline **39** can be used to connect end frame **12** (or **17**) to an extension frame **12e** as shown most clearly in Figure 7. Actually, as shown in this figure, extension frame **12e** is a length of frame **17**, which allows the lower portion of the wall to be hung with standard tiles and the upper extended portion of the wall to be finished in a glass or plastic divider **14** for a combination of finished looks. The upper and lower extrusions **90**, which complete the framing of divider **14**, will be described below in connection with a levelling system in which the same extrusion is used.

[0029] It is desirable that work surfaces, mill work and wall accessories such as trays or document holders be connectable to modules **20**. This can be easily achieved in the present system by using cantilever channel stringers **40** with channel brackets horizontally disposed in the channel between adjacent tiles **18** as shown most clearly in Figures 8 and 9.

[0030] Each channel stringer **40** includes a central horizontally extending channel portion **41** with a generally L-shaped slot **42** formed along its length adapted to receive and engage a substantially L-shaped hook **45** formed on a wall accessory **47** such as the document holder shown in Figure 8. A pair of diagonally extending webs **49** connects channel portion **41** to upper and lower portions **51** and **53** respectively. Each portion includes a tile support **55** that is the connection point for the tiles **18** that are mounted above and below channel portion **41**. More specifically, the upper and lower edges of tiles **18** are provided with a connector strip **60** attached by means of screws, adhesive or any other suitable fastening. Each strip includes a pair of opposed flexible arms **62** to snap-fit with a generally arrow shaped bead **64** formed along the edge of flanges **67** that are formed on and extend the length of each upper and lower portion **51** and **53**. This allows individual tiles **18** to be removed or replaced without having to disassemble the entire wall. The flanges **23** formed on vertical end frames **12** and **17** that are connected together by zippers **25** are located sufficiently inwardly that the zippers will not interfere with the continuity of slot **42** from one module to the next so that wall accessories, mill work or work surfaces can be connected or moved between modules without interference.

[0031] The upper and lower edges of tiles **18** that abut channel portion **41** of each channel bracket are camphored for clearance as seen most clearly in Figure 9.

5 [0032] The upper and lower portions **51** and **53** of the channel stringer **40** are advantageously formed with longitudinally extended circular recesses **57** and inner channels **58**. Recesses **57** are adapted to receive screws used to connect end frames **12** or **17** to channel stringers **40**. Channels **58** can be used to support mounting hardware for audio-
 10 video equipment mounted within the modules, cable management clips or any other hardware to be housed or contained in the module's interior. Channels **58** are also used to connect a single-sided tile clad module to brackets attached to existing wall surfaces.

[0033] With reference to Figure 10, another embodiment of the invention is shown incorporating a section of standard slat wall **69** including slats **70** and slat wall channels **71** for
 15 connection to all slat wall accessories. Slat wall panels can make up some or all of the panels incorporated into any one module **20** and the modules themselves are configured for use with end frames **12** and zippers **25** so that the modules themselves can be connected together in any desired combination. Slat wall modules can be one (Figure 11) or two sided (Figure 10) for use as either dividing or curtain walls.

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[0034] As shown in Figure 12, in the applicant's related panel furniture system, a work surface or desktop **76** can be connected to modules **20**. The desktop **76** can hook into either cantilevered channel stringers **40** or into slat wall channels **71** and otherwise the construction of the individual modules **20** is the same as described above for wall system **10**. Furniture
 25 legs **80** shown in the example of Figure 12 consist of a vertical frame **12** zipper connected to a finishing end extrusion **35** using zippers **25** as shown in Figure 13, in the same manner as the wall system **10**. The lower end of each furniture leg **80** is finished with a concentric sleeve **79** which conceals a threaded bolt **84** in the lower end of each leg which can be used for levelling.

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[0035] As illustrated in Figure 23, three vertical extrusions **2310** are connected to each other to create the connection point for the three wall systems, and each wall meets the others at an angle of 120 degrees.

[0036] In the case of modules having tiles that extend all the way down to the floor, applicant has developed a leveller mounting system that allows levellers to be placed anywhere along the length of a module and extra levellers to be added where needed. There are two variations of the leveller mounting system shown in Figures 15 and 16, one to be used with modules comprising tiles **18**, and the other with modules using glass or plastic dividers.

[0037] Referring first to Figure 15, this is the levelling system to be used with modules having glass or plastic dividers extending down to floor level. This system includes a structural extrusion **90**, which is generally an inverted U-shaped channel with a notch **92** to engage the lower edge of the glass or plastic divider, and a universal foot **100**.

[0038] Extrusion **90** and universal foot **100** are interconnected by means of dual threaded levellers **110**, an example of which is shown in Figure 14.

[0039] Leveller **110** has three distinct sections, an upper section **112**, a middle section **115** and a lower section **120**. Upper section **112** is cylindrical in shape and is internally left or right hand threaded. A plate **113** is connected to the section's upper end for a permanent connection thereto. Middle section **115** is both internally and externally threaded. The external threads will match the direction of the internal threads on upper section **112** while the internal threads will be in the opposite direction to match the external threading of lower portion **120**. A fixed middle nut **114** is disposed at the lower end of middle section **115**. Nut **114** can be used to turn middle section **115** relative to the upper and lower sections of the leveller.

[0040] As mentioned, the lower section **120** of the leveller is externally threaded and the threading will be in the opposite direction to the internal threading of upper section **112**. In this way, each turn of nut **114** doubles the expansion or contraction of the leveller to halve the levelling time. The lower end of section **120** includes its own fixed adjustment nut **124** and an inverted V-shaped lower plate **125**.

[0041] Figure 15 shows how leveller **110** is installed. Plate **113** aligns with channels **94** in extrusion **90** to be slidable along the length of the channel to any desired location. The V-

shaped lower plate **125** aligns with and slides into grooves **101** in foot **100**. Those levellers that fit at the end of a foot are slightly modified to include tabs **126** at the outer corners of plate **125** which prevent the plate from moving inwardly. When vertical end frames **12** or **17** are attached to extrusion **90**, plate **113** is prevented from moving outwardly so that the leveller is held in its position at the very end of foot **100**. Frames **12** or **17** are connected to extrusion **90** by means of screws that thread into one or more of circular slots **117** in the extrusion.

[0042] If modules **20** are situated atop carpet, toothed carpet grippers **130** are inserted into slots **129** in foot **100**. If the modules are installed on hard surfaces, nonskid grippers can be inserted instead. The grippers can be placed precisely where needed to bear the modules weight and can be easily moved, replaced or switched over as needed.

[0043] Figure 16 shows a leveller **110** installed on modules **20** and illustrates the installation of base trim **140** used to conceal the levellers **110** when they're not being adjusted. In this view, plate **113** is again slidably received into channels formed in the module's lowermost extrusion and plate **125** is received into grooves **101** in foot **100**. The base trim **140** includes baseboards **142** and snap pieces **144**. Snap pieces **144** snap-fit onto foot **100** as shown with grooves **145** and **147** on the snap piece engaging flanges **108** and **109** on the foot. Each snap piece includes a longitudinally extending elevated hook **149** and a similarly longitudinally extending channel **150**. Each baseboard includes a hook **143** to engage hook **149** on the snap piece, and a bead **153** that snap fits into channel **150** to retain the baseboards in a vertical position to provide a finished look. Because the baseboards are installed usually after the modules have been assembled together, the boards can span multiple modules for longer runs and fewer seams.

[0044] Reference is now made to Figures 26 and 27. As illustrated, besides the bottom connection with the leveller (as described with relation to Figure 15 and 16 above), a ceiling connection is also preferred.

[0045] Figure 26 shows a ceiling connection for a solid wall, such as those described above having tile cladding. A ceiling track **2601** is affixed to the ceiling above the area for the desired wall. Each module includes two horizontal uppers **2610** abut thereto (on either side

of the ceiling track), the horizontal upper including an upper flange **2612**. A ceiling trim **2614** is affixed to upper flange **2612**. Ceiling trim **2614** is flexible and allows variable spacing of the wall with the ceiling. Specifically, the trim **2614** will flex to allow the wall to move closer or further from the wall as required based on levelling needs.

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[0046] Horizontal upper **2610** further includes a bead **64** as described above to attach a tile to the horizontal upper. Further, recesses **2616** are used to attach horizontal uppers to frames **12** or **17**.

10 **[0047]** To affix a wall, an installer can first install ceiling track **2601** in the correct location. The wall is then created with levellers **110** in a lowermost position. The levellers **110** are then extended to level the wall and to further cause horizontal uppers **2610** to abut ceiling track **2601** on either side of ceiling track **2601**, as illustrated in Figure 26.

15 **[0048]** Alternatively, if a divider such as a glass panel is being used, a one piece upper **2701** can be used, as illustrated in Figure 27. The one piece upper **2701** comprises a flange **2712** to connect a ceiling trim **2714** to. Ceiling trim **2714** is preferably the same as ceiling trim **2614**. Upper **2701** further includes a channel **2716** for receiving a divider.

20 **[0049]** The present wall system **10** includes curved walls using curved aluminum stringers and extrusions and curved tiles **18**. In conventional systems, curved walls are constructed of faceted panels rather than true, radii arcs. A curved wall is illustrated in Figure 19.

25 **[0050]** With reference to Figure 17, a module **20** is shown in which a couple of tiles **18** have been replaced with an integrated media panel **190**. The panel can be a Fresnel lens, a plasma screen, an LCD screen or a digital whiteboard. Rear projection technology can be used to project images onto the Fresnel lens, or the digital whiteboard technology allows sketching, writing, layout or computer screen emulation. In the example shown, adjacent tiles **18** incorporate speakers **192** to provide sound. Tile **18** surrounding the screen area can be
30 used for integrated storage areas.

[0051] With reference to Figure 18, there is shown schematically a module **20** with an integrated media center **200** suspended therein.

[0052] Various connectors are also provided to allow the present reconfigurable wall system to form corners. Reference is now made to Figure 19, 20, 21 and 22.

5 [0053] Figure 19 illustrates a two-way rectilinear connector **1910**. Connector **1910** includes a finished outer surface on sides **1912** and **1914**. Further, flanges **23** are provided on sides **1916** and **1918**. Flanges **23** can be used with zipper **25** to connect to end frames **12** or **17**. An extension **1920** extends between sides **1916** and **1918** to form a finished corner once modules **20** are connected to these sides. Further, sides **1912** and **1914** include an elongate
10 end **1922** for hiding zipper **25** and creating a finished surface.

[0054] Figure **20** is similar to Figure 19, with the principle difference being the radial finished outer surface **2012** replacing sides **1912** and **1914**. Otherwise similar reference numerals are used between Figures 19 and 20.

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[0055] Figure 21 illustrates a three way connector for a “T” connection. Three modules **20** are connected to connector **2101**. Connector **2101** includes a finished outer surface **2112**. Flanges **23** are used to connect modules **20**. Extensions **1920** provide a finished look between adjacent modules **20**. Further, elongate end **1922** provides a finished look on the
20 outside of the wall.

[0056] Figure 22 illustrates an alternative 90 degree connector. In this case, an extrusion **2201** is affixed to the end of a module **20**. Two extrusions are connected using a connector **2312**. Since connector **2312** is flexible, an angle greater than or less than 90 degrees is
25 possible. In a preferred embodiment, the swing on the connector is approximately 15 degrees.

[0057] The above-described embodiments of the present invention are meant to be illustrative of preferred embodiments and are not intended to limit the scope of the present
30 invention. Various modifications, which would be readily apparent to one skilled in the art, are intended to be within the scope of the present invention.

CLAIMS

1. A movable reconfigurable wall system comprising:

a) at least one wall module having a front and rear surface and top, bottom, right side and left side edges, said at least one wall module having:

i) a vertical end frame disposed adjacent to each of said right and left side edges, each vertical end frame having a first vertically extending flange and a spaced apart second vertically extending flange thereon, each of said first vertically extending flange and said second vertically extending flange having a beaded portion, the beaded portion on one of said first vertically extending flange or said second vertically extending flange extending toward the front surface of the wall module and the beaded portion on the other of said first vertically extending flange or said second vertically extending flange extending toward the rear surface of the wall module;

ii) a plurality of horizontal stringers affixed between said vertical end frames at said right and left side edges; and

iii) an aesthetic surface affixed to said stringers; and

b) a removable connecting strip having a pair of spaced apart flexible arms, each arm having a beaded portion thereon, the beaded portion of one of said arms being adapted to connect releasably to the beaded portion of one of said first vertically extending flange or said second vertically extending flange on said vertical end frame and the beaded portion of the other of said arms being adapted to connect releasably to the beaded portion of a corresponding opposed vertically extending flange on a separate vertical end frame of a second wall module, a wall bracket, a finishing trim or a connection post to hold one of said first vertically extending flange or said second vertically extending flange and said opposed vertically extending flange together, the beaded portions of said first vertically extending flange or said second vertically extending flange and said opposed vertically extending flange fitting inside the arms of said connecting strip to hold said first vertically extending flange or said second vertically extending flange and said opposed vertically extending flange together thereby

releasably connecting said at least one wall module to the other of said second wall module, wall bracket, finishing trim or connection post.

2. The movable reconfigurable wall system of claim 1, wherein said connecting strip includes a spine adapted to fit between said first vertically extending flange or said second vertically extending flange and said opposed vertically extending flange.

3. The movable reconfigurable wall system of claim 2, wherein said connecting strip further includes a pair of flexible fin extensions extending opposite to said flexible arms for providing a seal.

4. The movable reconfigurable wall system of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein said aesthetic surface includes a tile panel on said front surface, said rear surface, or both said front surface and said rear surface.

5. The movable reconfigurable wall system of claim 4, wherein each said stringer includes one or more protrusions, said reconfigurable wall system further including tile clips for affixing tiles to said one or more protrusions.

6. The movable reconfigurable wall system of any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein said aesthetic surface is a single divider selected from a group consisting of substrates consisting of glass, plastic, or wood and metal.

7. The movable reconfigurable wall system of any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein said stringers and end frames include a channel for receiving said divider.

8. The movable reconfigurable wall system of any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein said stringers include a cantilever channel stringer, said cantilever channel stringer having:

a central horizontally extending channel portion with a generally L-shaped slot, said L-shaped slot adapted to receive and engage a substantially L-shaped hook formed on a wall accessory;

an upper portion having a tile support;

a lower portion having a tile support; and

a pair of extending webs connecting said channel portion to said upper and a lower portion.

9. The movable reconfigurable wall system of any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein said system further comprises an extension frame, said extension frame including a pair of vertical extension end frames and at least one stringer, said extension frame being affixed atop of said at least one module with a spline on each end of said end frame.

10. The movable reconfigurable wall system of any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein said aesthetic surface includes a slat wall, said slat wall having slats and slat wall channels for connection to slat wall accessories.

11. The movable reconfigurable wall system of any one of claims 1 to 10, said system further comprising a levelling system having:

a universal foot;

a leveller capable of engaging said universal foot; and

a structural extrusion to engage surface of said at least one module, said structural extrusion connecting to said leveller,

wherein said leveller provides the sole connection between said universal foot and said module.

12. The movable reconfigurable wall system of claim 11, wherein said leveller comprises:

a cylindrical internally threaded upper section;

an internally and externally threaded middle section, said external threads matching said internally threaded upper section; and

an externally threaded lower section, said externally threaded lower section matching internal threads of said middle section,

wherein said middle section can be twisted to extend or contract said leveller.

13. The movable reconfigurable wall unit of claim 11 or 12 further comprising a base trim, said base trim attaching to said universal foot.

14. The movable reconfigurable wall unit of any one of claims 1 to 13 further comprising a ceiling connection, said ceiling connection including:

a ceiling track affixed to a ceiling;

a horizontal upper section affixed to said module, said horizontal upper section adapted to fit about said ceiling track;

a flexible gasket affixed to said horizontal upper section and extending above said horizontal upper section to contact the ceiling.

15. The movable reconfigurable wall unit of any one of claims 1 to 14, wherein said wall bracket comprises:

an extrusion for connection to an existing wall in alignment with said end frame; and first and second flanges on said extrusion corresponding to said first vertically extending flange and said second vertically extending flange on said end frame and arranged in opposition thereto.

16. The movable reconfigurable wall unit of any one of claims 1 to 15 further comprising a wall joint, said wall joint comprising a flexible gasket and a channel, said channel adapted to connect to a flange of said at least one module.

17. The movable reconfigurable wall unit of any one of claims 1 to 16, wherein said at least one module includes curved stringers and curved aesthetic surfaces.

18. The movable reconfigurable wall unit of any one of claims 1 to 17, wherein said connection post includes at least two sides having vertically extending flanges thereon corresponding to and arranged in opposition to said first and second flanges on said end frame.

19. The movable reconfigurable wall unit of any one of claims 1 to 18, wherein said aesthetic surface includes a multimedia component.

20. The movable reconfigurable wall unit of claim 19, wherein said multimedia component is a video monitor.

21. The movable reconfigurable wall unit of any one of claims 1 to 19, wherein said vertical end frame depth is extended to provide a deeper wall.

22. The movable reconfigurable wall unit of claim 21, wherein said deeper wall is adapted to accommodate a rear-projection video system.

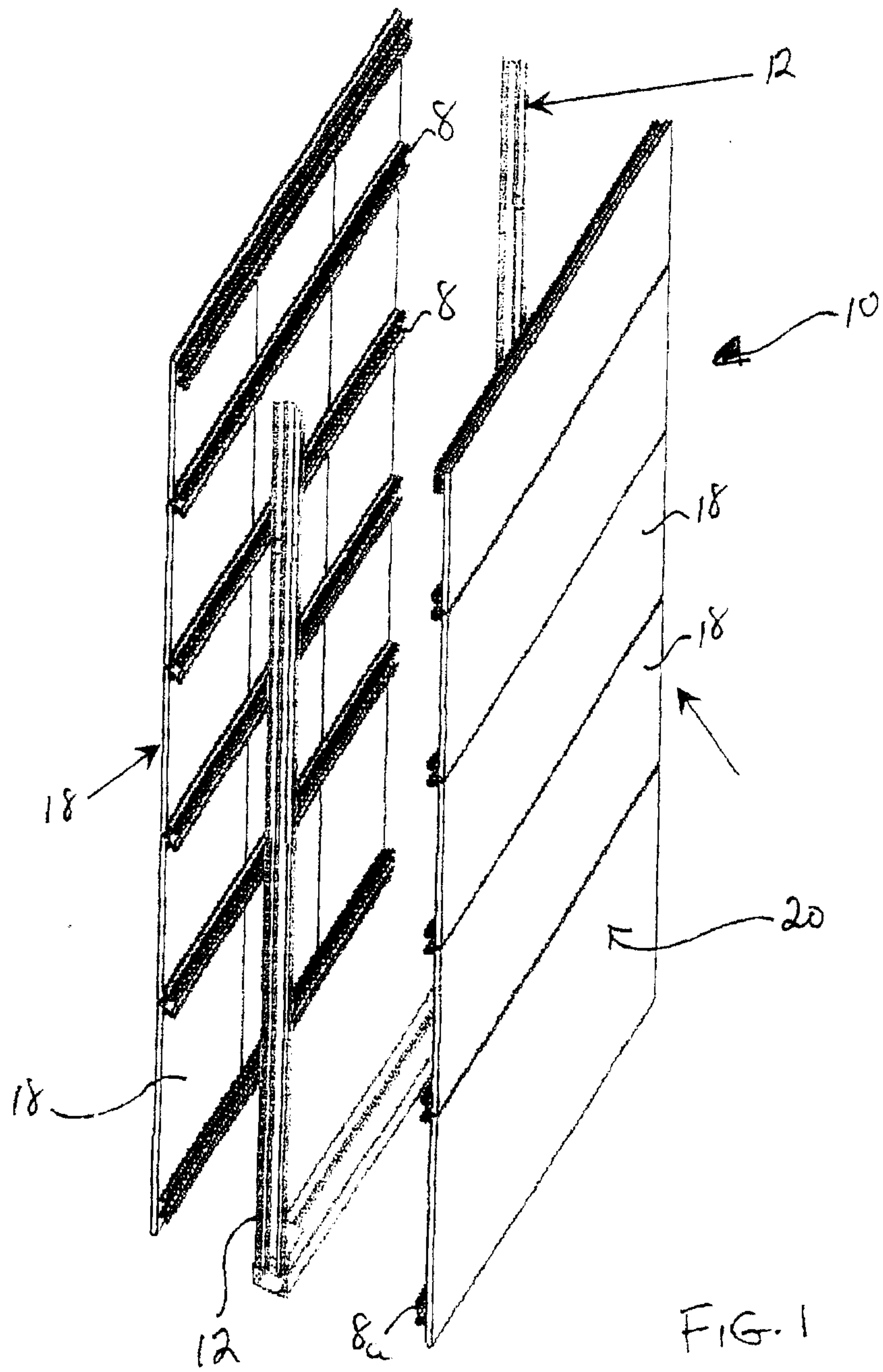
23. The movable reconfigurable wall unit of claim 21, wherein said deeper wall is adapted to accommodate an integrated storage system.

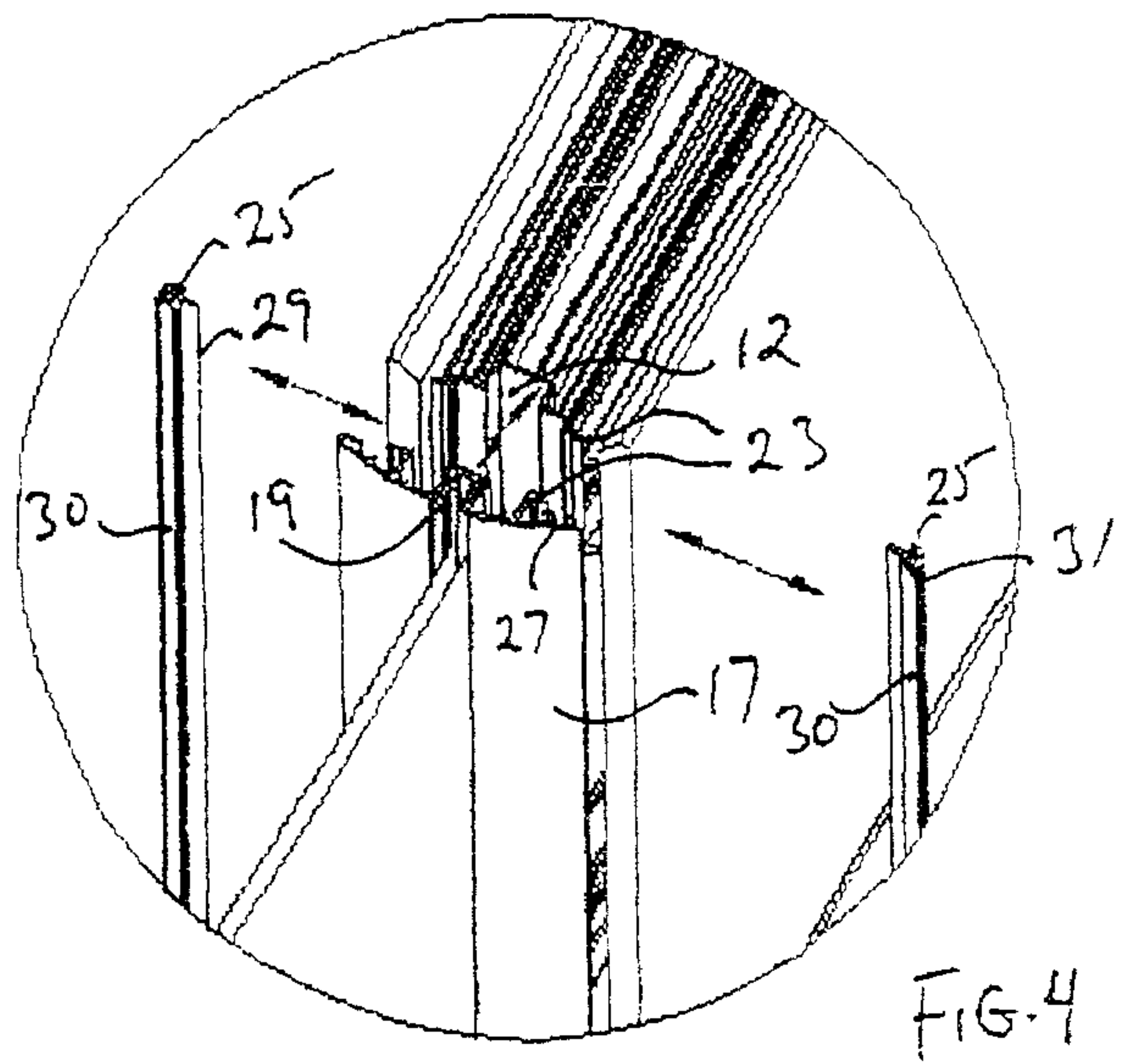
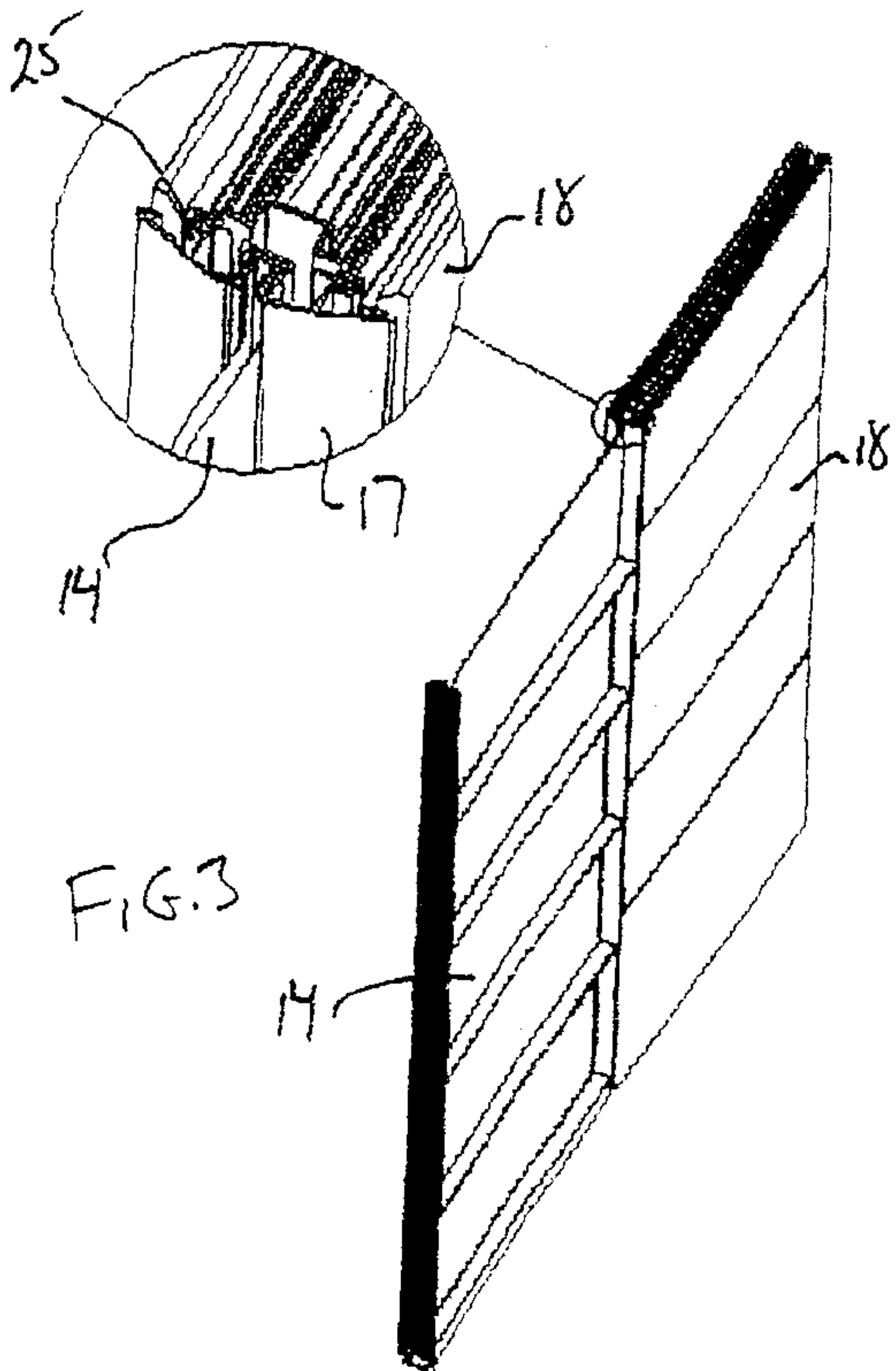
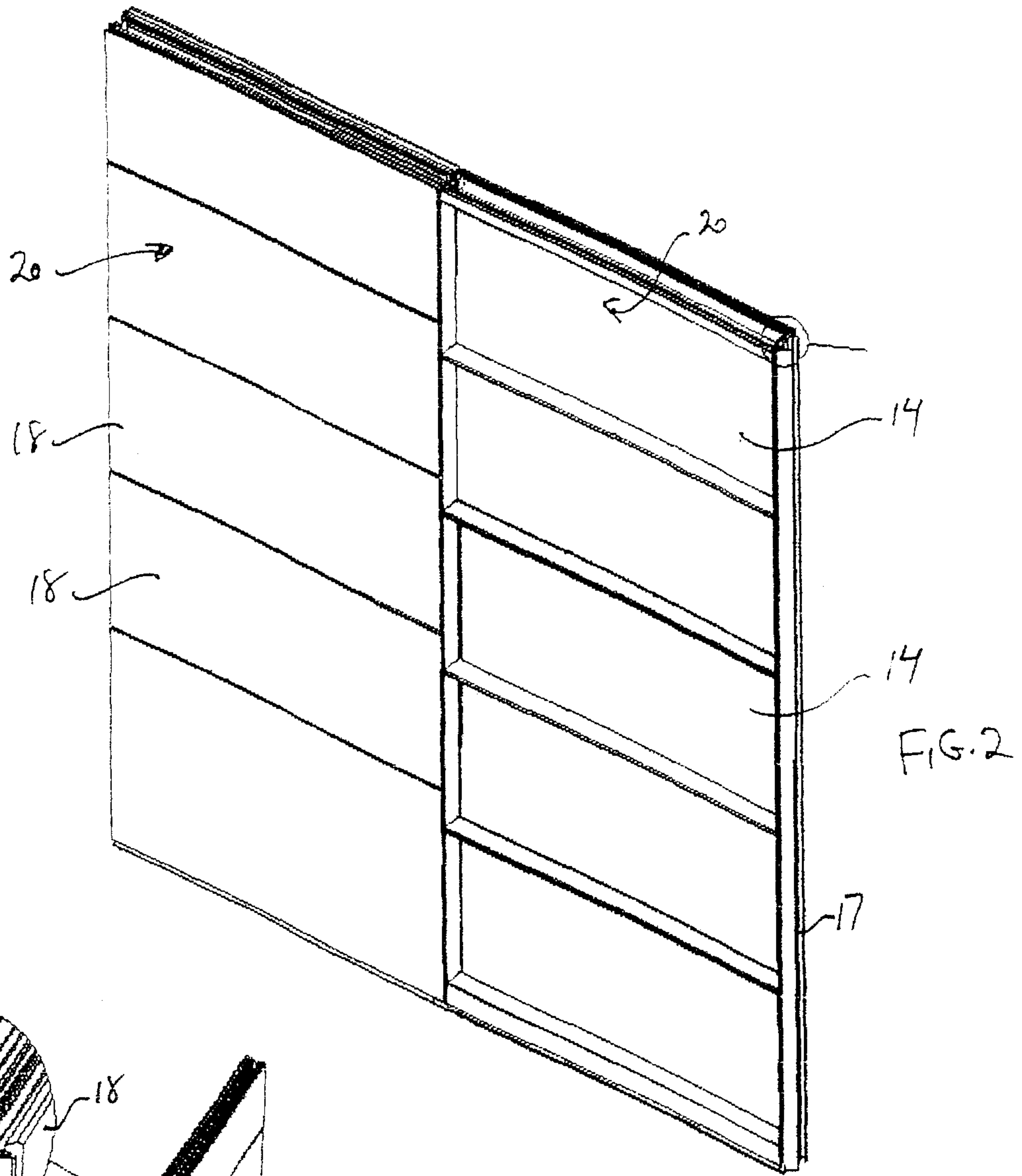
24. The movable reconfigurable wall unit of any one of claims 1 to 23, further comprising a wall mounted module for mounting to an existing wall face, said wall mounted module having: a) vertical end brackets disposed at least at its side edges, each said vertical end frame having a vertically extending flange directed away from said existing wall face; b) a plurality of horizontal stringers affixed between said pair of vertical end brackets; and c) an aesthetic surface affixed to said stringers.

25. The movable reconfigurable wall unit of any one of claims 1 to 24, further comprising a furniture system connectable to said at least one module, the furniture system having: a work surface, said work surface connectable to said stringers; and

furniture legs, said furniture legs connecting to said work surface at a first end and connecting to a threaded bolt at a second end opposite said first end, said threaded bolt allowing levelling of said work surface.

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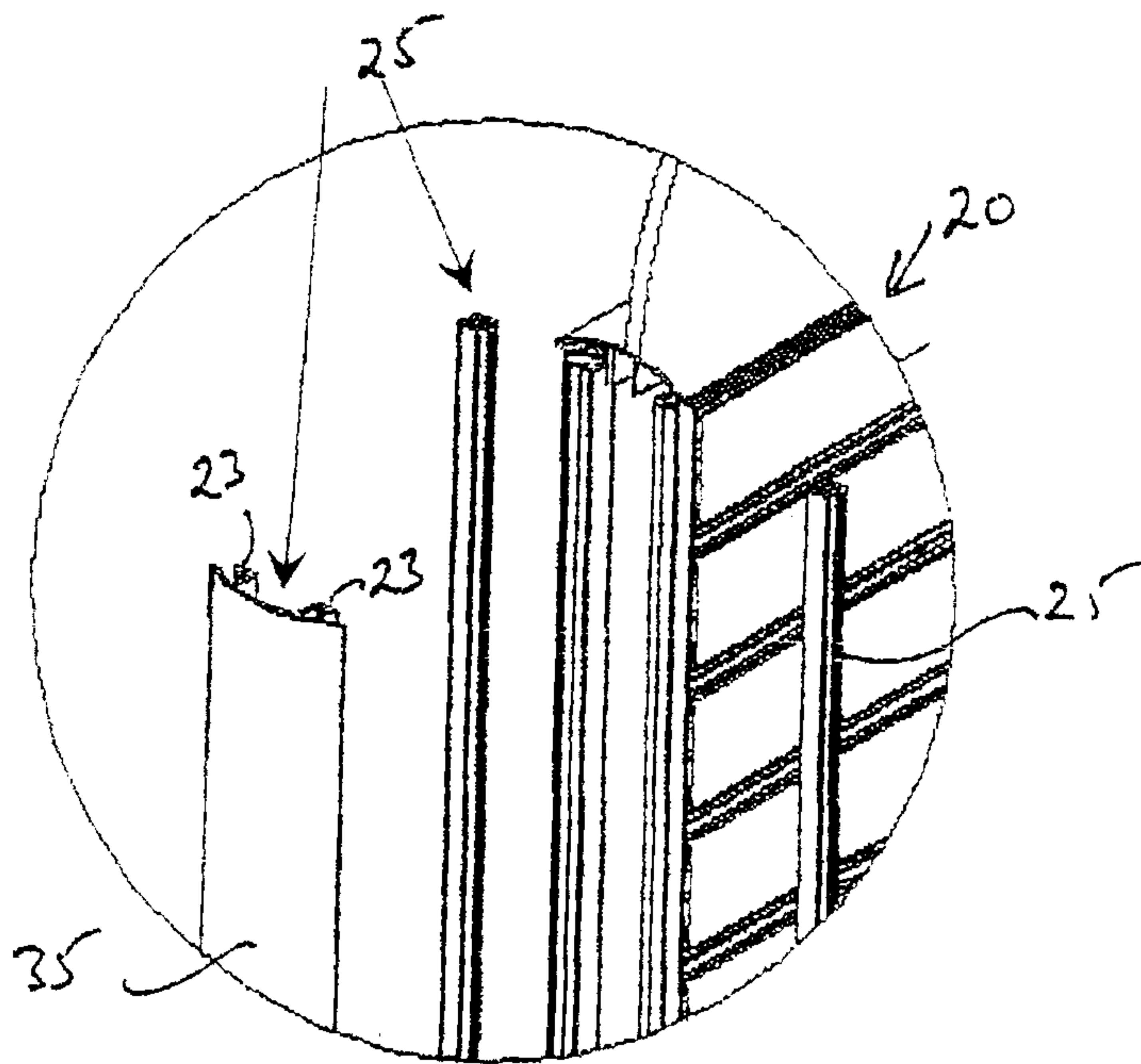


FIG. 5

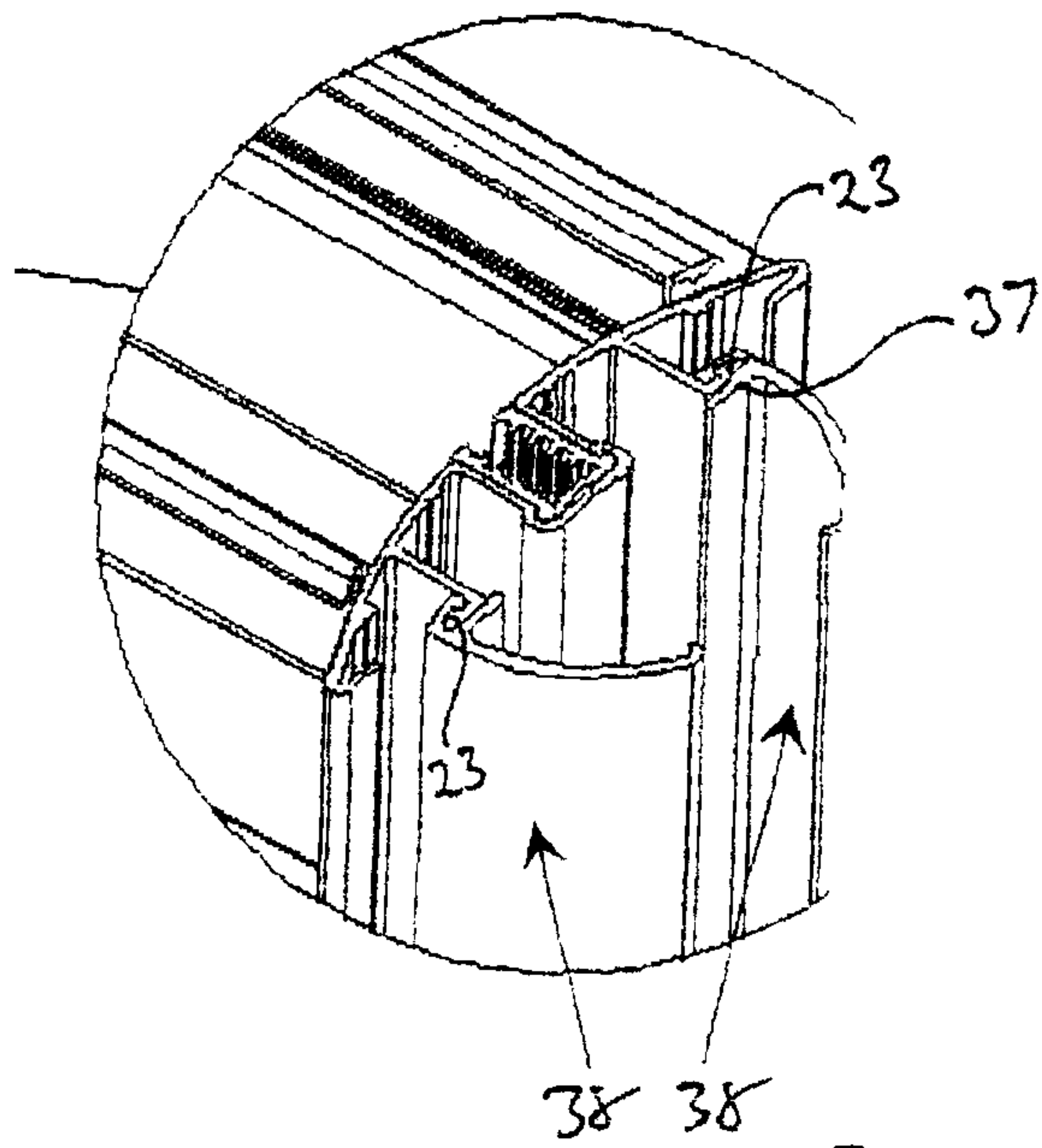


FIG. 6

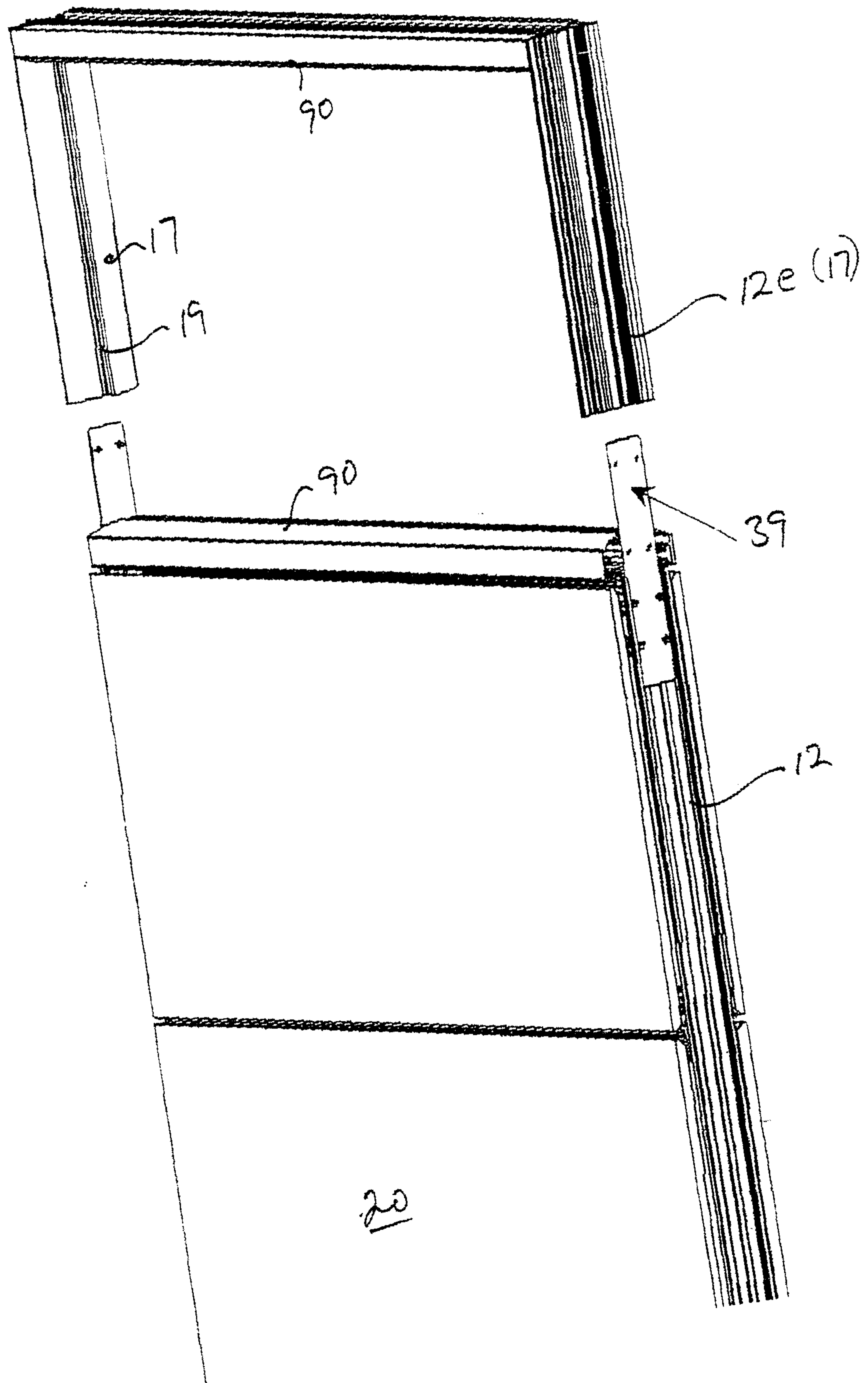
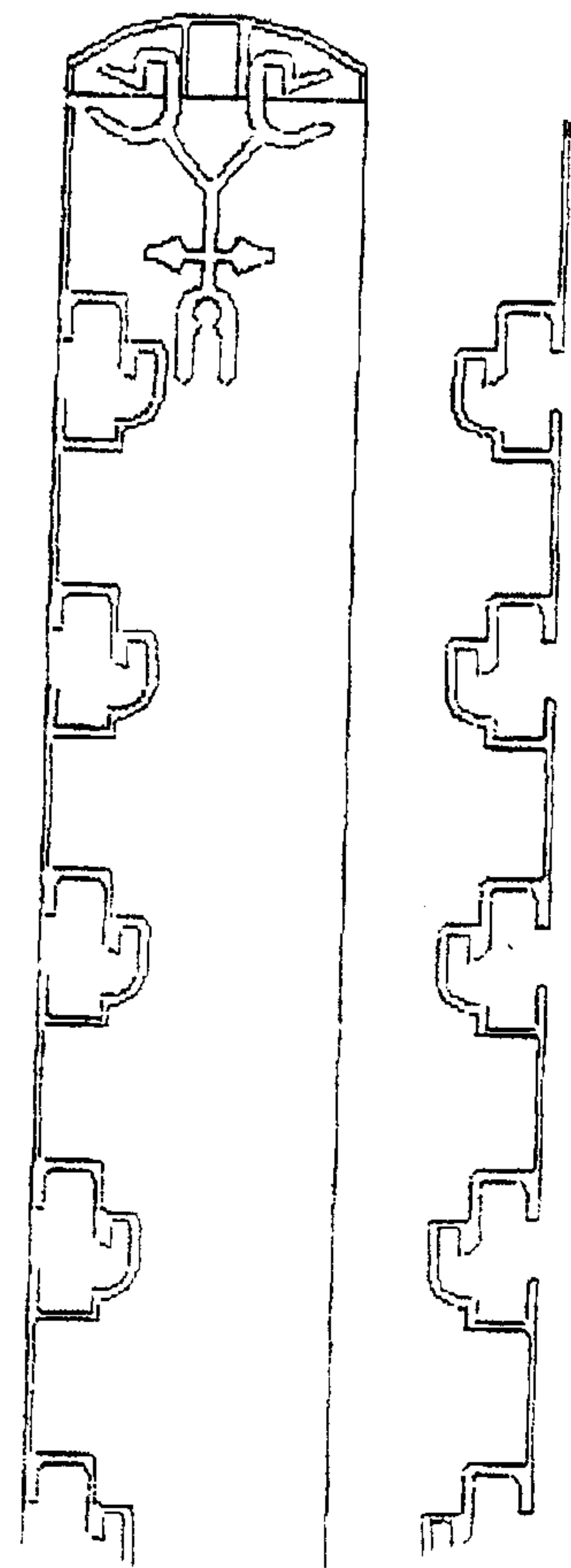
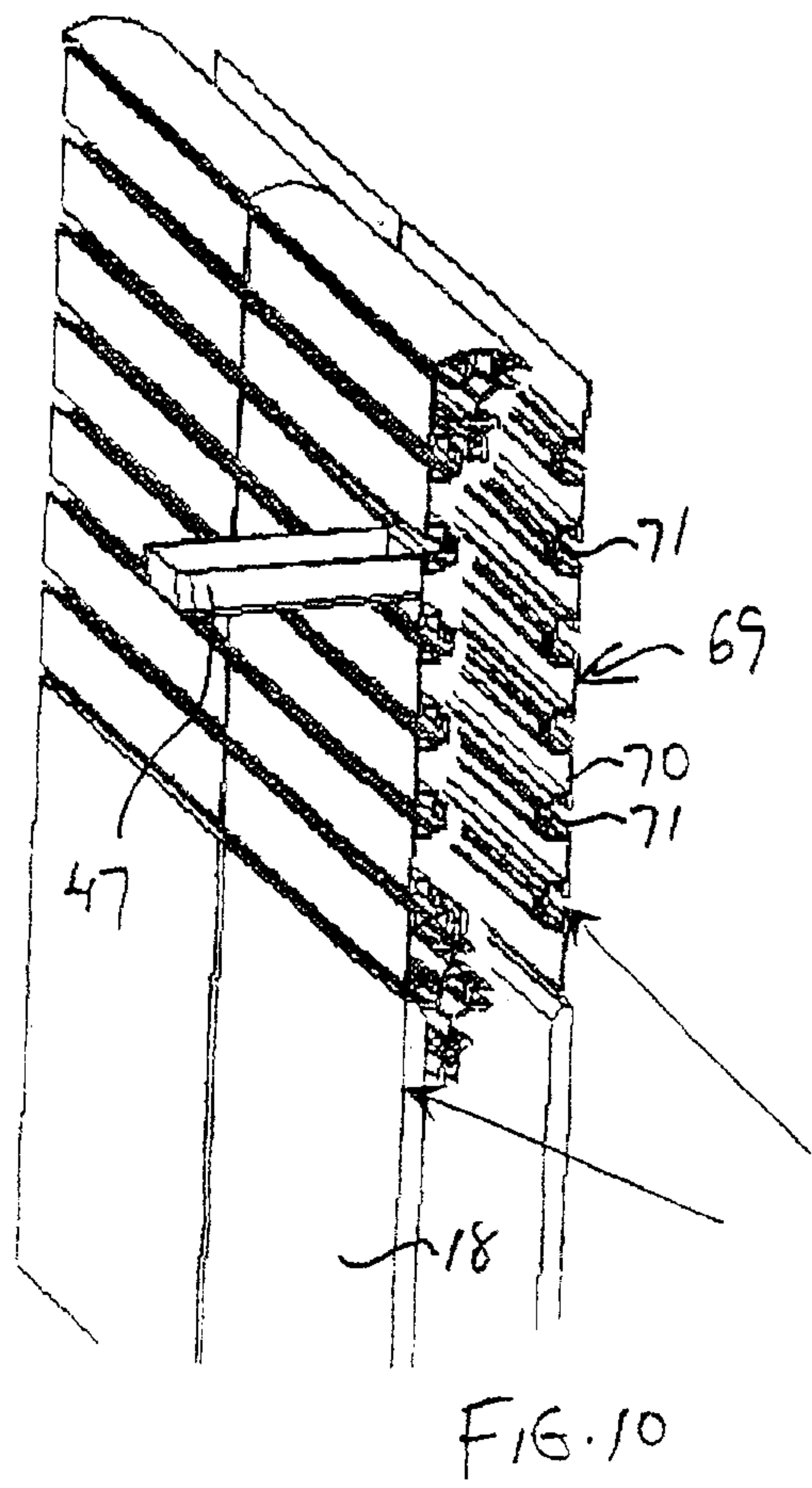
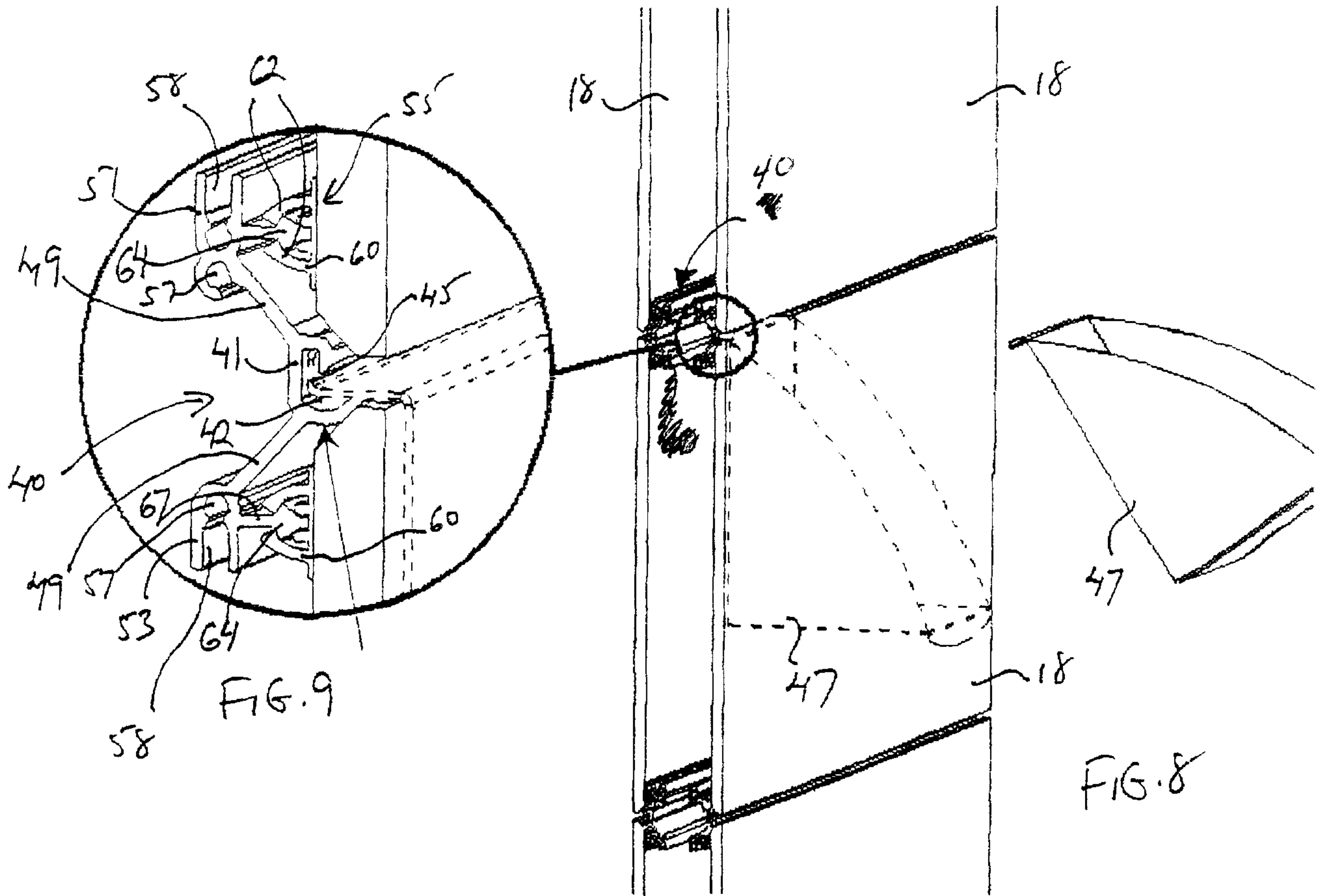
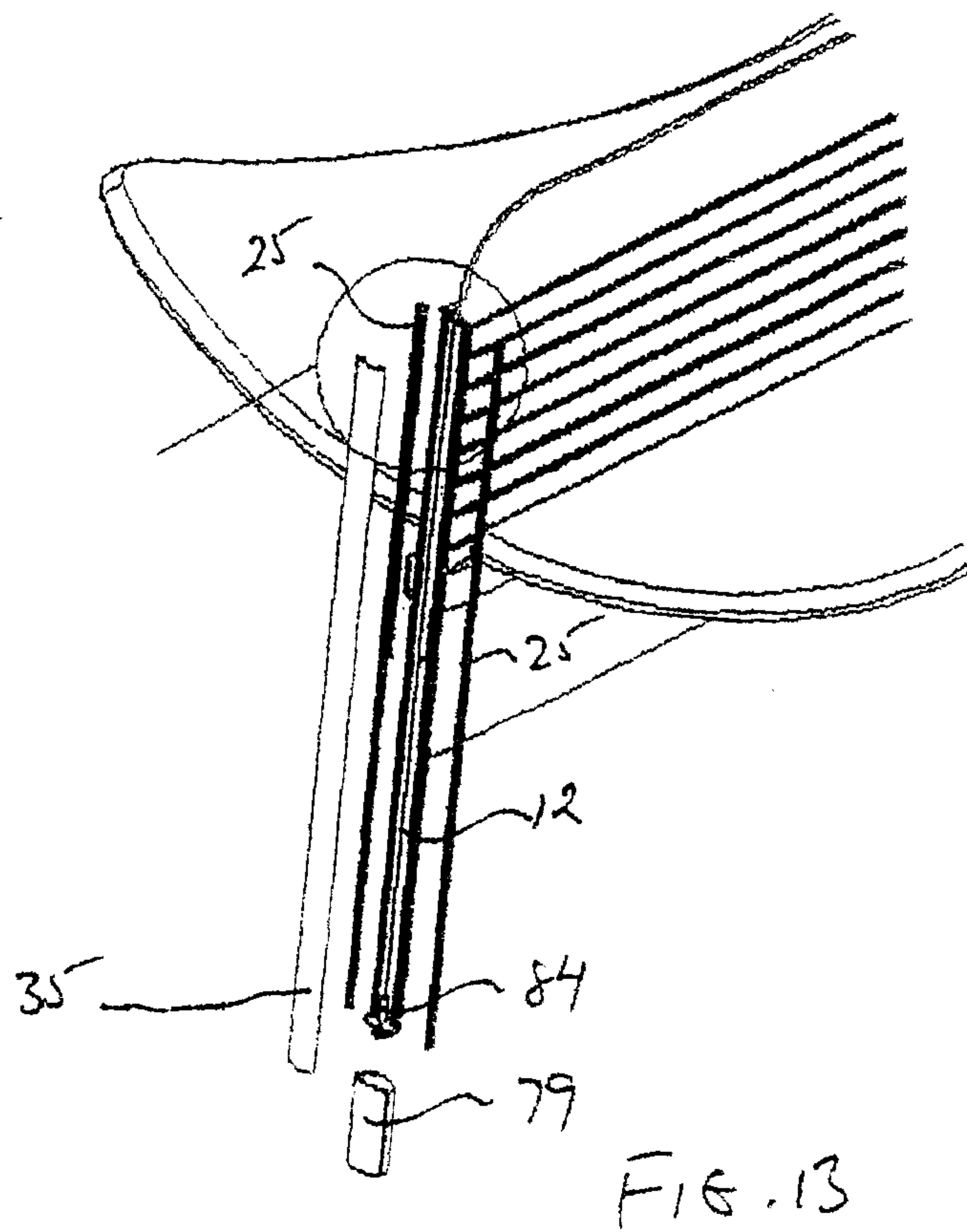
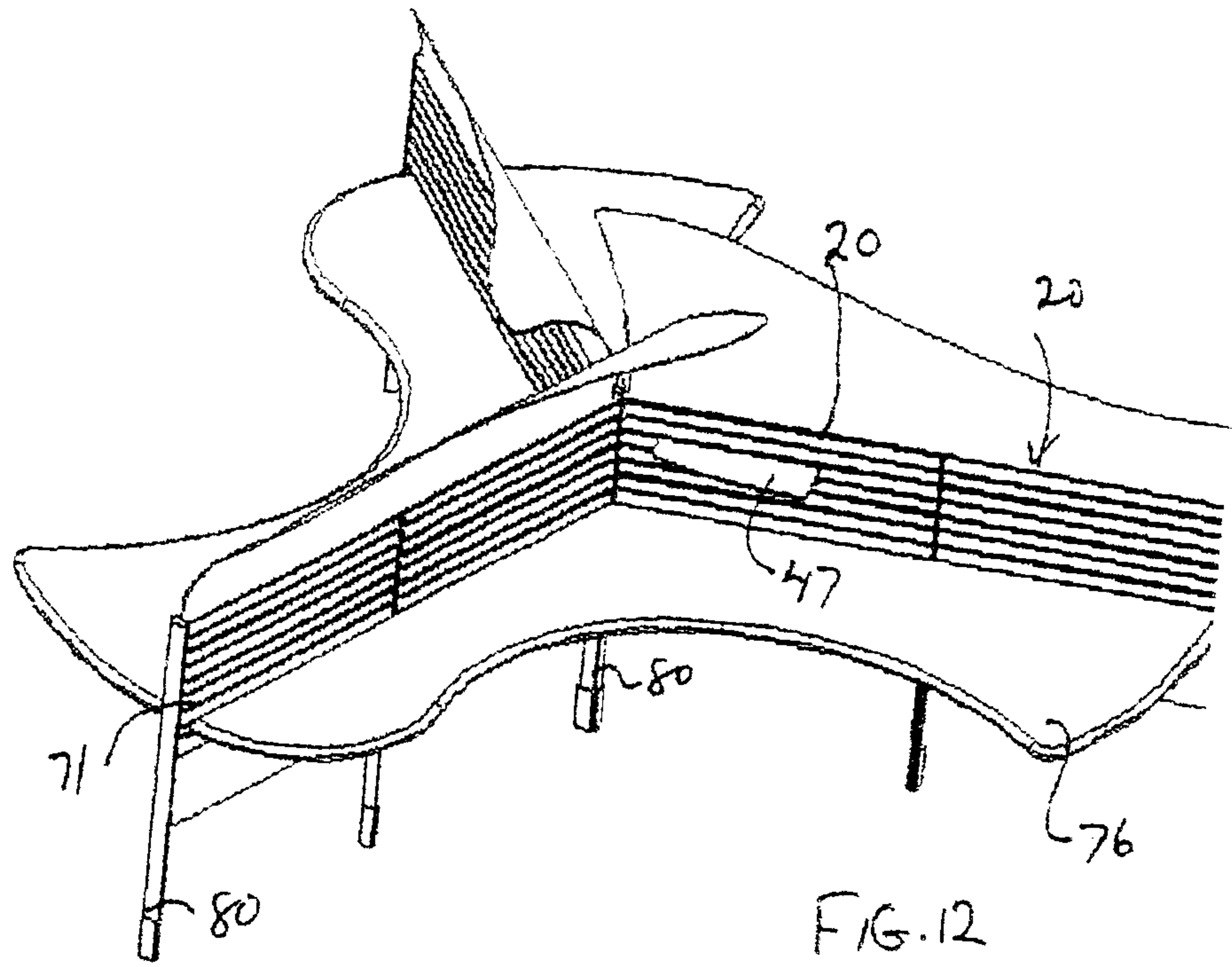


FIG. 7





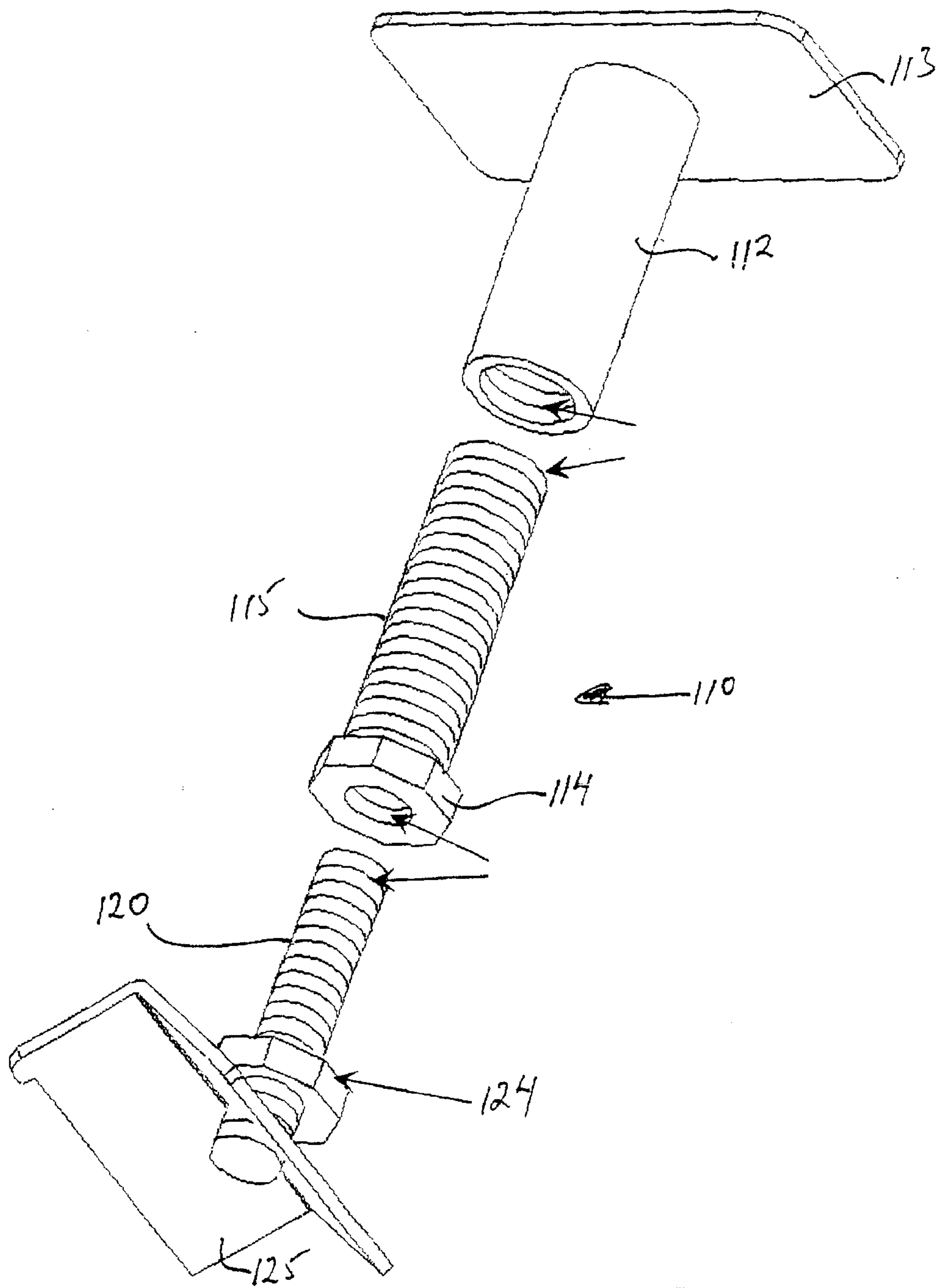


FIG. 14

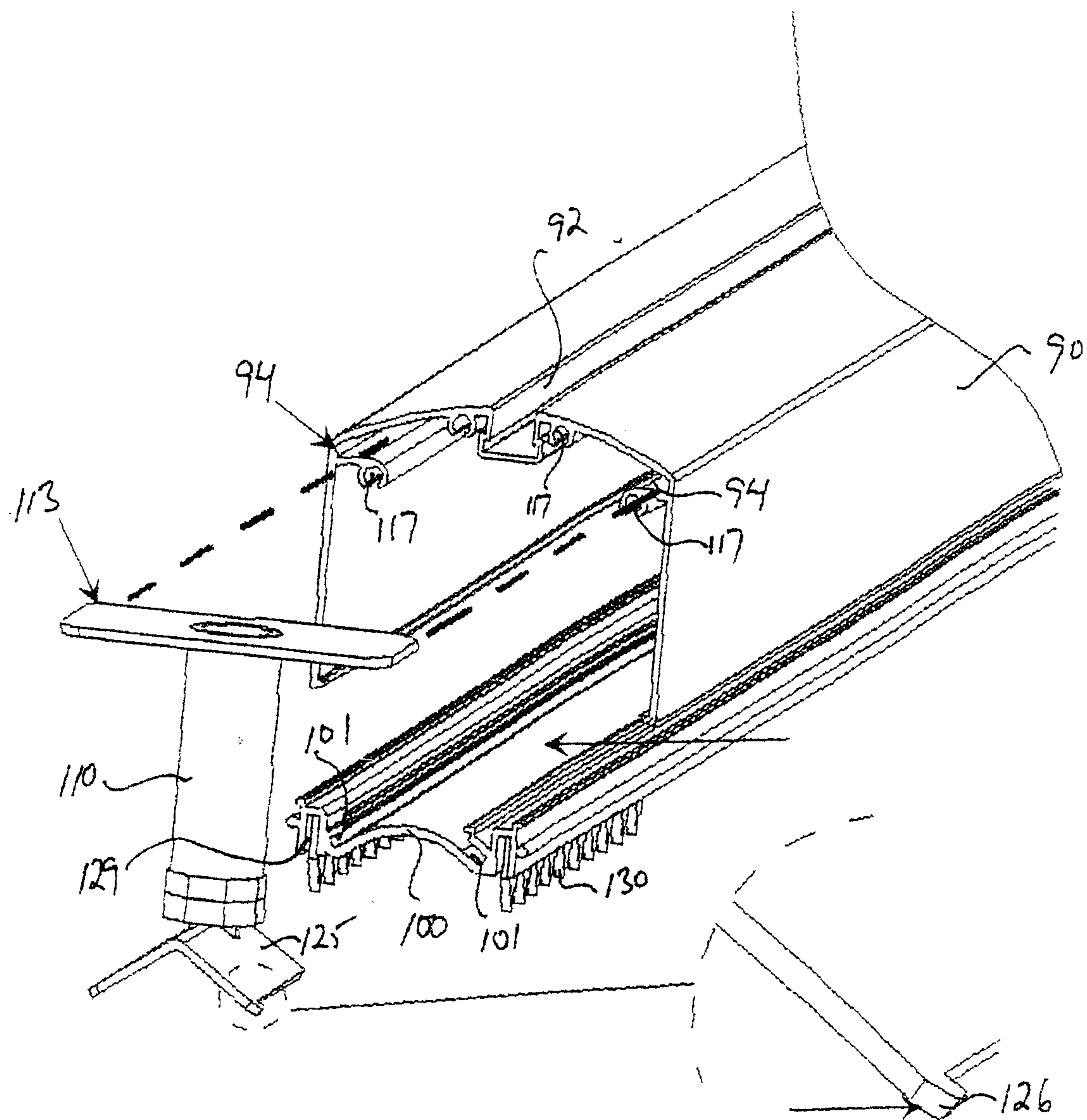
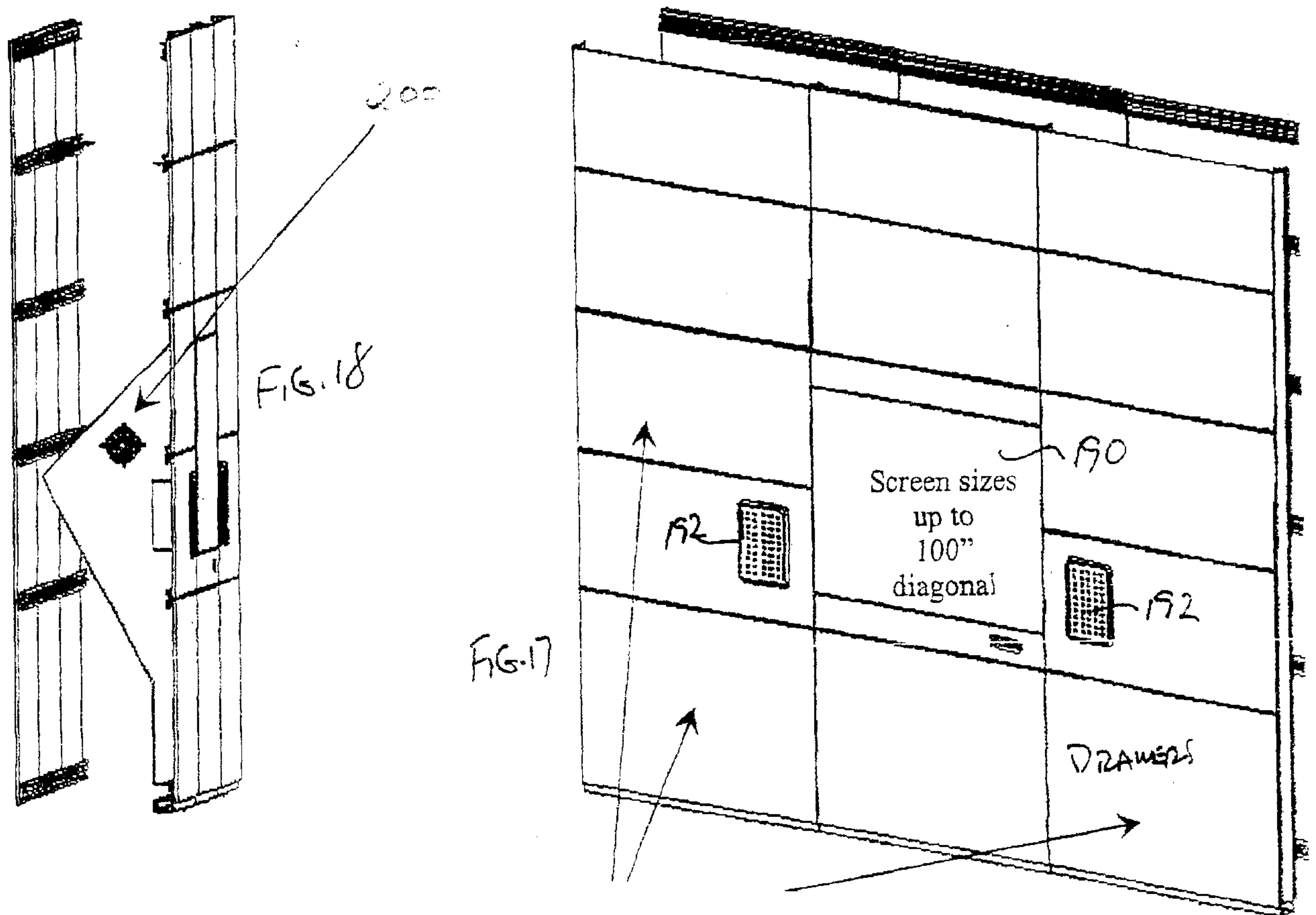
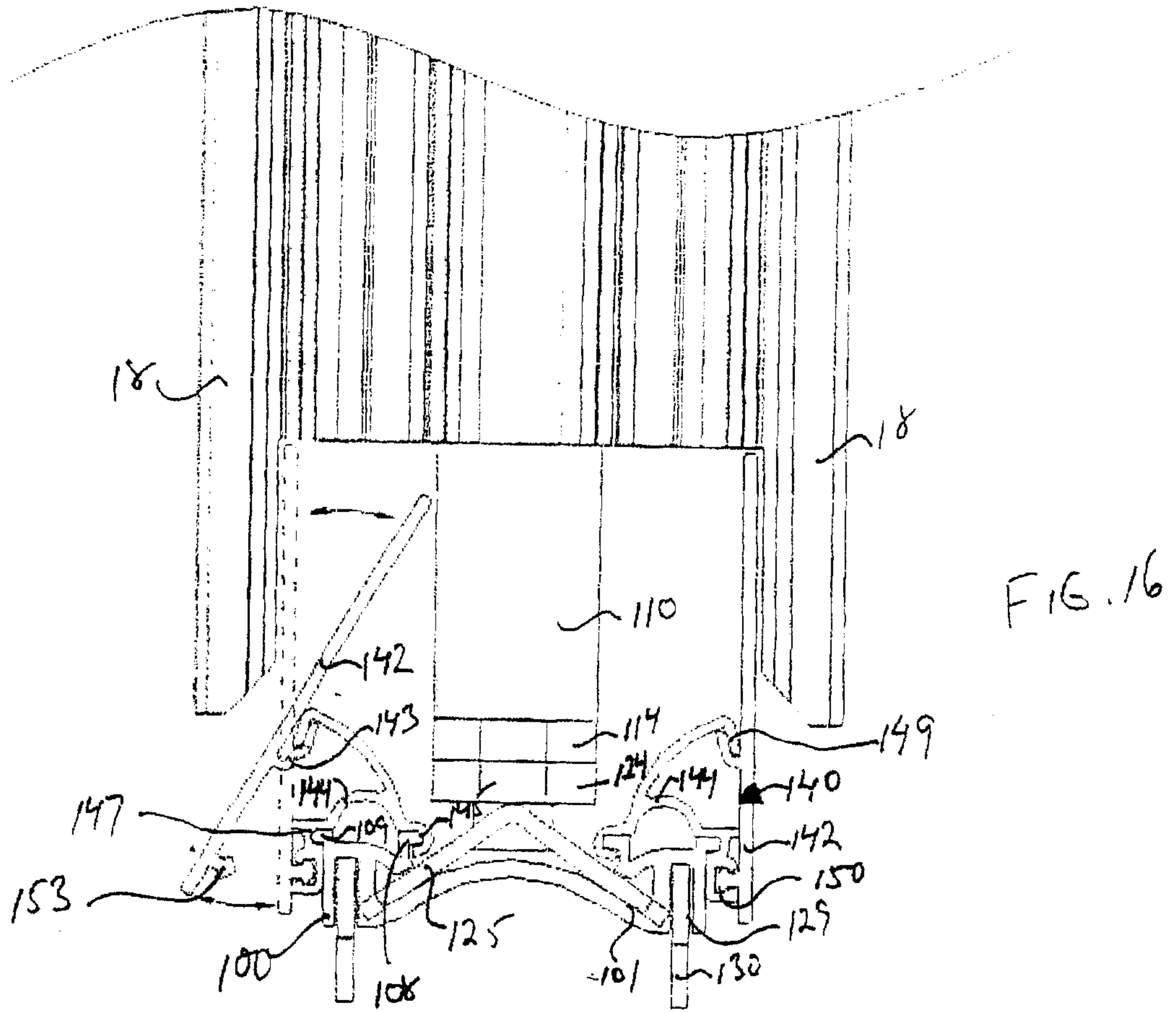


FIG. 15



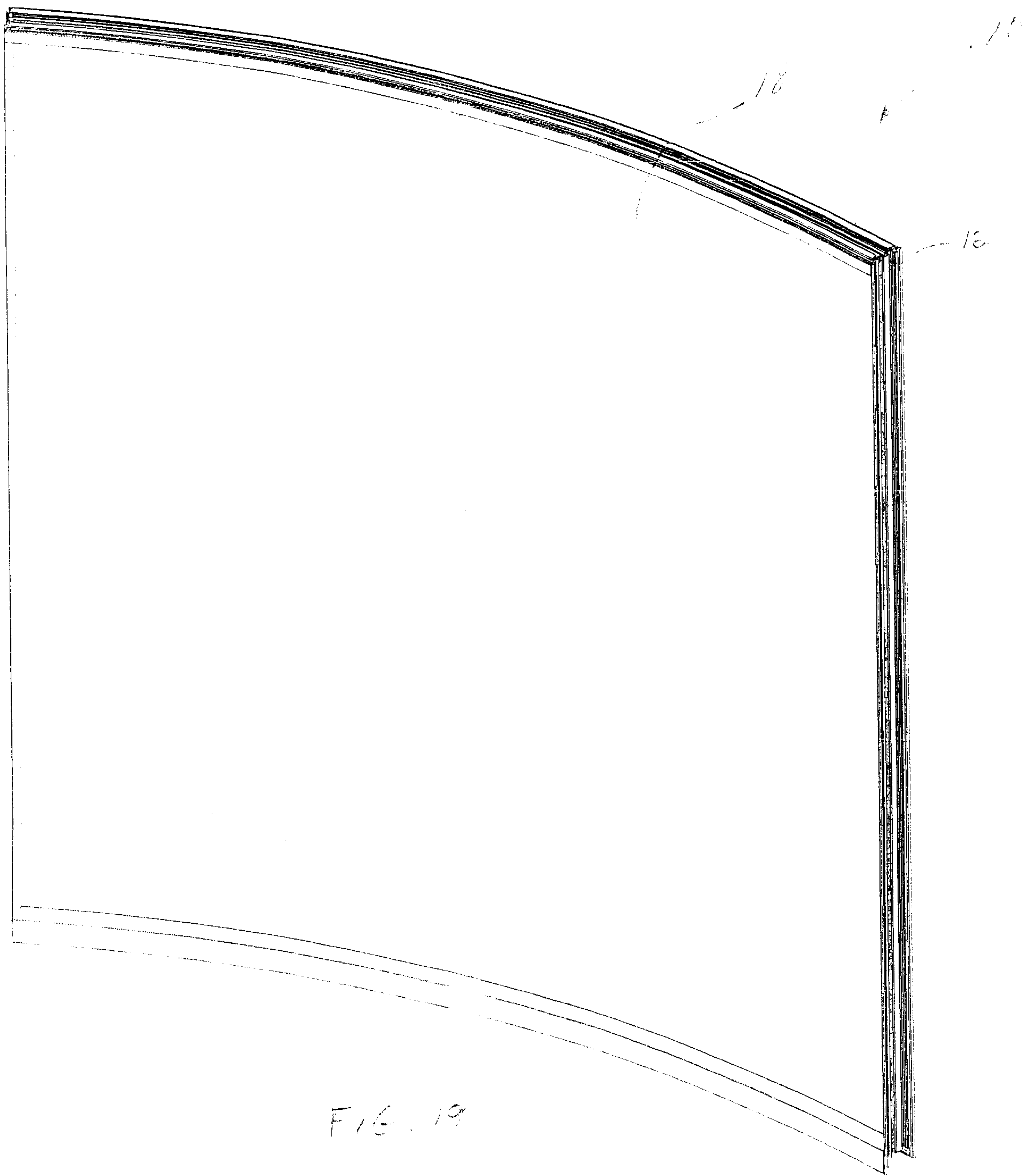
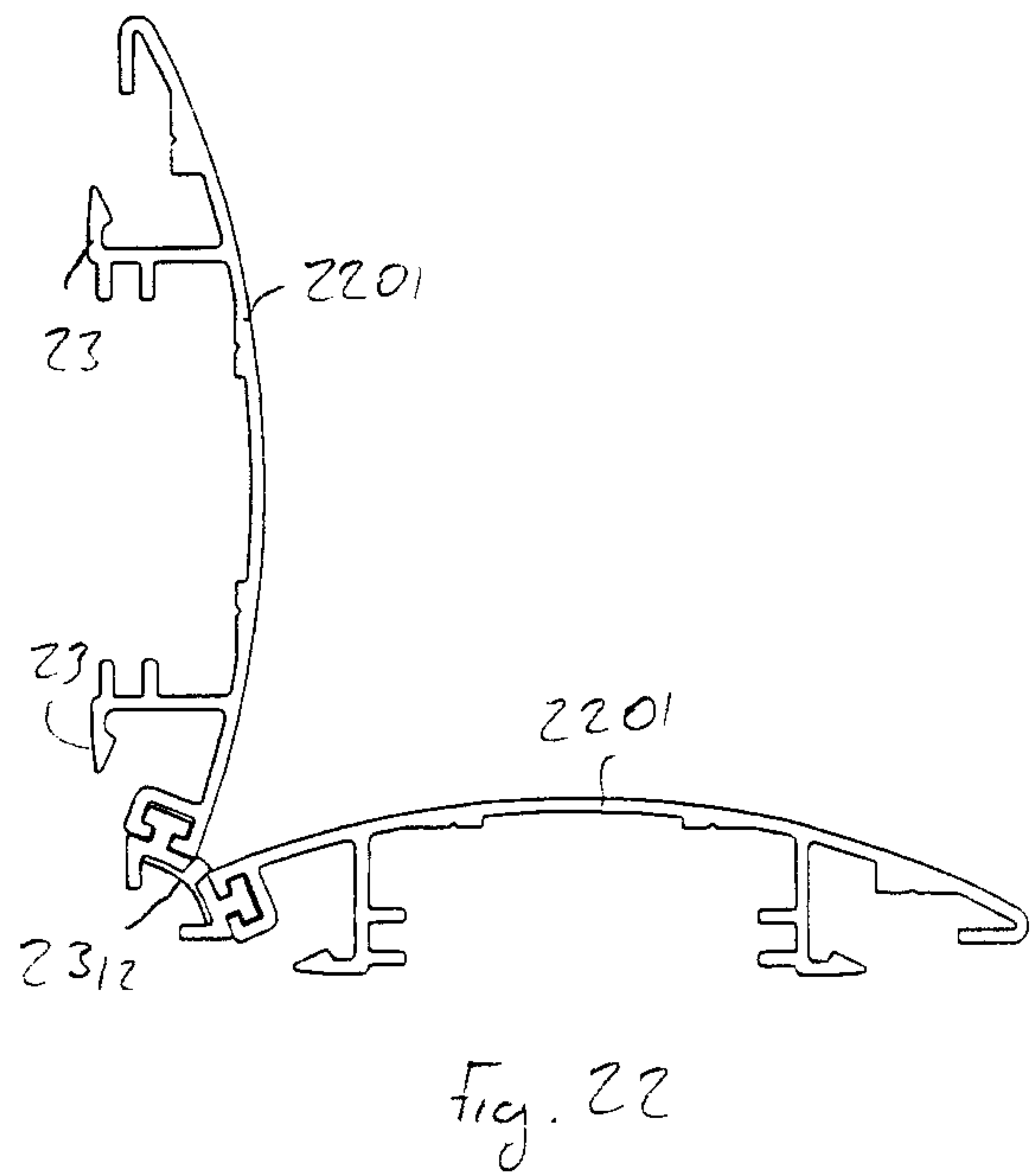
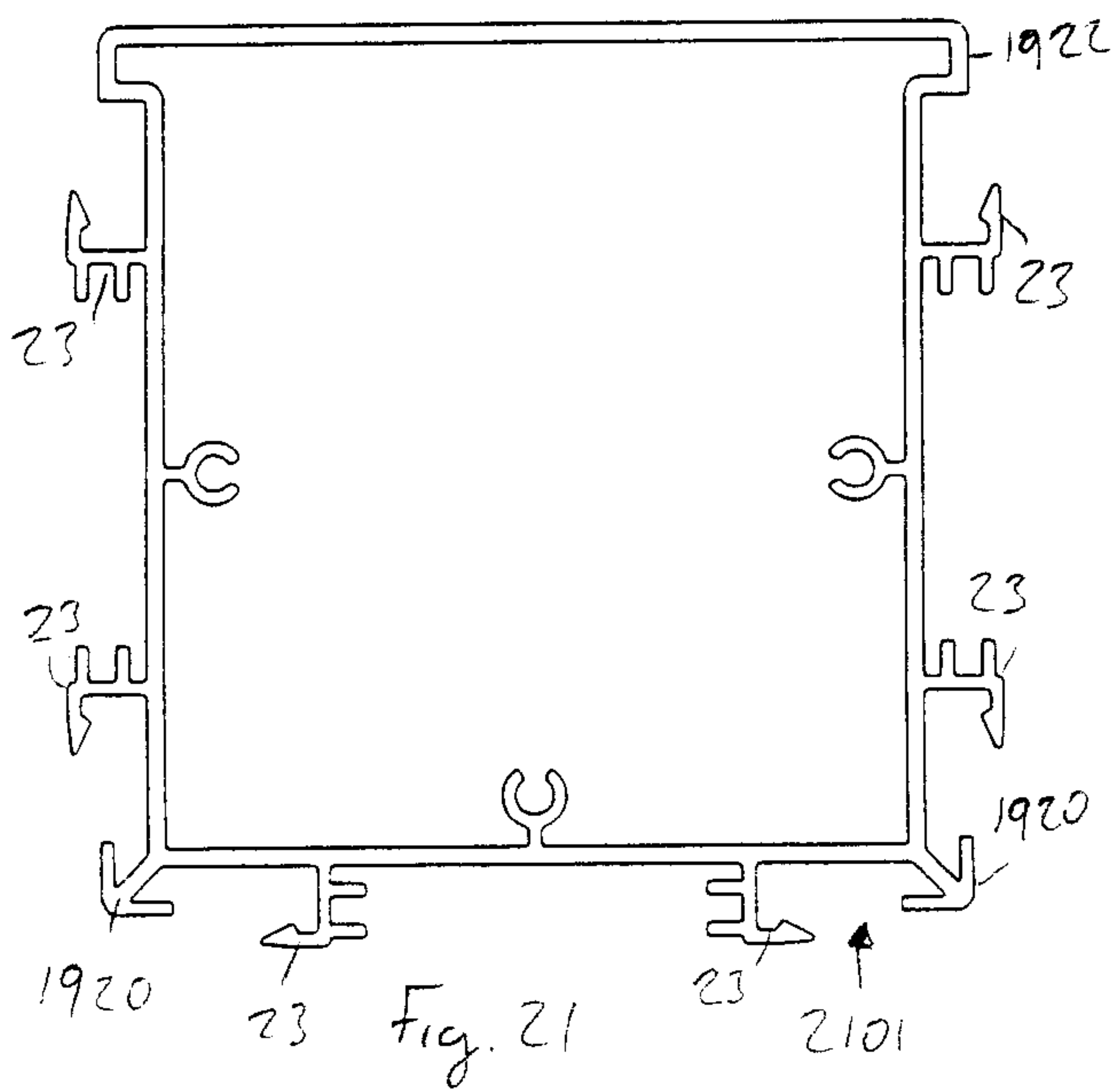
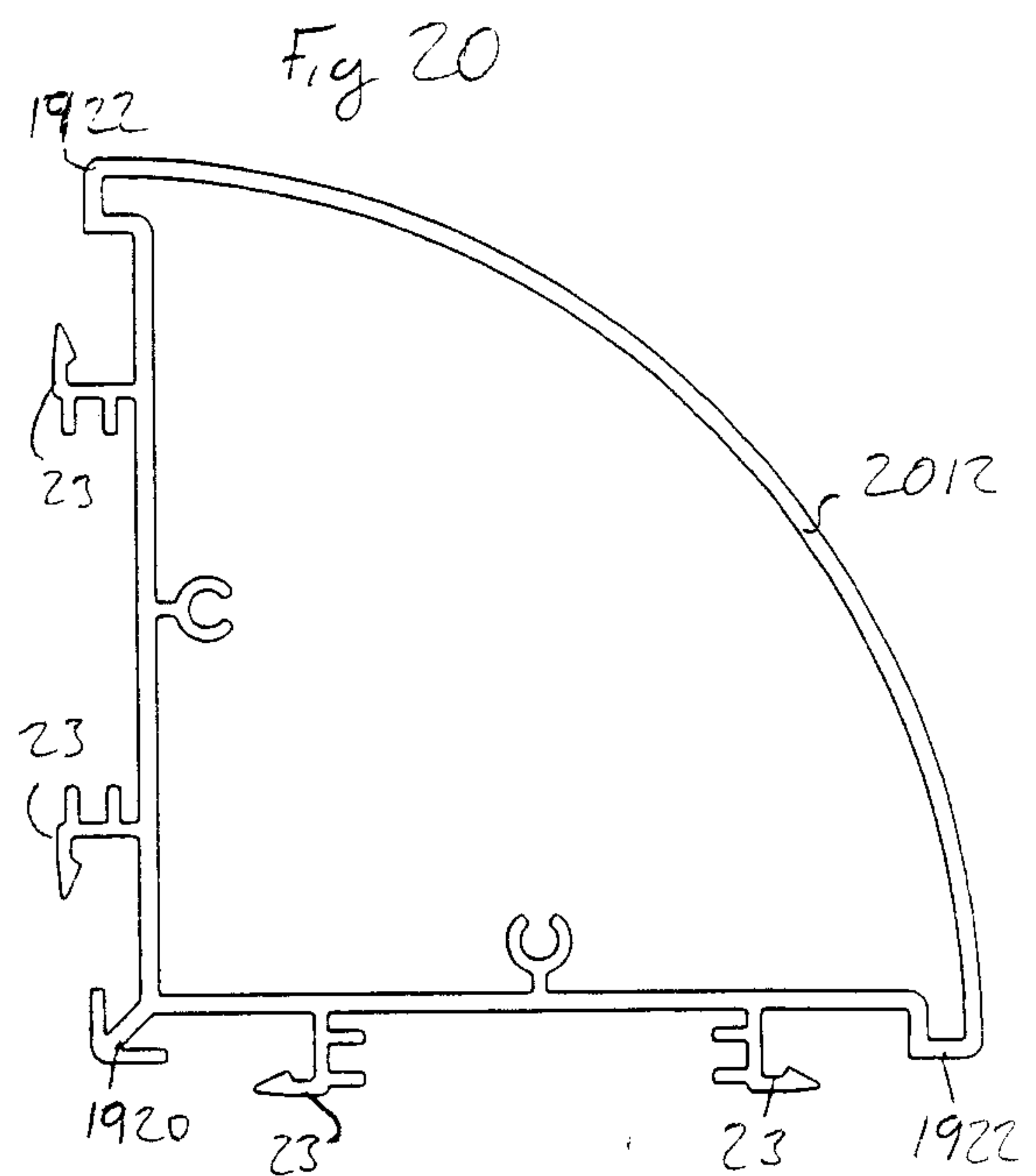
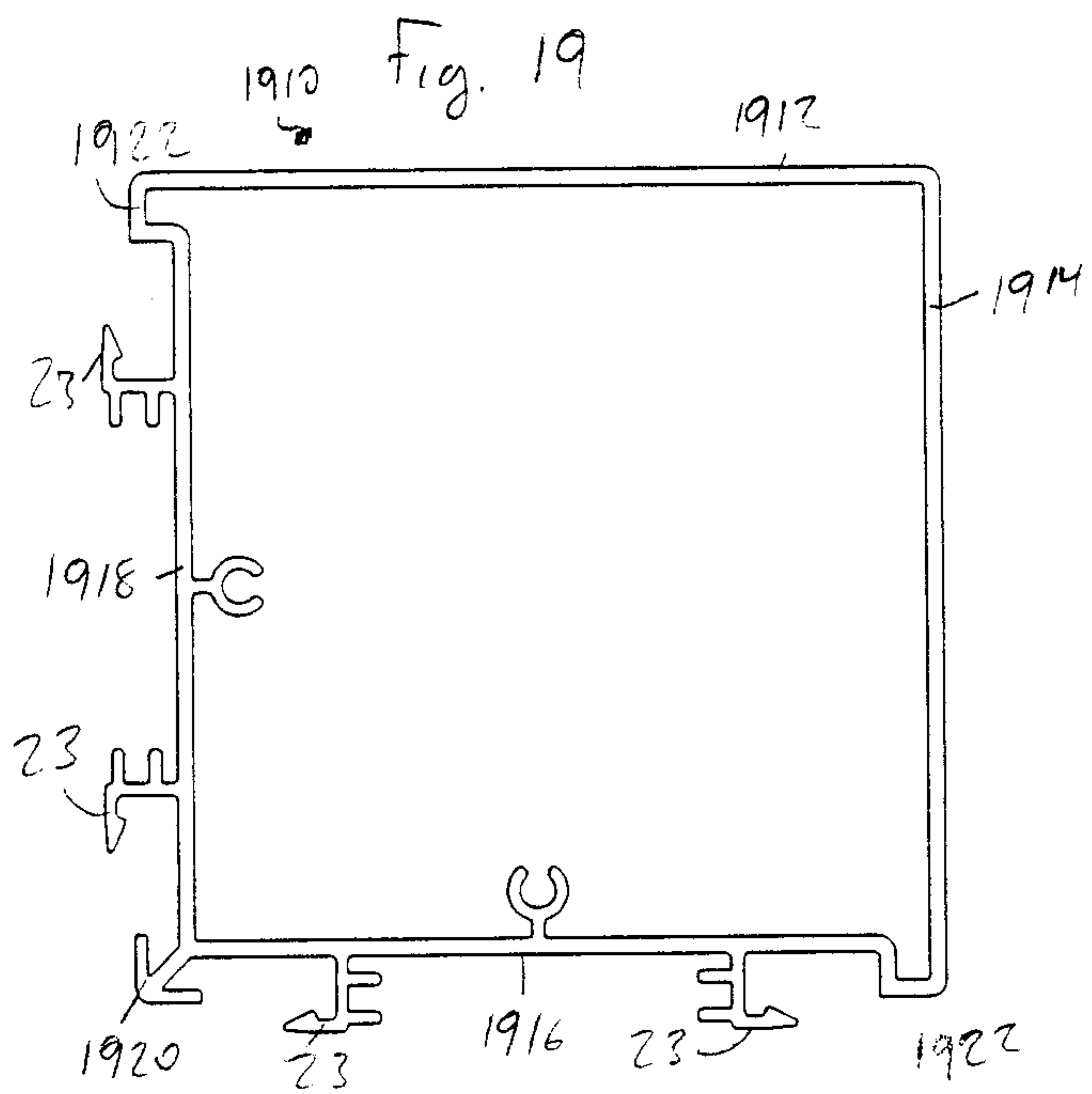


FIG. 19



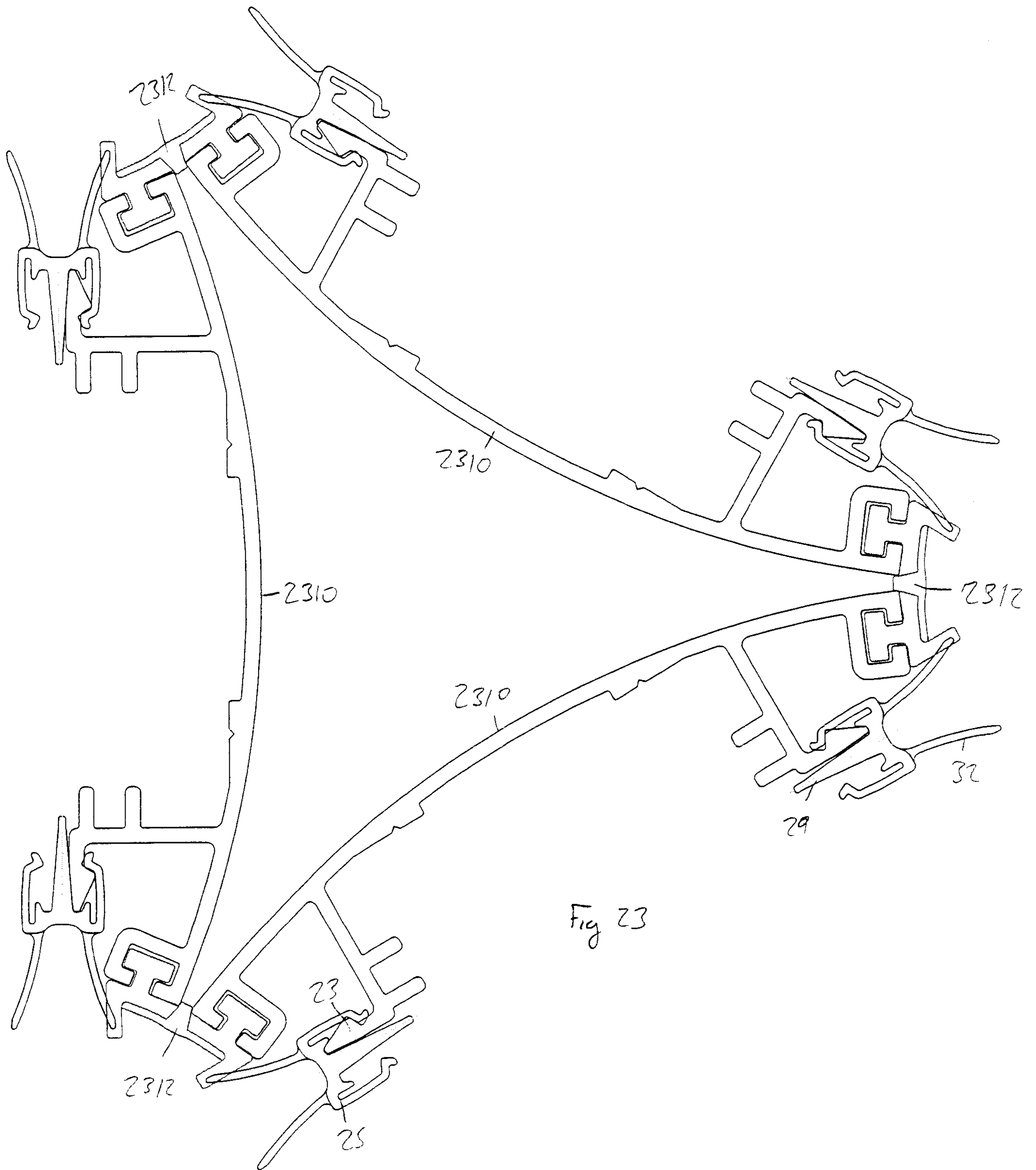
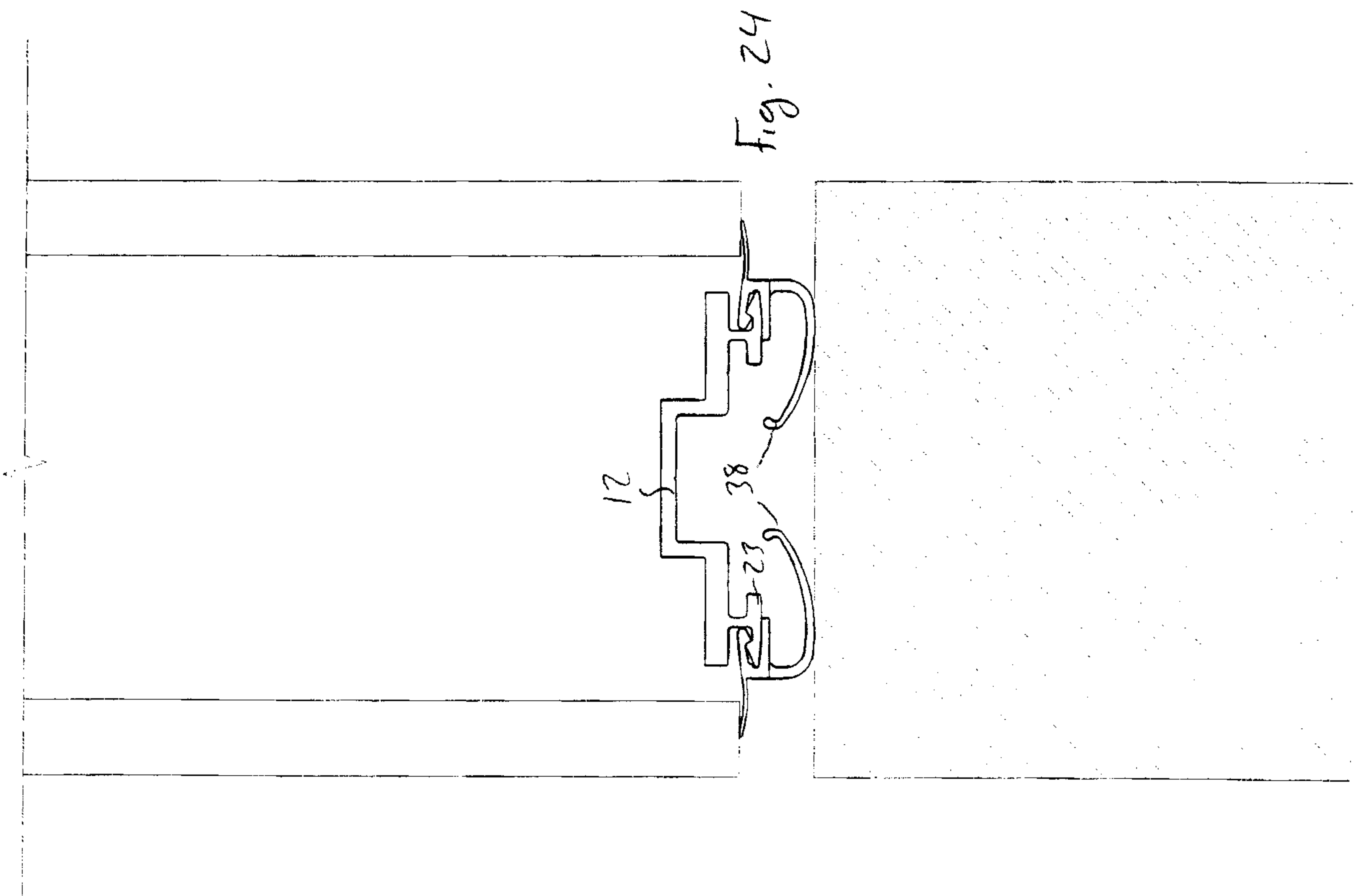
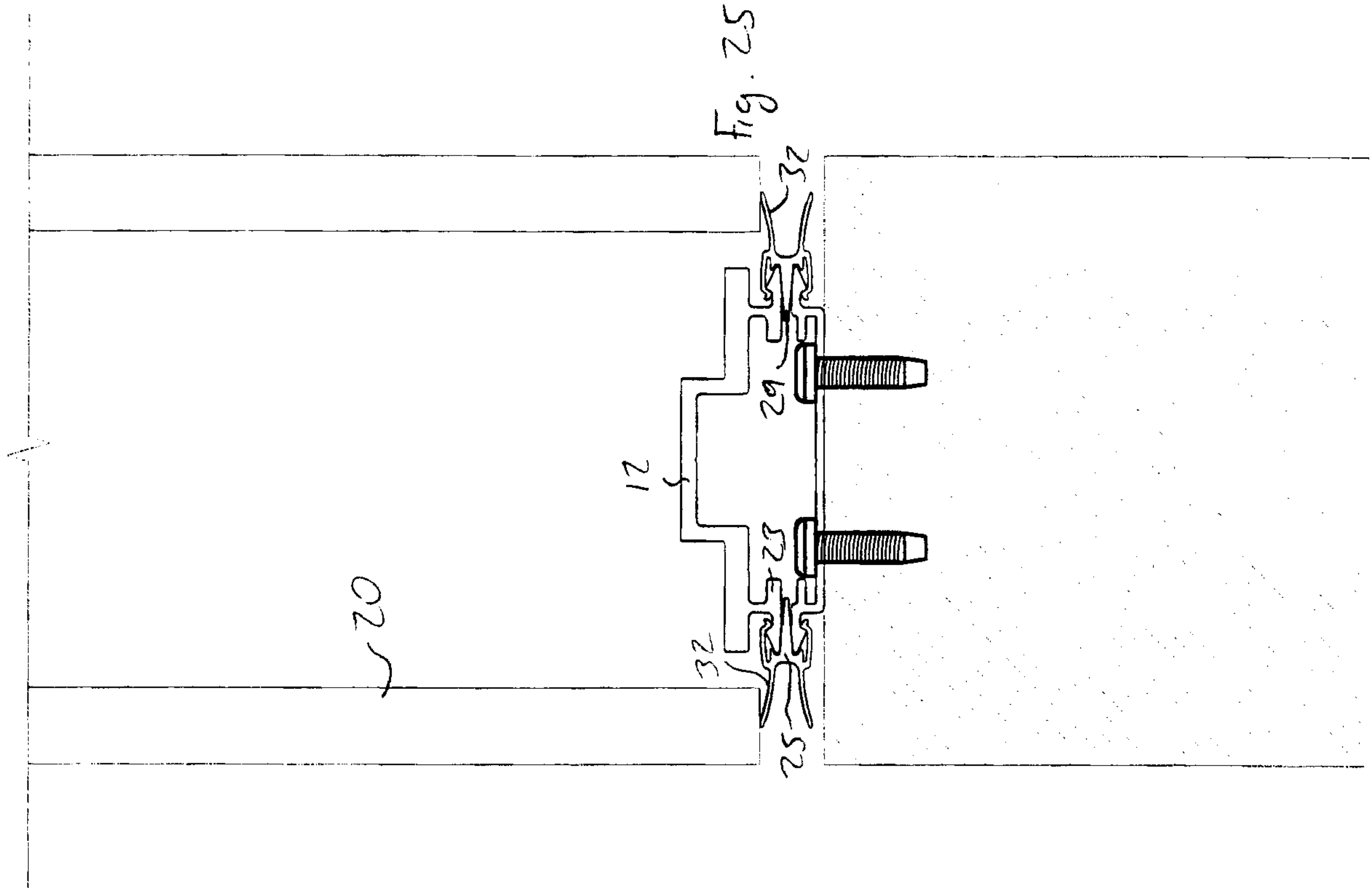


Fig 23



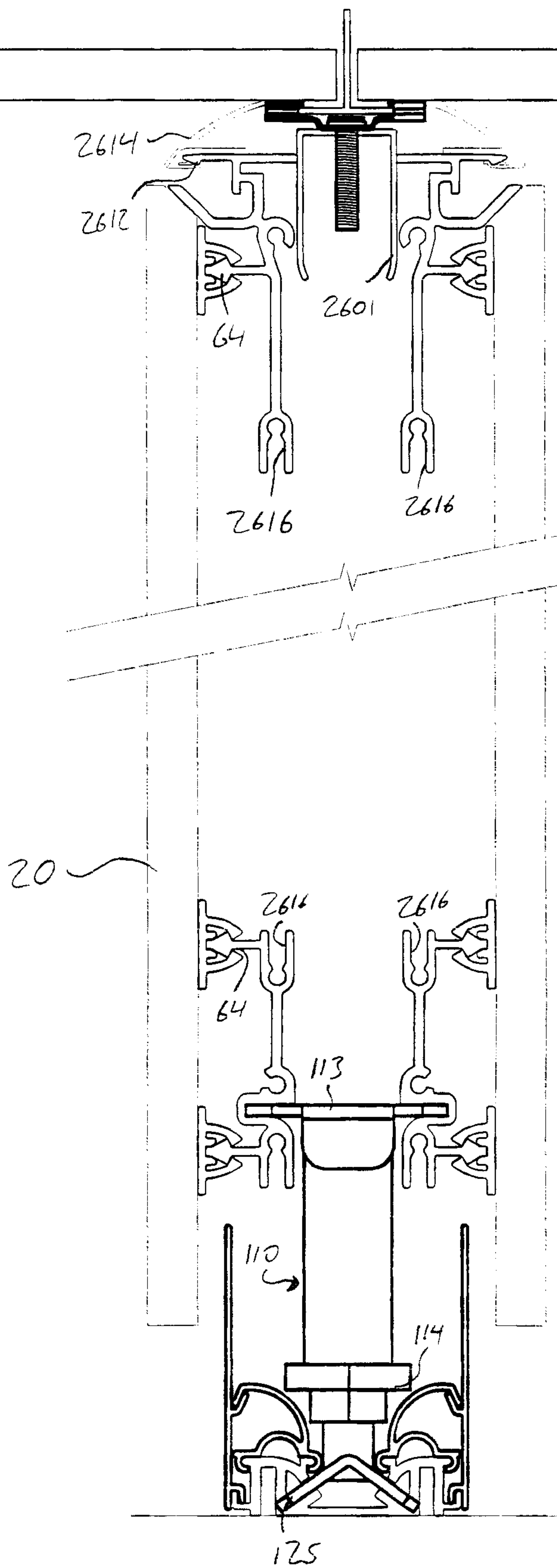


Fig. 26

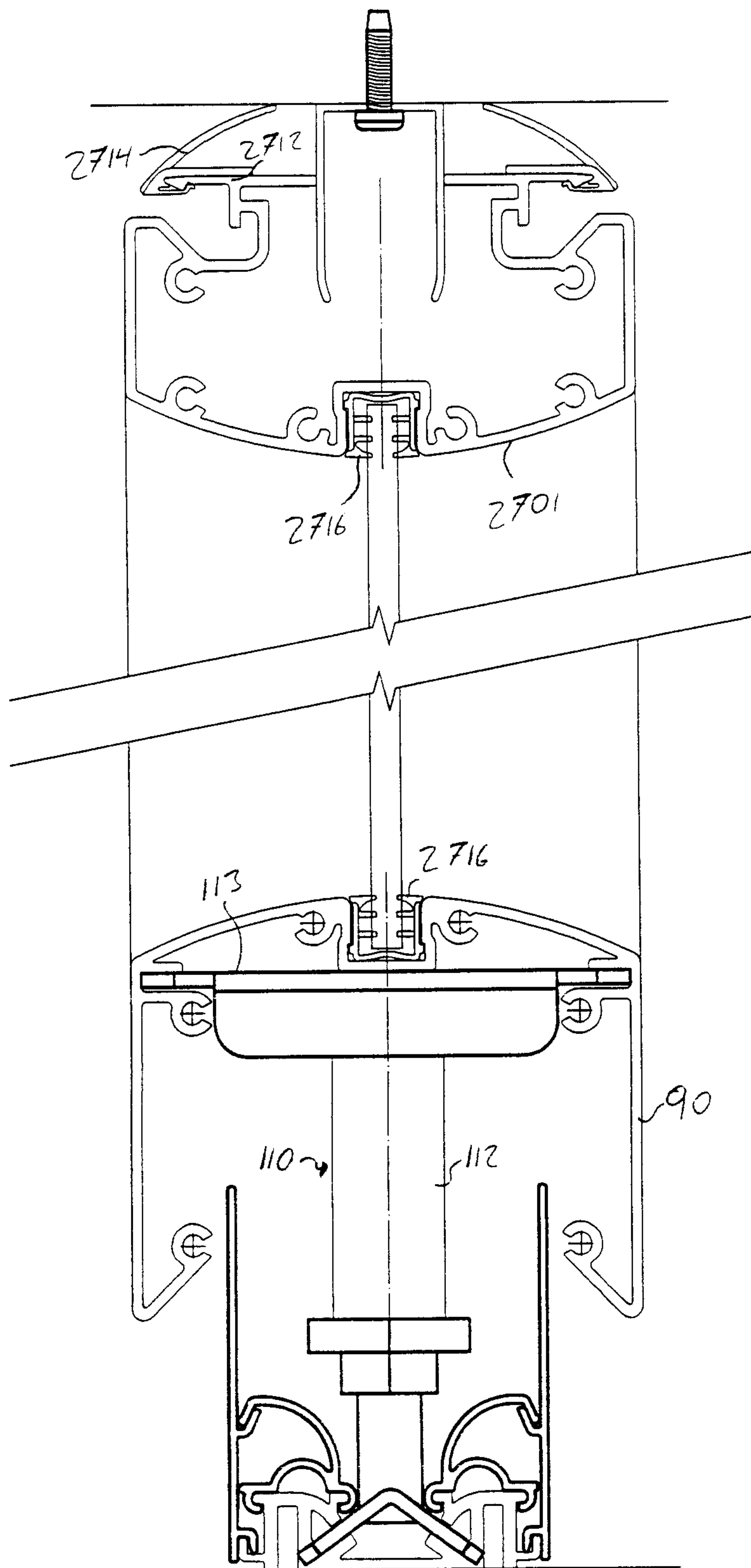


Fig 27

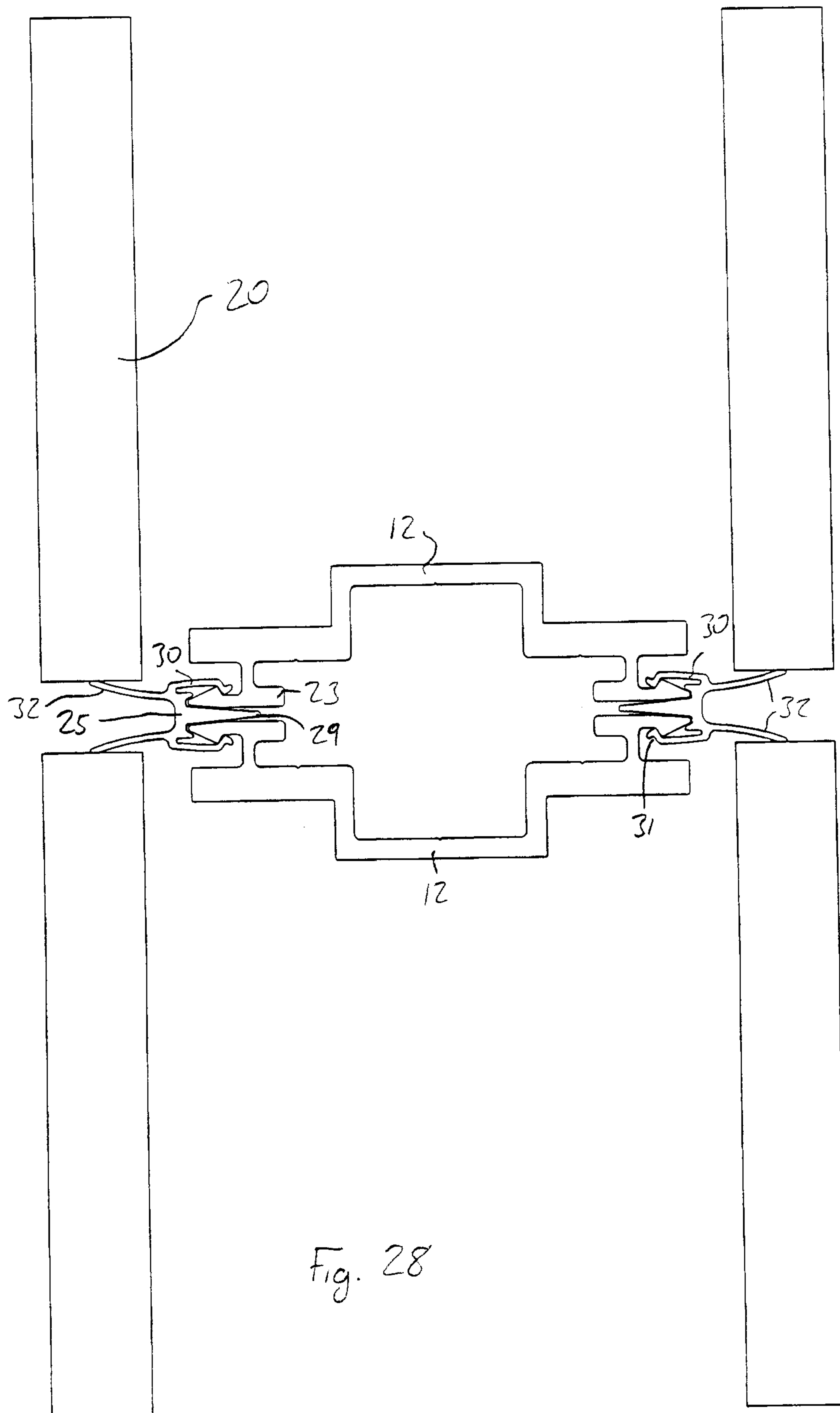


Fig. 28

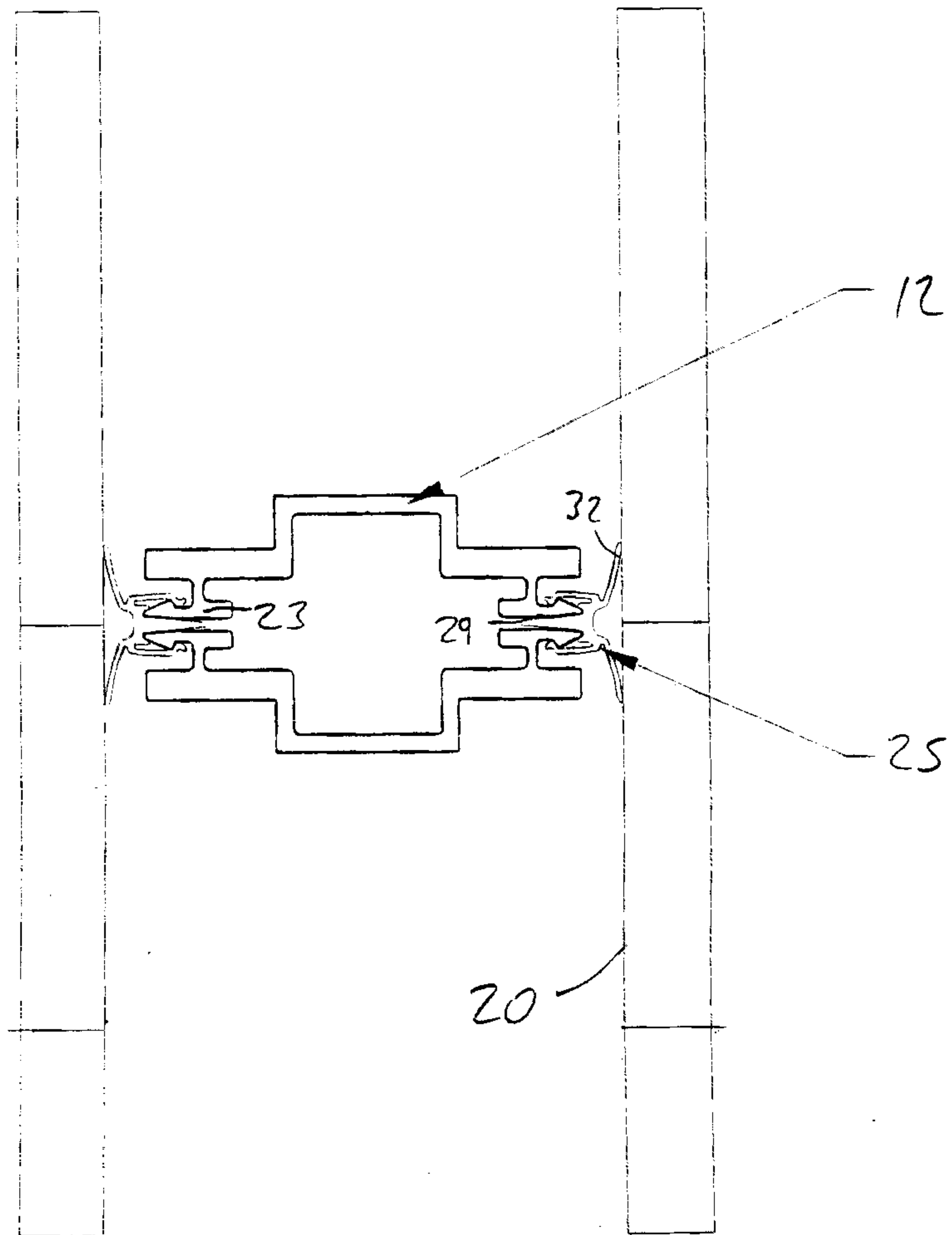


Fig 29

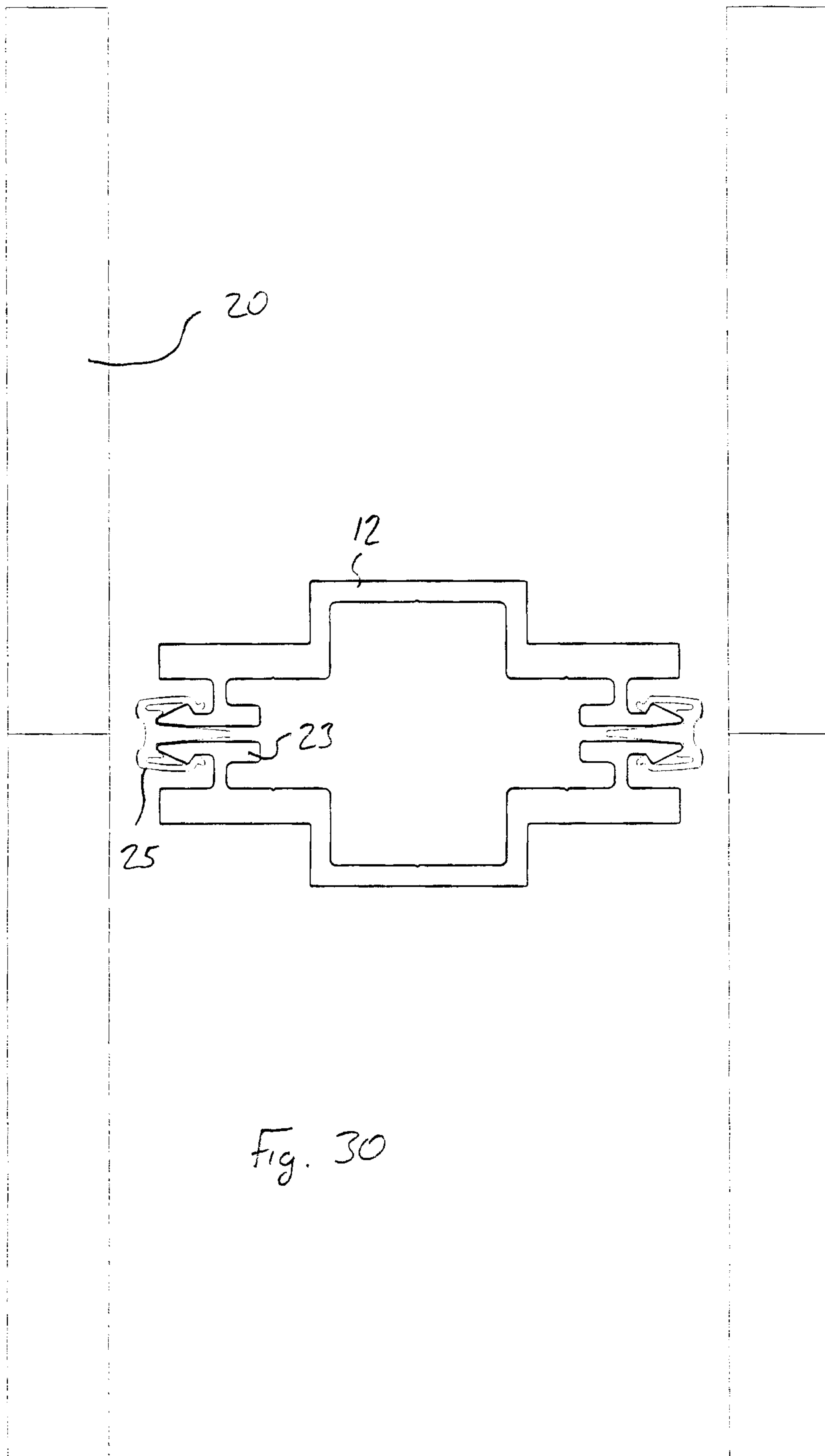


Fig 32

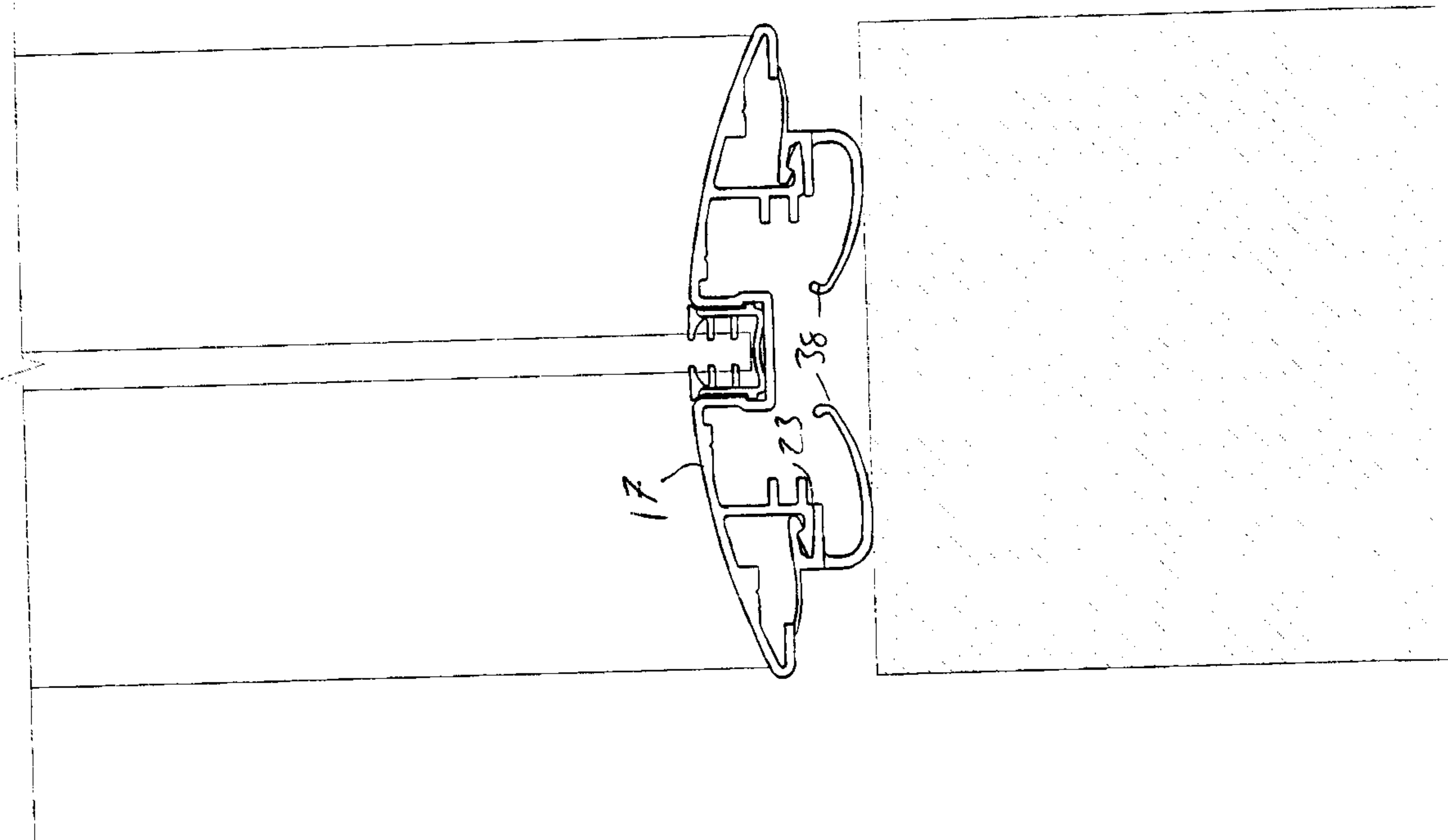


Fig 31

