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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **COOPER TECHNOLOGIES COMPANY** [US/US]; 600 Travis St., Suite 5600, Houston, TX 77002 (US).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **HUGHES, David, Charles** [US/US]; W1847 Pond Road, Rubicon, WI 53078 (US).

(74) Agent: **KING & SPALDING LLP**; Attn: Ip Docketing/sethna, Shaun B., 1100 Louisiana St., Suite 4000, Houston, TX 77002-5213 (US).

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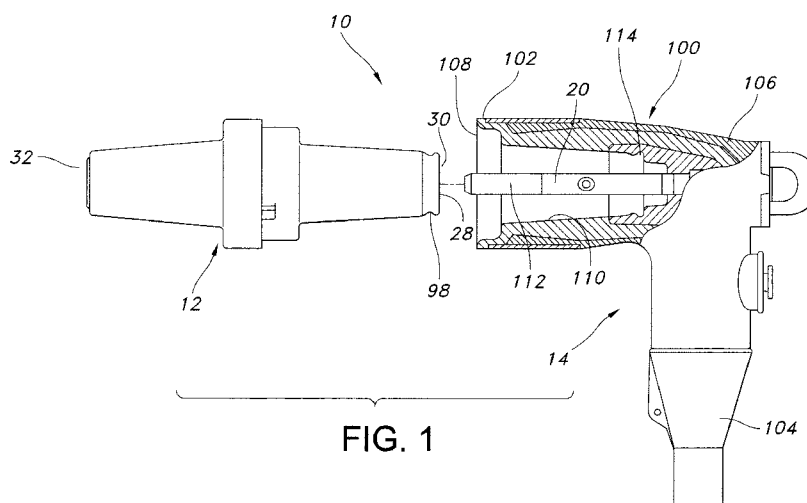
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(54) Title: ELECTRICAL CONNECTOR WITH FAULT CLOSURE LOCKOUT



(57) Abstract: An electrical connector, such as a bushing insert, with a fault-closure lockout feature includes a housing with an inner bore having opposite ends. One end has an opening providing access to the inner bore. A piston-contact element is movable between first and second axially spaced positions within the inner bore. During fault conditions, the piston-contact element moves from the first position to the second position to accelerate connection with a male contact of another electrical connector, such as a cable connector, thereby inhibiting the formation of flashover or electrical arc. After fault closure, a lockout member on the piston-contact element prevents moving the piston-contact element from the second position to the first position.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 09/36162

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8) - H01R 39/00 (2009.01)

USPC - 439/11

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

USPC - 439/11

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
USPC - 439/1, 11, 22, 181 (keyword limited, see terms below)

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

PubWEST(PGPB,USPT,EPAB,JPAB); Google Scholar

Search Terms Used: connector, snuffer, bushing, high voltage, power, fault, arc, short, lockout, prevent, stop, inhibit, disable, reset, reinsert, insert, bore, piston, probe, finger, resilient, ring, power distribution, transformer, reuse, use, connect

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 2005/0260876 A1 (Krause et al.) 24 November 2005 (24.11.2005) entire document, especially: Fig. 1-6, para. [0008], [0026]-[0039], [0042]	1-26
Y	US 4,913,658 A (Borgstrom et al.) 03 April 1990 (03.04.1990) Fig. 5, 6, col. 1, ln 45-47, col. 4, ln 34-49	1-26
A	US 4,516,823 A (Filter et al.) 14 May 1985 (14.05.1985) entire document	1-26

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

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"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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Facsimile No. 571-273-3201

Authorized officer:

Lee W. Young

PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300

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