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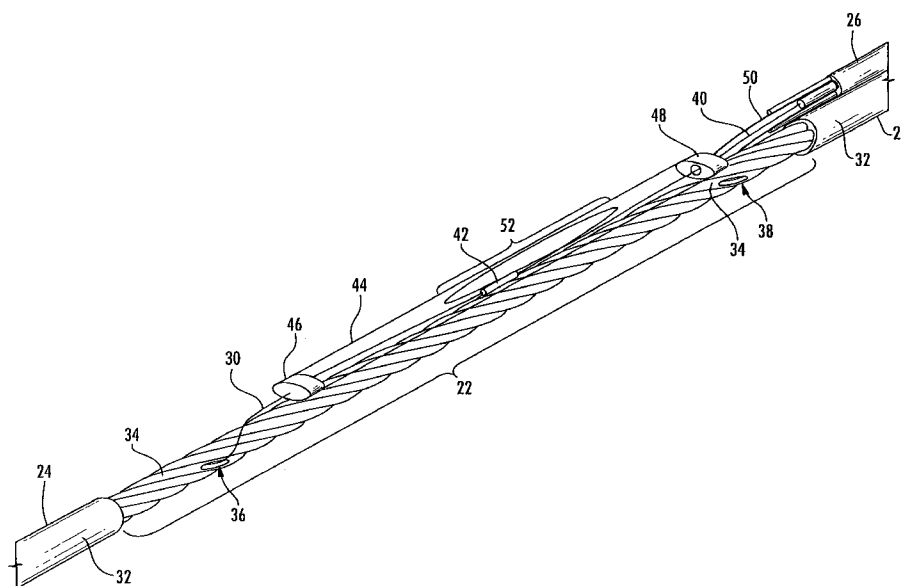
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(54) Title: CABLE ASSEMBLY HAVING BEND PERFORMANCE OPTICAL FIBER SLACK COIL



(57) Abstract: A fiber optic cable assembly including a mid-span access location, a cable (24) having at least fiber (30) therein, and a tether (26) attached and spliced to at least one fiber (30) of the cable. The access location and portions of the cables are substantially encapsulated within a flexible body (44) having dimensions sufficient to accommodate a slack coil or loop (52) of bend performance optical fiber therein. A method for making a fiber optic cable assembly including an access location, distribution cable, tether and slack coil of optical fiber maintained within a flexible overmolded body while providing an assembly having a cross-sectional diameter less than about 1.25 inches (3.175cm).

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**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
INV. G02B6/44

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)  
G02B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)  
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<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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X		13-15, 19,21,25
Y	US 2006/045451 A1 (WU JUNJUN [US] ET AL) 2 March 2006 (2006-03-02) paragraphs [0002], [0038], [0039]	1-12,16, 17,23,24
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.
<p>* Special categories of cited documents :</p> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> <p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.</p> <p>"&amp;" document member of the same patent family</p>	
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2260 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer  Riblet, Philippe

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C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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