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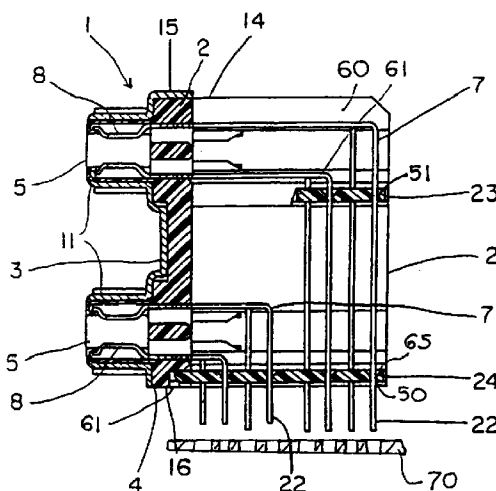
(54) Electric connector

(57) An improved multi-pole, stacked I/O connector (1) is disclosed which can be made from a least possible number of parts and incorporating an improved solder tail guide assembly (23,24).

The connector (1) includes a dielectric housing (2) having two connector components (5) protruding therefrom for mating with opposite connector components. A

metallic shell (3) covers a portion of the housing and provides shielding (11) for the connector components (5). A plurality of conductive terminals (7) are held in an insertion position by way of two alignment guides (23,24) which engage two distinct sets of solder tail portions (22) of the terminals (7) at two distinct levels.

FIG. 1



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
X	US 5 037 330 A (FULPONI JOHN A ET AL) 6 August 1991 * column 3, line 10 - column 6, line 65; figures 1-8 *	1-5, 7-10, 13-16, 18-20	H01R23/70 H01R23/68
X	US 5 336 109 A (HILLBISH WARREN C ET AL) 9 August 1994 * column 2, line 28 - column 4, line 22; figures 1-9 *	1-3,5,7, 8,13-17	
A,D	EP 0 561 497 A (WHITAKER CORP) 22 September 1993 * column 3, line 39 - column 8, line 28; figures 1-14 *	1,13	
A	US 4 669 797 A (BOURDON NORMAND C) 2 June 1987 * abstract; figures 1-5 *	11,12	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			H01R
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 29 May 1998	Examiner Tappeiner, R
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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