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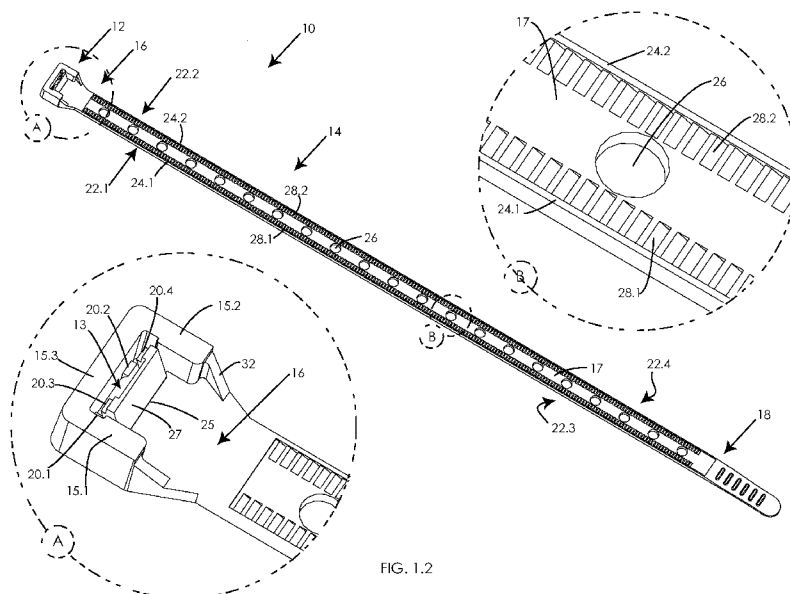


FIG. 1.2

(57) Abstract: A mountable cable tie with fine adjustment with an elongated strap having a first strap end and a second strap end, the elongated strap having one or more rows of teeth or cross-bars formed crosswise on the elongated strap, and a plurality of holes positioned linearly along the median between the one or more rows of teeth, at least one locking buckle positioned proximate the second strap end, the at least one locking buckle having at least one channel and at least one locking tang or pawl positioned within the locking buckle, wherein increased insertion of the first strap end into the locking head decreases the size of the loop of the elongated strap to secure the bundle.

MOUNTABLE CABLE TIE WITH FINE ADJUSTMENT AND METHOD OF USE THEREOF

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CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application claims benefit to U.S. non-provisional patent application Ser. No. 13/628,470, filed on September 27, 2012, entitled "Mountable Cable Tie with Fine Adjustment and Method of Use Thereof," which is incorporated by reference herein.

10

TECHNICAL FIELD

The disclosure generally relates to bundling ties, more specifically, it is related to a cable tie with a strap having a plurality of holes to anchor or fasten the tie.

15

BACKGROUND

A variety of supporting cable ties, straps and clamps, are well known in the art and are used in a variety of applications, such as securing a bundle of cables, wires, or hydraulic tubing. Known cable ties of conventional construction are elongate members having a flexible longitudinal strap having a head at one end and a tail at the other end. The strap is wrapped around bundles of wires or hydraulic tubing and the tail is inserted through a passageway in the head. The head of the cable tie typically includes a locking element which engages with the strap so that when the tail is pulled through the passageway in the head, the locking element secures against transverse teeth running the width of the strap.

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Other known cable ties are ties having a longitudinal strap with a plurality of longitudinally spaced apertures, holes, or rungs utilized to secure a bundle of

cables or wires or hydraulic tubing by wrapping the strap around the bundle and securing one or more spaced apertures or holes to a hook or branch positioned on one end of the strap. One problem with this style of cable tie is it lacks the ability for small increments of adjustment to tighten and secure the several
5 different sizes of bundles of wires or hydraulic tubing due to its fixed spacing between holes.

Still other known cable ties are ties having an elongated strap and a head with a mounting hole affixed thereto or made integral to the head. The mounting hole is utilized to secure the cable tie and its bundle of wires or hydraulic tubing
10 to a mounting surface. One problem with this style of cable tie is the mounting mechanism (hole) is positioned near the head which limits accessibility to work the elongated strap into the head to tighten the strap around the bundle of wires or hydraulic tubing.

Therefore, it is readily apparent that there is a recognizable unmet need
15 for a mountable cable tie with fine adjustment and method of use thereof that functions to provide a cable tie with a plurality of mounting holes to choose from without limiting accessibility to work the strap into the head and to tighten the strap around the bundle, and a flexible longitudinal strap with a plurality of teeth or cross-bars formed on the strap to provide small increments of adjustment to
20 tighten the strap.

SUMMARY

Briefly described, in an example embodiment, the present apparatus and method overcomes the above-mentioned disadvantages and meets the
25 recognized need for a mountable cable tie with fine adjustment and method of

use thereof comprising, in general, an elongated strap having a first strap end and a second strap end, the elongated strap having one or more rows of teeth or cross-bars formed crosswise on the elongated strap, and a plurality of holes positioned linear along the median between the one or more rows of teeth, at least one locking buckle positioned proximate the second strap end, the at least one locking buckle having at least one channel and at least one locking tang or pawl positioned within the locking buckle, wherein increased insertion of the first strap end into the locking head decreases the size of the loop of the elongated strap to secure the bundle.

10 In use, a fastener such as a screw, nail or clip is positioned within one of the plurality holes running linear along the elongated strap to secure the elongated strap to a surface while leaving a section of the elongated strap and the locking buckle free to provide accessibility to work the first strap end into the locking buckle. The elongated strap is pulled through the at least one locking
15 buckle, wherein the at least one locking tang or pawl of the at least one channel engages the one or more rows of teeth or cross-bars formed on the elongated strap. Moreover, increased insertion of first strap end into the locking buckle decreases the size of the loop and the strap teeth lock in the locking buckle securing the bundle in the cable tie to the surface.

20 According to its major aspects and broadly stated, the present apparatus meets the recognized need for a mountable cable tie with fine adjustment and method of use thereof including a strap having a first strap end and a second strap end, the strap having one or more rows of teeth or cross-bars formed crosswise on the elongated strap and running proximately from the first strap end
25 to the second strap end, and a plurality of holes positioned linear along the

elongated strap adjacent the one or more rows of teeth, a locking buckle positioned proximate the second strap end, the locking buckle having one or more channels and one or more locking tang or pawl positioned within the locking buckle, wherein increased insertion of the first strap end into the locking head
5 decreases the size of the loop of the elongated strap to secure the bundle.

In an exemplary embodiment, a mountable cable tie with fine adjustment and method of use includes a cable tie, to bundle one or more elongated members and to affix the bundled members to an object, the cable tie comprising a strap configured with a first strap end and a second strap end, the strap
10 configured with one or more rows of cross-bars extended along the length thereof, the strap configured with one or more longitudinally spaced aperture therethrough, wherein the aperture is positioned proximate the cross-bars, a locking buckle positioned proximate the second strap end, the locking buckle configured with a channel therethrough, the channel configured with one or more
15 pawl positioned side-by-side therein to confront individually associated ones of the rows of cross-bars of the first strap end.

In a further exemplary embodiment, a method of bundling one or more elongated members to a hole in an object comprising the steps of providing a cable tie comprising a strap configured with a first strap end and a second strap
20 end, the strap configured with one or more rows of cross-bars extended along the length thereof, the strap configured with one or more longitudinally spaced aperture therethrough, wherein the aperture is positioned proximate the cross-bars, a locking buckle positioned proximate the second strap end, the locking buckle configured with a channel therethrough, the channel configured with one
25 or more pawl positioned side-by-side therein to confront individually associated

ones of the rows of cross-bars of the first strap end, encircling the one or more elongated members with the first strap end around, inserting the first strap end therein the channel of the locking buckle, pulling the first strap end through the channel, and ratcheting the one or more rows of cross-bars formed on the strap
5 across the one or more pawl to secure the elongated members together in a bundle.

Accordingly, a feature of the a mountable cable tie with fine adjustment and method of use thereof is its ability to provide a cable tie with a plurality of mounting holes to choose from without limiting the accessibility to work the strap
10 end into the head when fastening around a group or bundle of objects.

Another feature of the mountable cable tie with fine adjustment and method of use thereof is its ability to provide a flexible longitudinal strap with one or more rows of a plurality of teeth or cross-bars formed on the strap to provide small increments of adjustment to tighten the strap.

15 Yet another feature of the mountable cable tie with fine adjustment and method of use thereof is its ability to provide a cable tie with the mounting mechanism (hole) positioned away the head which increases accessibility to work the elongated strap into the head to tighten the strap around the bundle of wires or hydraulic tubing

20 Yet another feature of the mountable cable tie with fine adjustment and method of use thereof is its ability to provide a means of hanging or fastening a group of objects bundled by the cable tie while using less material in the manufacture of the cable tie.

Yet another feature of the mountable cable tie with fine adjustment and method of use thereof is its ability to provide a cable tie with one or more parallel rows of a plurality of teeth or cross-bars formed crosswise on the elongated strap.

Yet another feature of the mountable cable tie with fine adjustment and
5 method of use thereof is its ability to provide two rows of teeth leaving the center section of the flexible longitudinal strap open to position the plurality of mounting mechanisms, such as holes.

Yet another feature of the mountable cable tie with fine adjustment and method of use thereof is its ability to provide a locking buckle having one or more
10 channels and each channel having a locking tang or pawl positioned within the channel to accommodate the one or more rows of teeth of the flexible longitudinal strap, and thus providing finite adjustment and extra bundling power.

Yet another feature of the mountable cable tie with fine adjustment and method of use thereof is its ability to provide a new and improved cable tie.

15 Yet another feature of the mountable cable tie with fine adjustment and method of use thereof is its ability to provide a plurality of mounting mechanisms integrated in the cable tie to secure a cable to a mounting surface.

Yet another feature of the mountable cable tie with fine adjustment and method of use thereof is its ability to provide a cable tie to bind a bundle of wires
20 or cables and the like.

Yet another feature of the mountable cable tie with fine adjustment and method of use thereof is its ability to provide ease of handling for sufficiently fastening or mounting the cable tie and bundle of wires cinched in the cable tie.

These and other features of the mountable cable tie with fine adjustment and method of use thereof will become more apparent to one skilled in the art from the following Brief Description of the Drawings, Detailed Description, and Claims when read in light of the accompanying Detailed Drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The present mountable cable tie with fine adjustment and method of use thereof or the like will be better understood by reading the Detailed Description of the embodiments with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which like reference to numerals denote similar structures and refer to like elements throughout, and in which:

FIG. 1.1 is a top view of the exemplary mountable cable tie with fine adjustment;

FIG. 1.2 is a perspective view of the exemplary mountable cable tie with fine adjustment;

FIG. 2 is a side view of the cable tie of **FIG. 1**;

FIG. 3 is a cross sectional view of the cable tie of **FIG. 1**, shown along cross section line **D-D**;

FIG. 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 is a cross sectional view of the cable tie of **FIG. 1**, shown along cross section line **B-B**;

FIG. 5 is a cross sectional view of the cable tie of **FIG. 1**, shown along cross section line **C-C**;

FIG. 6.1 and **6.2** is a cross sectional view of the cable tie of **FIG. 1**, shown along cross section line **A-A**;

5 **FIG. 7** is a perspective side view of the cable tie of **FIG. 1**, shown anchored to an object to secure one or more elongated member(s) along a run of the elongated member(s);

FIG. 8 is a perspective side view of the cable tie of **FIG. 1**, showing the steps or procedure to anchor or secure one or more elongated member(s) along
10 a run of the elongated member(s) to an object;

FIG. 9 is a cross sectional view of an alternate parallel channel embodiment cable tie of **FIG. 1**, shown along cross section line **A-A**; and

FIG. 10 is a flow diagram of a method of securing an cable tie combination of **FIGs. 1-9** and bundle of elongated members to a hole in an object.

15 It is to be noted that the drawings presented are intended solely for the purpose of illustration and that they are, therefore, neither desired nor intended to limit the disclosure to any or all of the exact details of construction shown, except insofar as they may be deemed essential to the claimed invention.

20

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

In describing the exemplary embodiments of the present disclosure, as illustrated in **FIGS. 1.1,1.2,2.3, 4.1,4.2,4.3,5,6.1,6.2,7,8,9,10** specific terminology is employed for the sake of clarity. The present disclosure, however, is not
25 intended to be limited to the specific terminology so selected, and it is to be understood that each specific element includes all technical equivalents that

operate in a similar manner to accomplish similar functions. Embodiments of the claims may, however, be embodied in many different forms and should not be construed to be limited to the embodiments set forth herein. The examples set forth herein are non-limiting examples, and are merely examples among other possible examples.

Referring now to **FIG. 1.1** and **1.2** by way of example, and not limitation, there is illustrated an example embodiment tie or wrap, such as cable tie **10**. Preferably, cable tie **10** includes an elongated belt, band or strip, such as strap **14** and a clasp, clip, catch or fastener, such as locking buckle **12**. Preferably strap **14** includes first strap end **18** and second strap end **16**. Strap **14** preferably includes one or more rows **22**, such as first row **22.1** and second row **22.2** having a plurality of teeth, divots, rungs, cut outs, angled notches, recessed teeth, bumps, raised segments, angled riser, angled catch, such as cross-bars **28** formed or positioned on strap **14** from proximately first strap end **18** to proximately second strap end **16** and separated by a flush or lowered median strip, such as first surface **17**.

It is contemplated herein that one or more spaced and/or parallel rows **22** of cross-bars **28** enables center, right, or left justified first surface **17** of strap **14** to be open and/or available to position the plurality of mounting mechanisms, such as aperture **26**. It is contemplated herein that cross-bars **28** may be positioned along the full length or a partial length of strap **14**. It is contemplated herein that cross-bars **28** may be formed on a top strap side, such as first cross-bars **28.1** and/or second cross-bars **28.2** in parallel along strap **14**, or may be formed on more than one side (a top strap side and an underside strap side), such as first cross-bars **28.3** and second cross-bars **28.4**, or all sides of strap **14**.

Preferably, cross-bars **28** are positioned crosswise, at ninety degrees (90) or may be positioned at an acute angle relative to the center axis **D** of strap **14**. It is further contemplated herein that cross-bars **28** provide strap **14** of cable tie **10** with one or more rows of a plurality of teeth or cross-bars **28** formed on strap **14** to provide small increments of adjustment to tighten strap **14**. It is further contemplated herein that one or more rails **24**, such as first rail **24.1** and second rail **24.2** may be formed on strap **14** or formed as elevated rails positioned on strap **14** from proximately first strap end **18** to proximately second strap end **16** with cross-bars **28** positioned thereon or may be utilized as guide rails to guide strap **14** through locking buckle **12**. Furthermore, strap **14** preferably includes a plurality of spaced holes, orifice, mounting holes, or slits, such as aperture **26** positioned longitudinally along strap **14** adjacent the one or more rows of teeth, such as first row **22.1** and second row **22.2**, on strap **14** from proximately first end **18** to proximately second strap end **16**. It is contemplated herein that aperture **26** is preferably round, however; other configurations are contemplated herein to accommodate a variety of attachment or hanging mechanism of cable tie **10**. It is contemplated herein that aperture **26** provides cable tie **10** with a plurality of mounting holes to choose from without limiting the accessibility to work first end **18** into locking buckle **12** when fastening strap **14** around a group or bundle of objects. It is contemplated herein that aperture **26** provides cable tie **10** with the mounting mechanism (hole), such as aperture **26**, positioned a distance from locking buckle **12** which increases accessibility to work strap **14** into locking buckle **12** to tighten strap **14** around the bundled members, such as wires, hydraulic tubing, or the like (elongated members **EM**). Moreover, since aperture **26** is not positioned approximate locking buckle **12**, locking buckle **12** preferably

has increased accessibility to work strap **14** into locking buckle **12**. It is further contemplated herein that apertures **26** preferably provide for fine adjustment to secure cable tie **10**.

Preferably, locking buckle **12** is positioned on one end of strap **14**, such as
5 second strap end **16** and the other end, such as first strap end **18** of strap **14**
forms the tail end of strap **14**. Locking buckle **12** preferably includes one or more
slot, channel or central passage therethrough, such as channel **13** preferably
configured to slidably fit or guide strap **14** therethrough and arranged preferably
ninety degrees (90) or proximately perpendicular to strap **14**, or proximately
10 parallel to strap **14**, or otherwise to enable strap **14** to bend or curl and to feed
strap **14** therein channel **13** of locking buckle **12**. Moreover, channel **13** may be
configured to include straight, right angled, angled, or contoured side walls **15**,
such as first side wall **15.1** and second side wall **15.2** and third side wall **15.3**
configured to accommodate and guide strap **14** in and through locking buckle **12**.
15 More specifically, side walls **15** of channel **13** may be configured to
accommodate and guide one or more rails **24**, such as first rail **24.1** and second
rail **24.2**. Furthermore, opposing side walls **15**, such as first side wall **15.1** and
second side wall **15.2** and third side wall **15.3** and tongue **27** preferably form
channel **13** of locking buckle **12** to accommodate and guide strap **14** in and
20 through locking buckle **12**. It is contemplated herein that side wall **15.1**, side wall
15.2, and side wall **15.3** may be configured with straight, right angled, angled,
rounded or contoured transitions, corners or segments or the like to
accommodate and guide strap **14** in and through channel **13** of locking buckle **12**.

Preferably, channel **13** further includes one or more latch, lever, locking
25 tang, such as pawl **20** preferably positioned adjacent channel **13** of locking

buckle **12**, which preferably engages, confronts, or ratchets over associated ones of cross-bars **28** to lock strap **14** into locking buckle **12** after it is coiled around a bundle of articles (elongated members **EM**). It is contemplated herein that channel **13** is preferably configured to accommodate insertion and passage therethrough of strap **14**, one or more rows **22**, and/or one or more elevated rails **24**. Moreover, locking buckle **12** preferably includes one or more sets of opposing pawls **20**, such as first pawl **20.1** and third pawl **20.3** and/or second pawl **20.2** and fourth pawl **20.4** or side-by-side pawls **20**, such as first pawl **20.1** and second pawl **20.2** and/or third pawl **20.3** and fourth pawl **20.4**. Preferably, third pawl **20.3** and fourth pawl **20.4** are formed on a bar or lever, such as tongue **27** which is preferably connected to second strap end **16** or locking buckle **12** by a pivot member or spring member, such as hinge **25**. Moreover, hinge **25** and tongue **27** are preferably configured to enable third pawl **20.3** and fourth pawl **20.4** to ratchet on and off or over cross-bars **28** as strap **14** is pulled through locking buckle **12**. Preferably, first pawl **20.1** and second pawl **20.2** are formed on side wall **15.3** opposite tongue **27**. In use, first pawl **20.1** of locking buckle **12** preferably engages first row **22.1** of first cross-bars **28.1** of strap **14** and second pawl **20.2** preferably engage second row **22.2** of second cross-bars **28.2** when strap **14** is pulled through channel **13** of locking buckle **12** and each pawl ratchets over its individually associated one cross-bar. Moreover, third pawl **20.3** of locking buckle **12** preferably engages third row **22.3** of first cross-bars **28.3** of strap **14** and fourth pawl **20.4** preferably engage fourth row **22.4** of fourth cross-bars **28.4** when strap **14** is pulled through channel **13** of locking buckle **12**.

It is contemplated herein that strap **14** may include a complimentary underside wherein strap **14**, includes one or more rows **22**, such as third row **22.3**

and fourth row **22.4**, plurality of cross-bars **28**, such as third cross-bars **28.3** and fourth cross-bars **28.4**, and one or more elevated rails **24**, such as third rail **24.3** and fourth rail **24.4**. In use, channel **13** may be configured to include first side wall **15.1** and second side wall **15.2** configured to accommodate one or more rails **24**, such as third rail **24.3** and fourth rail **24.4** to guide strap **14** through locking buckle **12**. Moreover, third pawl **20.3** of locking buckle **12** preferably engages third row **22.3** of third cross-bars **28.3** of strap **14** and fourth pawl **20.4** preferably engages fourth row **22.4** of fourth cross-bars **28.4** when strap **14** is pulled through channel **13** of locking buckle **12**. It is contemplated herein that ratchet mechanical action of cable tie **10** is preferably enabled when strap **14** is pulled through channel **13** of locking buckle **12**, wherein cross-bars **28** of strap **14** are drawn through locking buckle **12** and pulled across pawl(s) **20**.

It is contemplated herein that locking buckle **12** and strap **14** may be configured having one or more sets of channels **13**, pawls **20**, tongue **27**, hinge **25**, cross-bars **28**, rows **22**, and/or rails **24**.

It is further contemplated herein that complimentary interaction of multiple pawls **20** and cross-bars **28** configurations set forth above increases the holding power of cable tie **10** between locking buckle **12** and strap **14** and/or enables fine adjustment between locking buckle **12** and strap **14**.

It is further contemplated herein that cable tie **10** is preferably configured with locking buckle **12** at one end and strap **14** extending therefrom.

It is still further contemplated herein that strap **14** and locking buckle **12** may be an integrated or formed as a unit or part or may be formed separately and assembled together for use.

Strap **14** and locking buckle **12** are preferably formed, molded or configured from a suitable material, such as nylon, polypropylene, polyethylene, polystyrene, polyurethane, neoprene, or alternative resin or thermoplastic, plastic, cardboard, rubber, fiber, fiber reinforced, synthetic rubber, natural rubber, wood, metal, aluminum, alloy, stainless steel, shape memory metal, or any semi-flexible material or the like and any manufacturing method, capable of configuring or providing the structure of strap **14** and locking buckle **12**. Preferably, the material includes other suitable characteristics, such as flexibility, strength, rigidity, durability, water-resistance, light weight, pliability, wearability, chemical inertness, oxidation resistance, safety, ease of workability, longevity, or other beneficial characteristic understood by one skilled in the art.

It is contemplated herein that strap **14** and locking buckle **12**, one or more sets of channels **13**, pawls **20**, tongue **27**, hinge **25**, cross-bars **28**, rows **22**, and/or rails **24** may be formed in a variety of shapes other than flat and square, such as triangle, rectangular or polygon.

Referring now to **FIG. 2** by way of example, and not limitation, there is illustrated an example embodiment side view of cable tie **10**. Preferably, strap **14** includes one or more rails **24**, such as first rail **24.1** and third rail **24.3** to guide strap **14** through locking buckle **12**. Preferably, cross-bars **28** may be formed on one or more sides **14.0** of strap **14**, such as first side **14.1**, second side **14.2**, third side **14.3**, and fourth side **14.4**; wherein cross-bars **28.1** and cross-bars **28.2** are positioned on third side **14.1**; and wherein cross-bars **28.3** and cross-bars **28.4** are positioned on third side **14.2**. Moreover, cross-bars **28** may be configured having a triangular or ramp side view or other configuration known to one of ordinary skill in the art, such as cross-bars **28.1** may include first angled, ramped

or slanted surface, such as pawl riser **21**, and more specifically first pawl riser **21.1** and cross-bars **28.1** may include latch, ledge or pawl catch **23**, and more specifically first pawl catch **23.1**. Likewise, cross-bars **28.3** may include first pawl riser **21.3** and first pawl catch **23.3**. In use, cross-bars **28.1** of strap **14** preferably
5 engages first pawl **20.1** of locking buckle **12** and cross-bars **28.3** of strap **14** preferably engages third pawl **20.3** of locking buckle **12** when strap **14** is pulled through channel **13** of locking buckle **12**, as shown in **FIG. 1**.

Referring again to **FIG. 1.1, 1.2** and **2**, preferably first row **22.1** and second row **22.2** of first cross-bars **28.1** and second cross-bars **28.2** of strap **14**
10 preferably engages first pawl **20.1** and second pawl **20.2** of locking buckle **12** as strap **14** is pulled through locking buckle **12** where first pawl **20.1** and second pawl **20.2** ratchet, confront, spring, push, or lift first cross-bars **28.1** and second cross-bars **28.2**, respectively.

For example, first pawl **20.1** of locking buckle **12** preferably first engages
15 first riser **21.1** of first cross- bar **28.1** and then ratchets over first pawl catch **23.1** of first cross-bar **28.1** where first pawl **20.1** locks against first pawl catch **23.1** to secure strap **14** therein locking buckle **12** and first pawl **20.1** of locking buckle **12**; and so on for each of cross-bars **28** and each pawl **20**, and on each edge of strap **14**, such as first side **14.1** and second side **14.2**, as strap **14** is pulled through
20 channel **13** of locking buckle **12**.

Likewise mirrored on the adjacent underside of strap **14** there preferably is third row **22.3** and fourth row **22.4** of third cross-bars **28.3** and fourth cross-bars **28.4** of strap **14** preferably engages third pawl **20.3** and fourth pawl **20.4** as strap **14** is pulled through locking buckle **12** where third pawl **20.3** and fourth pawl **20.4**

ratchet, confront, spring, push, or lift third cross-bars **28.3** and fourth cross-bars **28.4**, respectively.

For example, third pawl **20.3** of locking buckle **12** preferably first engages first riser **21.3** of first cross- bar **28.3** and then ratchets over first pawl catch **23.3** of third cross-bar **28.3** where third pawl **20.3** locks against first pawl catch **23.3** to secure strap **14** therein locking buckle **12** and third pawl **20.3** of locking buckle **12**; and so on for each of cross-bars **28** and each pawl **20**, and on each edge of strap **14**, such as first side **14.1** and second side **14.2**, as strap **14** is pulled through channel **13** of locking buckle **12**.

It is contemplated herein that such functionality set forth above may be configured on all sides of strap **14** to secure strap **14** therein locking buckle **12**.

Referring again to **FIG. 2**, first strap end **18** preferably includes strap end **18.1** and one or more raised ridges **29** configured crosswise on first side **14.1** of strap **14** to facilitate gripping and pulling of strap end **18**. It is contemplated herein that one or more raised ridges **29** may be formed on both or either side first side **14.1** and/or second side **14.2** of strap **14**. Preferably, raised ridges **29** enable a user to grip first strap end **18** between index finger and thumb to assist with inserting first strap end **18** into locking buckle **12** as well as pulling first strap end **18** through locking buckle **12**.

Referring to **FIG. 3** by way of example, and not limitation, there is illustrated an example cross section embodiment of locking buckle **12** and strap **14** of cable tie **10**. Preferably, locking buckle **12** includes channel **13** formed from opposing side walls **15**, such as first side wall **15.1** and second side wall **15.2** and third side wall **15.3** and tongue **27**. Channel **13** preferably includes opening or entrance, such as first opening **13.1** and exit, such as second opening **13.2** to

enable entrance and exit of strap **14** therethrough channel **13**. Moreover, side wall **15.2**, like matching side wall **15.1**, shown in **FIG. 1** includes internal wall surface **15.2.0** configured to accommodate and guide strap **14** in and through locking buckle **12**. Preferably, internal wall surface **15.2.0** of side wall **15.2** includes vertical lines **15.2.1-15.2.9**, which represents the side view of the straight, right angled, angled, rounded or contoured transitions, corners, edges or segments of internal wall surface **15.2.0**, as shown in **FIG. 1**. It is contemplated herein that internal wall surface **15.2.0** of side wall **15.2** and likewise for similar internal wall surface **15.1.0** and internal wall surface **15.3.0** of side wall **15.1** and side wall **15.3**, respectively, may be configured with straight, right angled, angled, rounded or contoured transitions, corners, edges, segments, or the like to accommodate, mirror, match, and guide strap **14** in first opening **13.1** of channel **13** and through second opening **13.2** of channel **13** of locking buckle **12**. It is further contemplated herein that internal wall surface **15.2.0** of side wall **15.2** and likewise for similar internal wall surfaces **15.1.0** and **15.3.0** of side wall **15.1** and side wall **15.3**, respectively, may be configured to mirror or match one or more sides of strap **14**, such as second side **14.2**, first side **14.1**, and third side **14.3**, respectively, of strap **14**.

Preferably, locking buckle **12** further includes transition support, between locking buckle **12** and second strap end **16** of strap **14**, such as support **32**. Support **32** is preferably configured to reduce the flex or bend between locking buckle **12** and second strap end **16** of strap **14**, to maintain locking buckle **12** and second strap end **16** of strap **14** at a fixed position or angle therebetween, and/or to stabilize locking buckle **12** when pulling strap **14** there through locking buckle **12**.

Moreover, locking buckle **12** preferably includes hinge **25** positioned proximate second strap end **16**, first opening **13.1** of channel **13**, opposite pawl **20.2**, between tongue **27** and second strap end **16** or proximate side wall **15.1** or side wall **15.2**, or may be anywhere therein channel **13** of locking buckle **12**. Moreover, hinge **25** preferably provides hinge movement, spring torsion, rotational flexibility, or ratchet movement, such as radial movement **R** for tongue **27**. Such radial movement **R** of tongue **27** preferably enables the ratchet of pawls **20** over cross-bars **28** of strap **14** when strap **14** is pulled through locking buckle **12**.

Referring to **FIG. 4.1, 4.2, 4.3** by way of example, and not limitation, there is illustrated an example cross section embodiment of strap **14** of cable tie **10**. Preferably, strap **14** includes first side **14.1**, second side **14.2**, third side **14.3**, and fourth side **14.4**. Moreover, strap **14** includes one or more rails **24**, such as first rail **24.1**, second rail **24.2**, third rail **24.3**, and fourth rail **24.4** preferably utilized to guide, mate, mirror and/or slidably pass strap **14** through locking buckle **12** and to protect the one or more cross-bars **28** formed on one side or more than one side, such as first cross-bars **28.1**, second cross-bars **28.2**, third cross-bars **28.3**, and fourth cross-bars **28.4**. Furthermore, one or more cross-bars **28** are preferably positioned adjacent one or more rails **24** on strap **14**.

Referring to **FIG. 4.1** by way of example, and not limitation, there is illustrated an example cross section embodiment of strap **14** of cable tie **10**. Preferably, aperture **26** is positioned proximate center line **CL** along strap **14**, such as aperture **26** approximately centered between one or more cross-bars **28** and/or one or more rails **24**.

Referring to **FIG. 4.2** by way of example, and not limitation, there is illustrated an example cross section embodiment of strap **14** of cable tie **10**. Preferably, one or more apertures **26**, such as apertures **26A** and apertures **26B** are positioned proximate one or more cross-bars **28** and/or one or more rails **24** with a center spacer or bar, such as, divider **42** therebetween apertures **26A** and apertures **26B**.

Referring to **FIG. 4.3** by way of example, and not limitation, there is illustrated an example cross section embodiment of strap **14** of cable tie **10**. Preferably, aperture **26** is positioned to one side or off set to one side from center line **CL** along strap **14** and one or more cross-bars **28** and/or one or more rails **24** are positioned to the other side or off set to the other side from center line **CL**.

It is contemplated herein that other possible configurations of strap **14** and the positioning of one or more apertures **26**, one or more cross-bars **28**, and/or one or more rails **24** of strap **14** are included herein.

Referring to **FIG. 5** by way of example, and not limitation, there is illustrated an example cross section embodiment of strap **14** of cable tie **10**. Preferably, strap **14** includes one or more rails **24**, such as second rail **24.2** and fourth rail **24.4** preferably utilized to guide strap **14** through locking buckle **12** and to protect the one or more cross-bars **28** formed on one side or more than one side of strap **14**, such as second cross-bars **28.2** and fourth cross-bars **28.4**. Furthermore, one or more cross-bars **28**, such as second cross-bars **28.2** includes second riser **21.2** of second cross-bar **28.2** and second pawl catch **23.2** of second cross bar **28.2** and fourth cross-bars **28.4** includes fourth riser **21.4** of fourth cross-bar **28.4** and fourth pawl catch **23.4** of fourth cross-bar **28.4**.

Referring again to **FIG. 3** and **FIG. 5** by way of example, and not limitation, riser **21** and pawl catch **23** are configured to operate in conjunction with pawl **20** of locking buckle **12**. For example, for each cross-bar **28** and pawl **20**, pawl **20** of locking buckle **12** preferably first engages riser **21** of cross-bar **28** and then
5 ratchets over pawl catch **23** of cross-bar **28** where pawl **20** locks against pawl catch **23** to secure strap **14** therein locking buckle **12**. Pawl **20** preferably prevents removal of strap **14** being pulled through locking buckle **12** when pawl **20** locks against pawl catch **23** to secure strap **14** therein locking buckle **12**.

It is contemplated herein that other engagement or securing configurations
10 of locking buckle **12**, channel **13**, pawls **20**, strap **14**, two or more rows of cross-bar **28**, two or more apertures **26** are included herein. Moreover, cable tie **10** herein may also have a conventional release mechanism (not shown) provided in locking buckle **12** configured to enable pawls **20** to be disengaged from cross-bars **28** formed on strap **14**, to allow strap **14** and first strap end **18** to be
15 loosened or removed from locking buckle **12**. Moreover, cable tie herein may also have a plurality of rungs disposed on the strap which engage with a worm gear mechanism (not shown), disposed within or on locking buckle **12** of the cable tie. Alternatively, cable tie herein may have a strap with a plurality of beads integrally formed along the strap, which engage with a tapered slot or pawl formed in
20 locking buckle **12**. As is apparent, the concept of the cable tie herein is utilizable with any and all types of cable ties.

Referring to **FIG. 6.1** by way of example, and not limitation, there is illustrated an example cross section embodiment of locking buckle **12** and strap **14** of cable tie **10**. Preferably, locking buckle **12** includes channel **13** positioned
25 proximately perpendicular to second strap end **16** and formed from opposing side

walls **15**, such as second side wall **15.2**, third side wall **15.3**, and tongue **27**. Moreover, locking buckle **12** preferably includes hinge **25** positioned proximate second strap end **16**, between tongue **27** and second strap end **16** or side wall surface **15.2.0**, or anywhere therein channel **13** of locking buckle **12**. Moreover, 5 hinge **25** preferably provides hinge movement, spring torsion, rotational flexibility, or ratchet movement, such as radial movement **R** for tongue **27**. Such radial movement **R** of tongue **27** preferably enables the engage and ratchet of pawl **20** over cross-bar **28** of strap **14** when strap **14** is pulled through locking buckle **12**.

Preferably, strap **14** includes one or more rails **24**, such as second rail 10 **24.2** and fourth rail **24.4** preferably utilized to guide strap **14** through locking buckle **12** and to protect the one or more cross-bars **28** formed on one side or more than one side of strap **14**, such as second cross-bars **28.2** and fourth cross-bars **28.4**. Furthermore, one or more cross-bars **28**, such as second cross-bars **28.2** includes second riser **21.2** of second cross-bar **28.2** and second pawl catch 15 **23.2** of second cross-bar **28.2** and fourth cross-bars **28.4** includes fourth riser **21.4** of fourth cross-bar **28.4** and fourth pawl catch **23.4** of fourth cross-bar **28.4**.

Referring to **FIG. 6.2** by way of example, and not limitation, there is illustrated an example cross section embodiment of locking buckle **12** and strap **14** of cable tie **10** with strap **14** inserted therein channel **13** of locking buckle **12**. 20 As strap **14** is pulled through channel **13** (see **FIG. 6.1**) of locking buckle **12** in direction **D** second pawl **20.2** of locking buckle **12** preferably first engages second riser **21.2** of second cross-bar **28.2** and then ratchets over second pawl catch **23.2** of second cross-bar **28.2** where second pawl **20.2** locks against second pawl catch **23.2** to secure strap **14** therein locking buckle **12** and fourth 25 pawl **20.4** of locking buckle **12** preferably first engages fourth pawl riser **21.4** of

fourth cross-bar **28.4** and then ratchets over fourth pawl catch **23.4** of fourth pawl **20.4** where fourth pawl **20.4** locks against fourth pawl catch **23.4** ("ratchet action") and so on for each pair of cross-bars **28** of strap **14** as strap **14** in direction **D**, and similar ratchet action may occur on each edge or side of strap **14**, as strap

5 **14** is pulled through channel **13** of locking buckle **12**.

Moreover, tongue **27** may have lever **27.1** positioned on one end of tongue **27** and configured as a release mechanism to enable pivot of tongue **27** and third pawl **20.3** and fourth pawl **20.4** about hinge **25** away and off of cross-bars **28** to enable strap **14** or first strap end **18** to be pulled back through locking buckle **12**.

10 In use, lever **27.1** preferably extends above locking buckle **12** to enable a user of cable tie **10** to get a finger or finger nail on lever **27.1** to release or pivot of tongue **27** and third pawl **20.3** and fourth pawl **20.4** about hinge **25** away and off of cross-bars **28** to enable strap **14** or first strap end **18** to be pulled back through locking buckle **12**. It is contemplated herein that other release mechanisms, such

15 as lever **27.1**, known to one of ordinary skill in the art may be utilized to release strap **14** from locking buckle **12**.

Moreover, locking buckle **12** preferably includes one or more sets of opposing pawls **20**, such as first pawl **20.1** and third pawl **20.3** and/or second pawl **20.2** and fourth pawl **20.4** or side-by-side pawls **20**, such as first pawl **20.1**

20 and second pawl **20.2** and/or third pawl **20.3** and fourth pawl **20.4**. Preferably, third pawl **20.3** and fourth pawl **20.4** are formed on a bar or lever, such as tongue **27** which is preferably connected to second strap end **16** or locking buckle **12** by a pivot member or spring member, such as hinge **25**. Moreover, hinge **25** and tongue **27** are preferably configured to enable third pawl **20.3** and fourth pawl

20.4 to ratchet on and off or over cross-bars **28** as strap **14** is pulled through locking buckle **12**.

Referring to **FIG. 7** by way of example, and not limitation, there is illustrated an example embodiment of cable tie **10** shown in use anchored to an object **O** to secure one or more elongated member(s) **EM** along a run of the elongated member(s). Preferably, first strap end **18** of strap **14** is preferably utilized to surround, encircle, cinch, wrap around or bundle one or more cable, rope, channel, hose, wires, or any other linear apparatus or the like, such as elongated member(s) **EM**. Moreover, strap **14** is preferably inserted in locking buckle **12** and pulled through channel **13** of locking buckle **12**, wherein pawl **20** of locking buckle **12** engages cross-bars **28** formed on strap **14** to secure elongated member(s) **EM** together in a bundle and anchor elongated member(s) **EM** to object **O**. One or more aperture **26** in strap **14** may be aligned proximate hole **H** in object **O** and furthermore a screw, nail, or rivet, such as attachment mechanism **S** may be affixed to object **O**, or more specifically attachment mechanism **S** may be secured by driving or rotating attachment mechanism **S** therein hole **H** in object **O** to secure one or more elongated member(s) **EM** to object **O**.

It is contemplated herein that two or more cable tie **10** may be utilized herein, such as, first cable tie **10** may be utilized to secure one section of elongated member(s) **EM** and second cable tie **10** may be utilized to secure a second section of elongated member(s) **EM** to support a run or length of elongated member(s) **EM**.

Referring to **FIG. 8** by way of example, and not limitation, there is illustrated an example embodiment of cable tie **10** showing the steps or

procedure to anchor or secure one or more elongated member(s) **EM** along a run of the one or more elongated member(s) **EM** to an object **O**. Preferably, one or more elongated member(s) **EM** may be secured or bundled by cable tie **10**. One or more aperture **26** in strap **14** may be aligned proximate hole **H** in object **O** and
5 furthermore a screw, nail, or rivet, such as attachment mechanism **S** may be affixed to object **O**, or more specifically attachment mechanism **S** may be secured by driving or rotating attachment mechanism **S** therein hole **H** in object **O** to secure one or more elongated member(s) **EM** to object **O**.

Referring to **FIG. 9** by way of example, and not limitation, there is
10 illustrated an example cross section embodiment of an alternate locking buckle **12.1** and strap **14** of cable tie **10**. Preferably, locking buckle **12.1** includes channel **13** positioned proximately in-line or parallel to second strap end **16** and formed from opposing side walls **15**, such as first side wall **15.1**, second side wall **15.2**, third side wall **15.3**, and tongue **27**. Moreover, locking buckle **12.1**
15 preferably includes hinge **25** positioned proximate second strap end **16**, between tongue **27** and second strap end **16** or side wall surface **15.1**, or anywhere therein channel **13** of locking buckle **12.1**. Moreover, hinge **25** preferably provides hinge movement, spring torsion, rotational flexibility, or ratchet movement, such as radial movement **R** for tongue **27**. Such radial movement **R** of tongue **27**
20 preferably enables the engage and ratchet function of pawl **20** over cross-bars **28**, specifically cross-bars **28.2** and cross-bars **28.4**, of strap **14** when strap **14** is pulled through channel **13** of locking buckle **12.1**. Alternate locking buckle **12.1** may be utilized to anchor or secure one or more elongated member(s) **EM** along a run of the one or more elongated member(s) **EM** to an object **O**, such as in **FIG.**
25 **8**. Alternate locking buckle **12.1** is preferably utilized to reduce the rotational force

RF between second strap end **16** and alternate locking buckle **12.1**, and more specifically the rotational force **RF** between second strap end **16** and alternate locking buckle **12.1** when anchoring or securing one or more elongated member(s) **EM** to an object **O**, such as in **FIG. 8**. Rotational force **RF** increases
5 with the increased weight of one or more elongated member(s) **EM**.

It is contemplated herein that strap **14** may be trimmed flush with locking buckle **12/12.1** once anchored in hole **H**.

Referring now to **FIG. 10**, there is illustrated a flow diagram **1000** a method of securing one or more elongated member(s) **EM** to object **O** and/or a method of
10 securing cable tie **10** to hole **H** in object **O**. In block or step **1010**, providing cable tie **10** as described above in **FIGS. 1-9**. In block or step **1020**, first strap end **18** of strap **14** is preferably utilized to surround, encircle, cinch, wrap around or bundle one or more cable, rope, channel, hose, wires, or any other linear apparatus or the like, such as elongated member(s) **EM**. Moreover, strap **14** is preferably
15 inserted in locking buckle **12** and pulled through channel **13** of locking buckle **12**, wherein pawl **20** of locking buckle **12** engages cross-bars **28** formed on strap **14** to secure elongated member(s) **EM** together in a bundle, as shown in **FIG. 7**.

In block or step **1030**, one or more aperture **26** in strap **14** may be aligned proximate hole **H** in object **O**. In block or step **1040**, a screw, nail, or rivet, such
20 as at least one attachment mechanism **S** may be inserted through one or more aperture **26** in strap **14** and affixed to at least one hole **H** in object **O**, or more specifically attachment mechanism **S** may be secured by driving or rotating attachment mechanism **S** therein hole **H** in object **O** to secure strap **14** of cable tie **10** and one or more elongated member(s) **EM** to object **O**, as shown in **FIG. 8**.

25

In block or step **1050**, two or more cable tie **10** may be utilized to secure a run of one or more elongated member(s) **EM** to object **O**, such as, first cable tie **10** may be utilized to secure one section of elongated member(s) **EM** and one or more other cable tie **10** may be utilized to secure one or more other sections of elongated member(s) **EM** to support a run or length of elongated member(s) **EM**.

The foregoing description and drawings comprise illustrative embodiments. Having thus described exemplary embodiments, it should be noted by those ordinarily skilled in the art that the disclosures within are exemplary only, and that various other alternatives, adaptations, and modifications may be made within the scope of the present disclosure. Merely listing or numbering the steps of a method in a certain order does not constitute any limitation on the order of the steps of that method. Many modifications and other embodiments will come to mind to one ordinarily skilled in the art to which this disclosure pertains, having the benefit of the teachings presented in the foregoing descriptions and the associated drawings. Although specific terms may be employed herein, they are used in a generic and descriptive sense only and not for purposes of limitation. Moreover, the present disclosure has been described in detail; it should be understood that various changes, substitutions and alterations can be made thereto without departing from the spirit and scope of the disclosure as defined by the appended claims. Accordingly, the present disclosure is not limited to the specific embodiments illustrated herein, but is limited only by the following claims.

CLAIMS

Therefore, at least the following is claimed:

- 5 1. A cable tie, to bundle one or more elongated members and to affix the bundled members to an object, the cable tie comprising:

 a strap configured with a first strap end and a second strap end, said strap configured with one or more rows of cross-bars extended along the length thereof, said strap configured with one or more longitudinally spaced aperture
10 therethrough, wherein said aperture is positioned proximate said cross-bars;

 a locking buckle positioned proximate said second strap end, said locking buckle configured with a channel therethrough, said channel configured with one or more pawl positioned side-by-side therein to confront individually associated ones of said rows of cross-bars of said first strap end.

15

2. The cable tie of claim 1, said strap further comprising one or more rails configured to run from approximately said first strap end to said second strap end.

- 20 3. The cable tie of claim 2, wherein said one or more rails and said channel is configured to accommodate passage therethrough of said strap.

4. The cable tie of claim 1, wherein said one or more rows of cross-bars are positioned crosswise on said strap.

5. The cable tie of claim 1, wherein said one or more rows of cross-bars are positioned parallel to one another on said strap.

5 6. The cable tie of claim 1, wherein said strap further comprises a top strap side and an underside strap side.

7. The cable tie of claim 6, wherein said one or more rows of cross-bars are positioned on said top strap side and said underside strap side.

10

8. The cable tie of claim 1, wherein said aperture is positioned therebetween said one or more rows of cross-bars.

15

9. The cable tie of claim 7, wherein said one or more pawl further comprises one or more sets of opposing pawls.

10. The cable tie of claim 9, wherein said one or more sets of opposing pawls are positioned to confront individually associated ones of said one or more rows of cross-bars positioned on said first strap side and said second strap side.

20

11. The cable tie of claim 1, wherein said channel further comprises a tongue hinged to said second strap end so that each pawl of said one or more pawl ratches over its individually associated one cross-bar of said rows of cross-bars.

12. The cable tie of claim 11, wherein said tongue hinged to said second strap end is configured to accommodate said one or more pawl positioned side-by-side thereon.

5 13. The cable tie of claim 12, wherein said individually associated one cross-bar of said rows of cross-bars further comprises a first riser and a first pawl catch.

14. The cable tie of claim 1, wherein said locking buckle configured with said channel therethrough, said channel is further configured to be approximately
10 perpendicular to said second strap end.

15. The cable tie of claim 1, wherein said locking buckle configured with said channel therethrough, said channel is further configured to be approximately
15 parallel to said second strap end.

16. The cable tie of claim 1, wherein said first strap end is configured to insert therethrough said channel of said locking buckle.

17. The cable tie of claim 1, wherein said one or more pawl is configured to
20 engage said one or more rows of cross-bars of said strap.

18. The cable tie of claim 1, wherein said first strap end is configured to encircle the one or more elongated members.

19. The cable tie of claim 1, wherein said first strap end inserted through said channel of said locking buckle.

20. The cable tie of claim 1, wherein said one or more pawl is configured to
5 engage said one or more rows of cross-bars of said strap to secure the one or more elongated members.

21. The cable tie of claim 1, wherein each cross-bar of said one or more rows of cross-bars further comprises a rise and a pawl catch.

10

22. The cable tie of claim 20, further comprising an attachment mechanism configured to affix said strap of the bundled members to the object.

15

23. The cable tie of claim 12, further comprising a lever configured to pivot said tongue and said one or more pawl positioned side-by-side to release said strap from said locking buckle.

24. A method of bundling one or more elongated members to a hole in an object comprising the steps of:

20

providing a cable tie comprising a strap configured with a first strap end and a second strap end, said strap configured with one or more rows of cross-bars extended along the length thereof, said strap configured with one or more longitudinally spaced aperture therethrough, wherein said aperture is positioned proximate said cross-bars, a locking buckle positioned proximate said
25 second strap end, said locking buckle configured with a channel therethrough,

said channel configured with one or more pawl positioned side-by-side therein to confront individually associated ones of said rows of cross-bars of said first strap end;

5 encircling the one or more elongated members with said first strap end around;

 inserting said first strap end therein said channel of said locking buckle;

 pulling said first strap end through said channel; and

 ratcheting said one or more rows of cross-bars formed on said strap across said one or more pawl to secure the elongated members together in a
10 bundle.

25. The method of claim 24, further comprising the step of aligning said one or more aperture of said strap proximate the hole in the object.

15 26. The method of claim 25, further comprising the step of inserting at least one attachment mechanism through said one or more aperture of said strap.

27. The method of claim 26, further comprising the step of affixing said at least one attachment mechanism to the hole in the object.

20

28. The method of claim 27, further comprising the step of utilizing two or more said cable tie to secure a run of the one or more elongated members to the object.

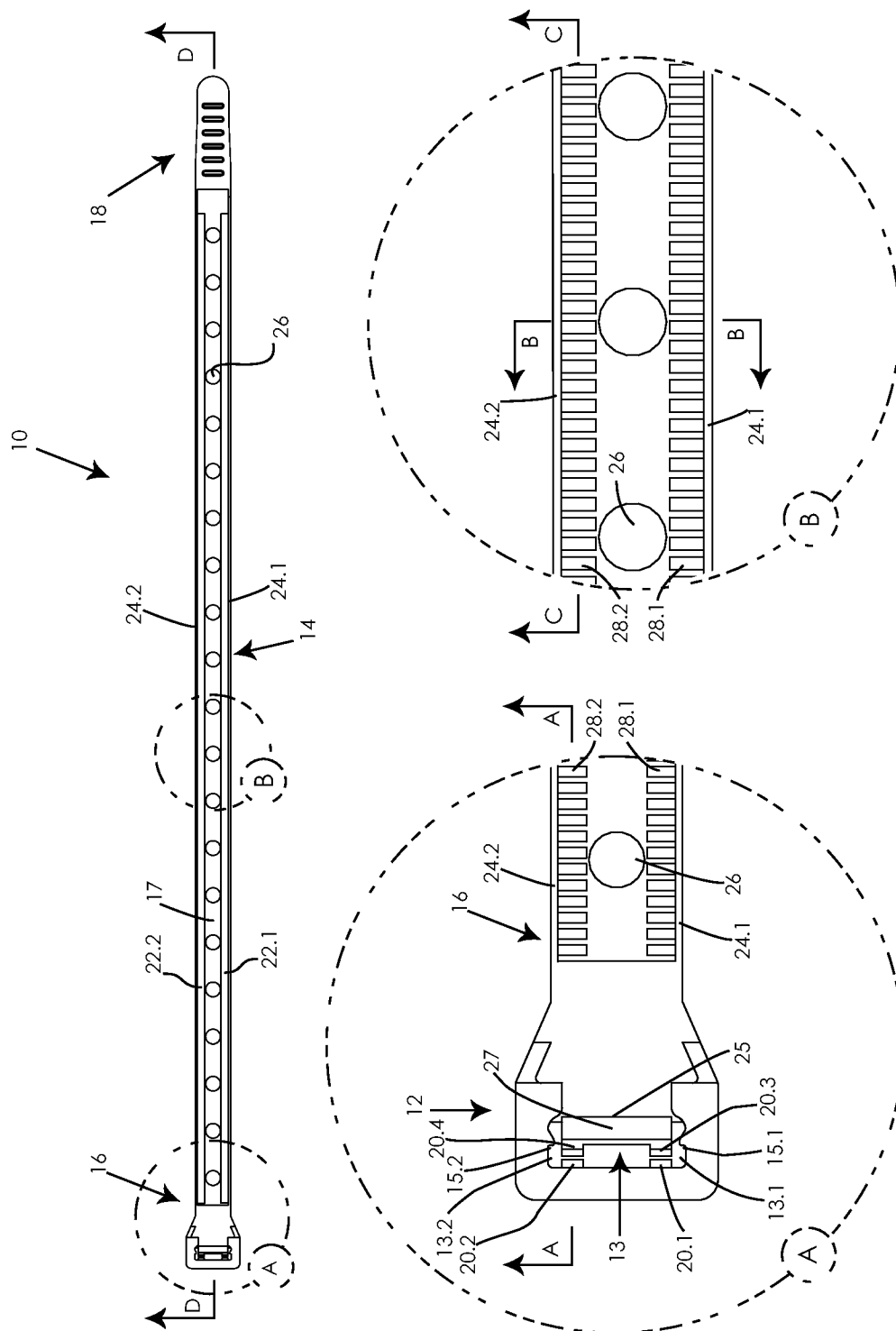


FIG. 1.1

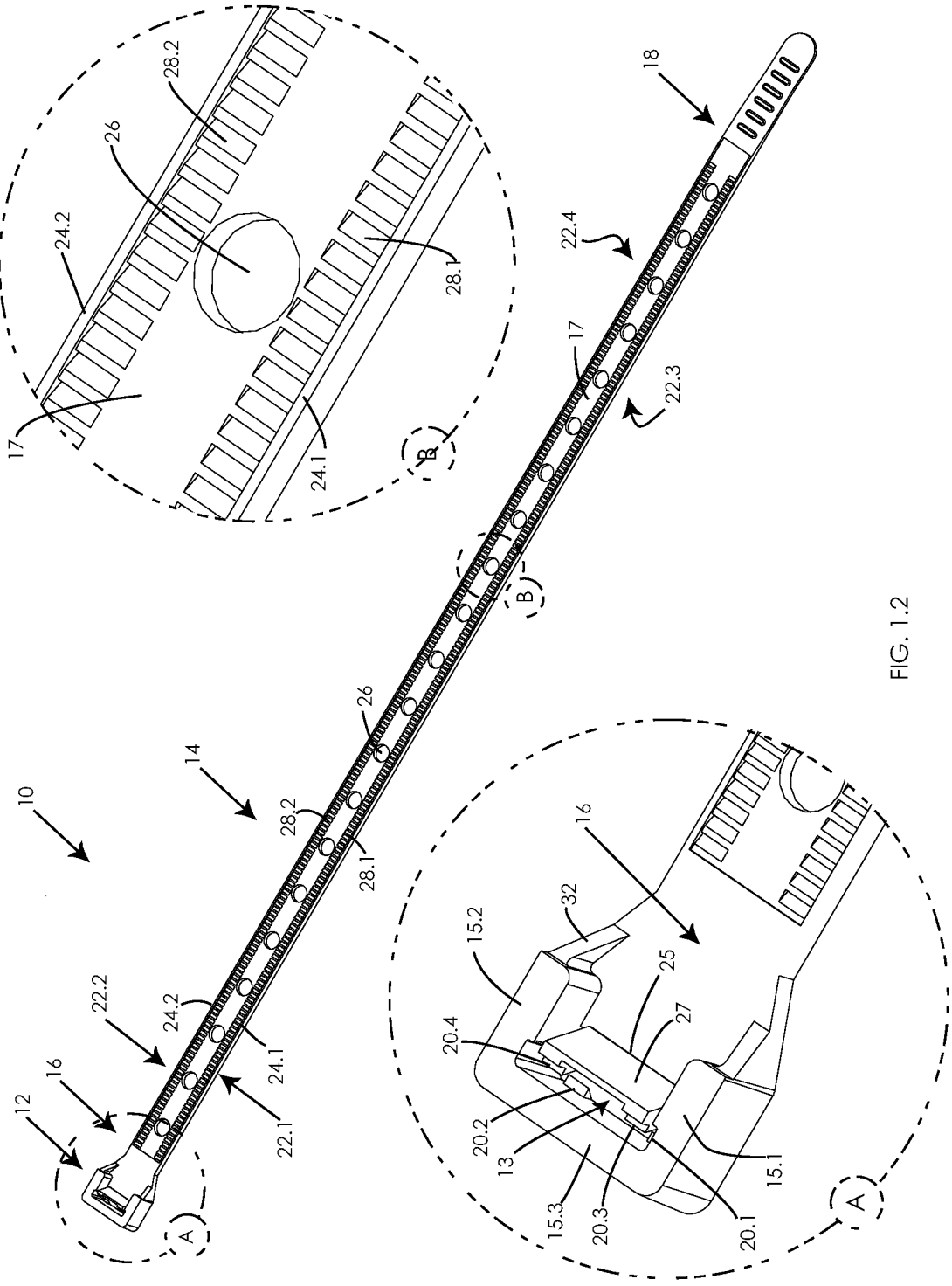


FIG. 1.2

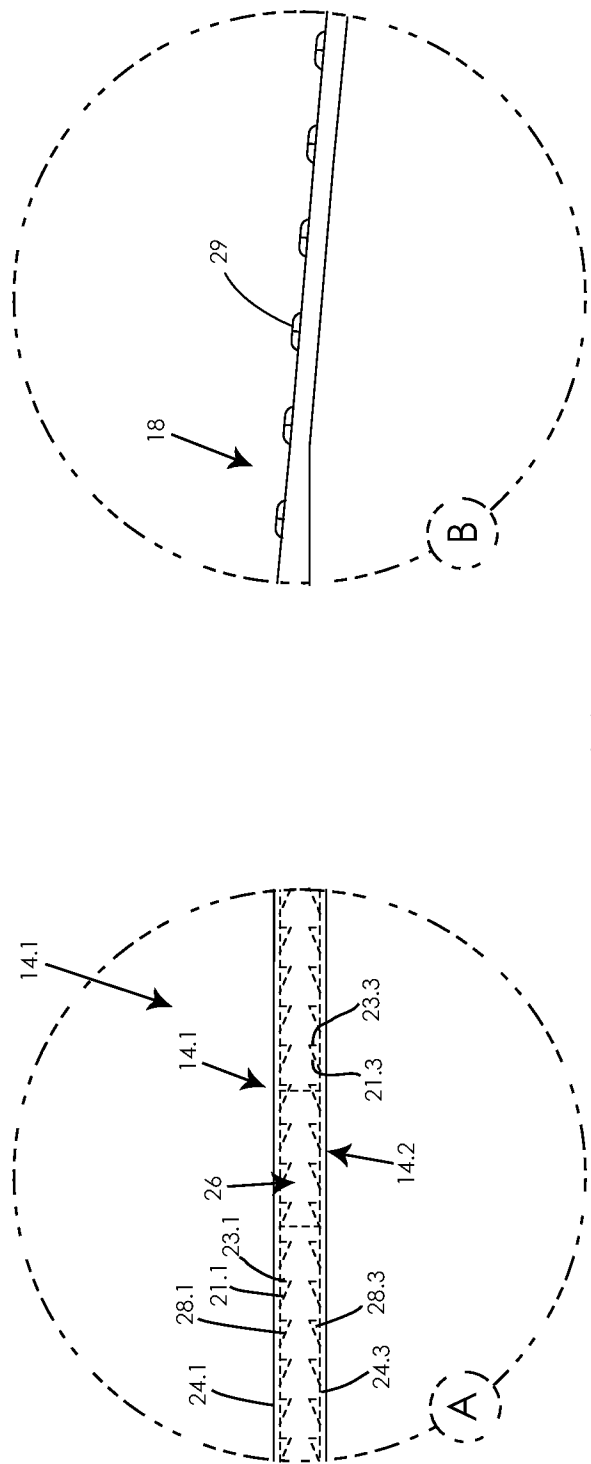
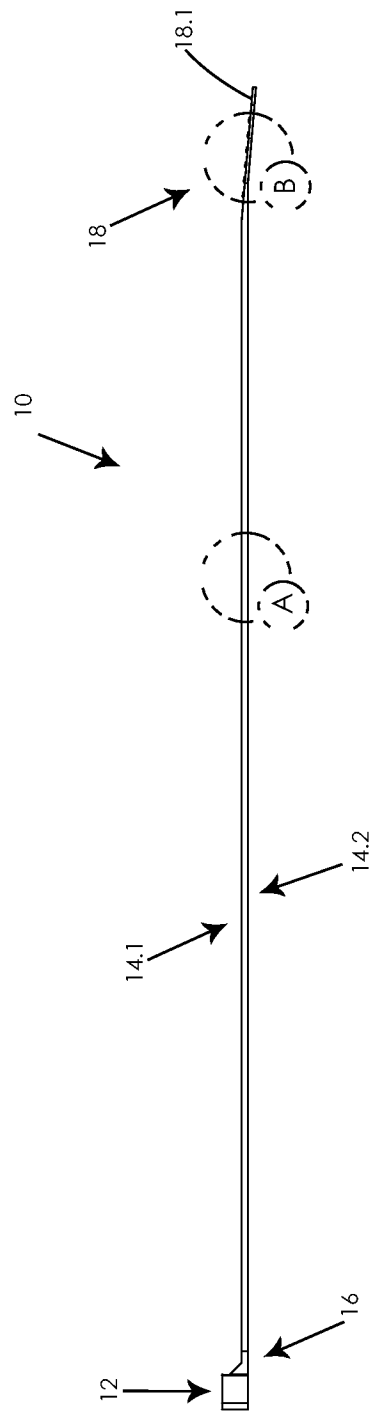
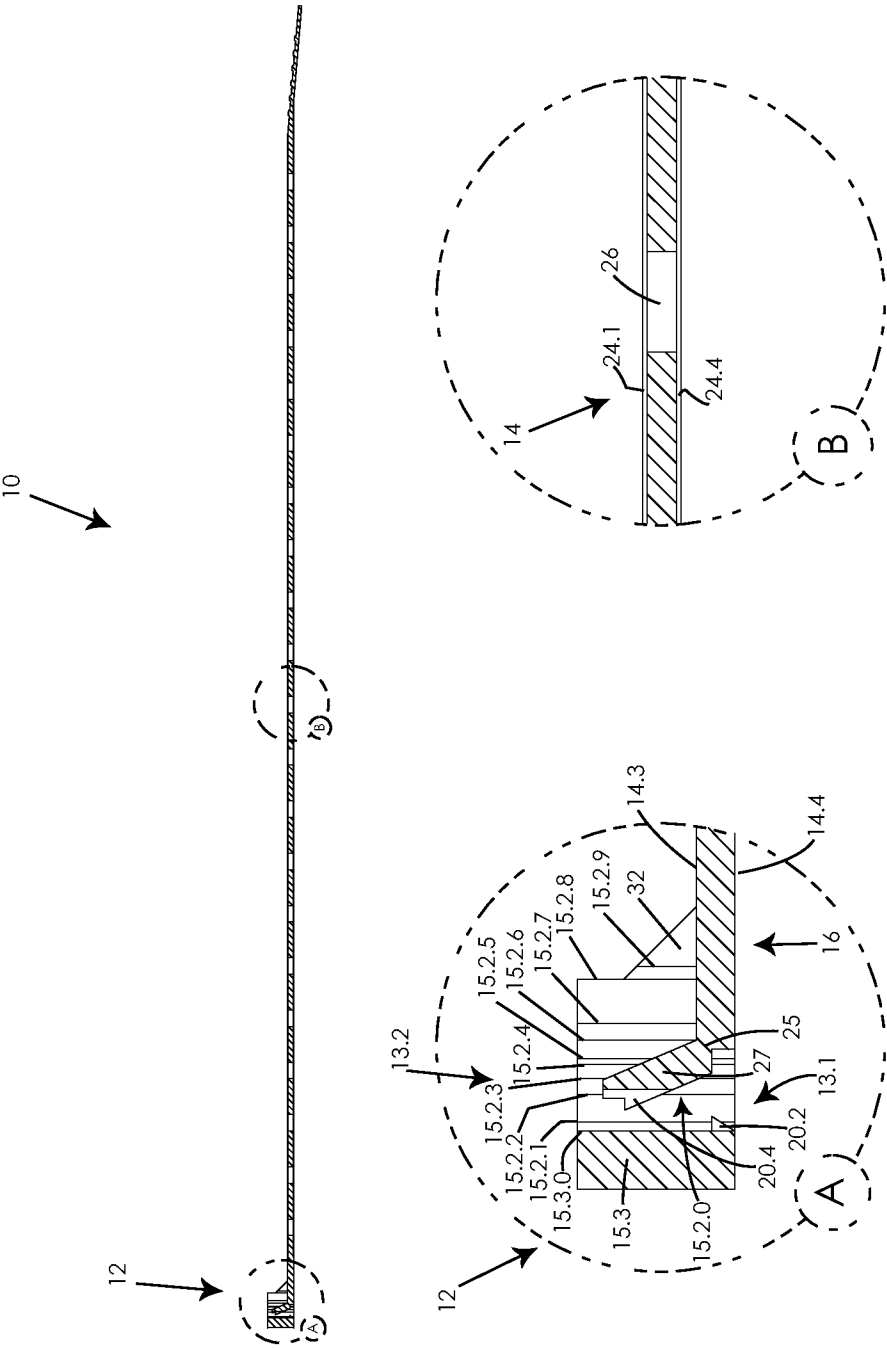
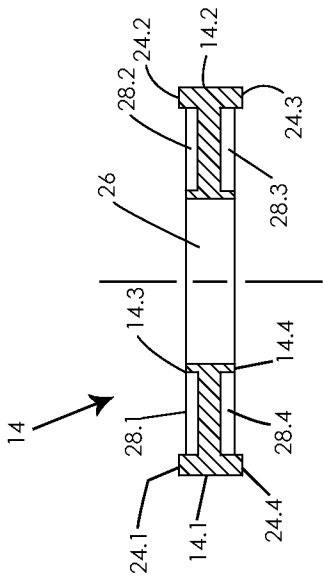


FIG. 2



SECTION DD
FIG. 3



SECTION BB
FIG. 4.1

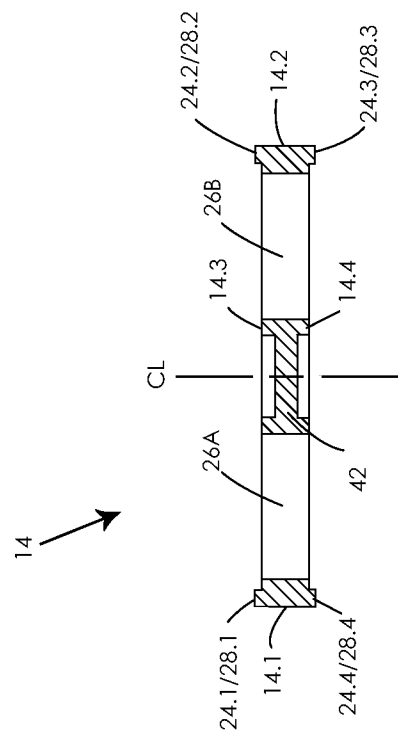


FIG. 4.2

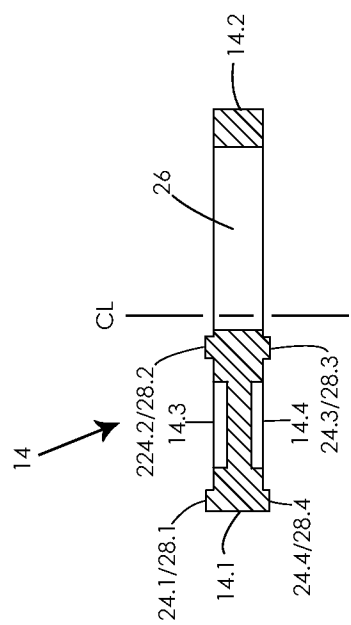
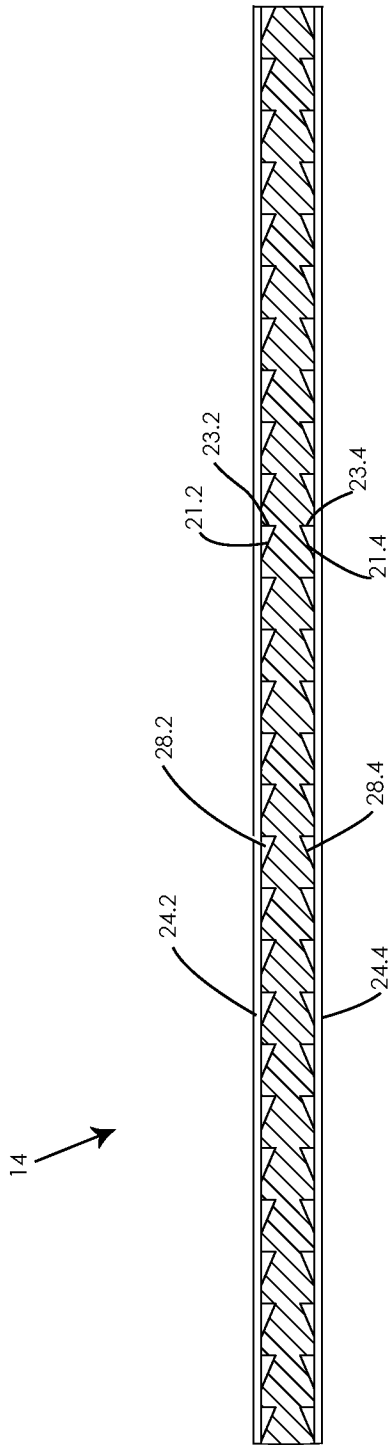
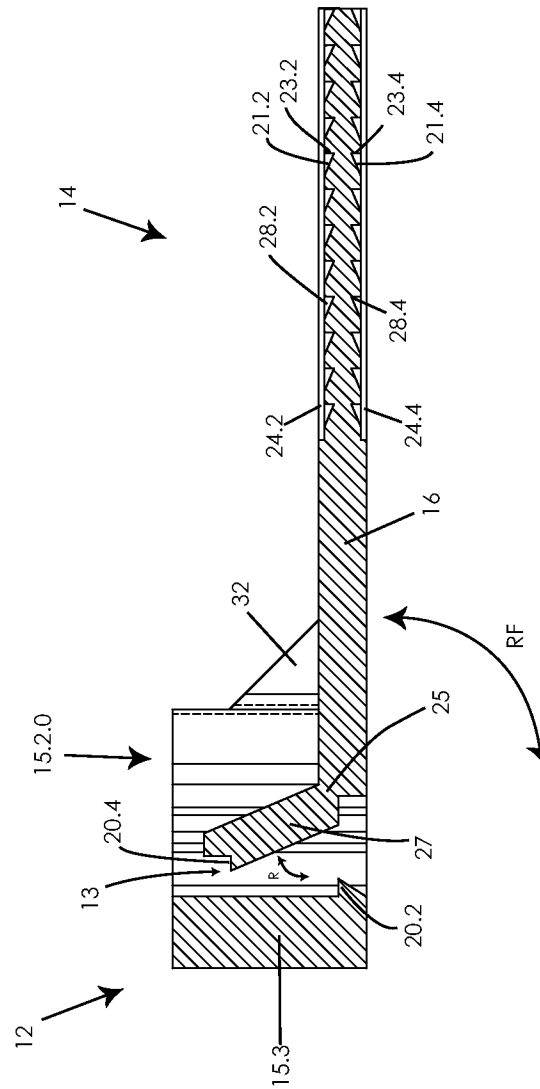


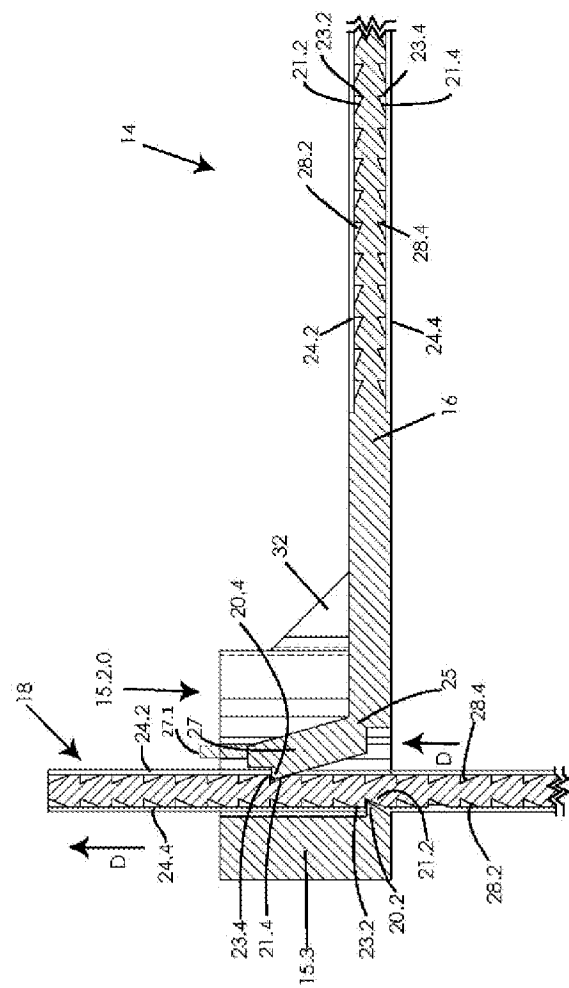
FIG. 4.3



SECTION CC
FIG. 5



SECTION AA
FIG. 6.1



SECTION A-A
FIG. 6.2

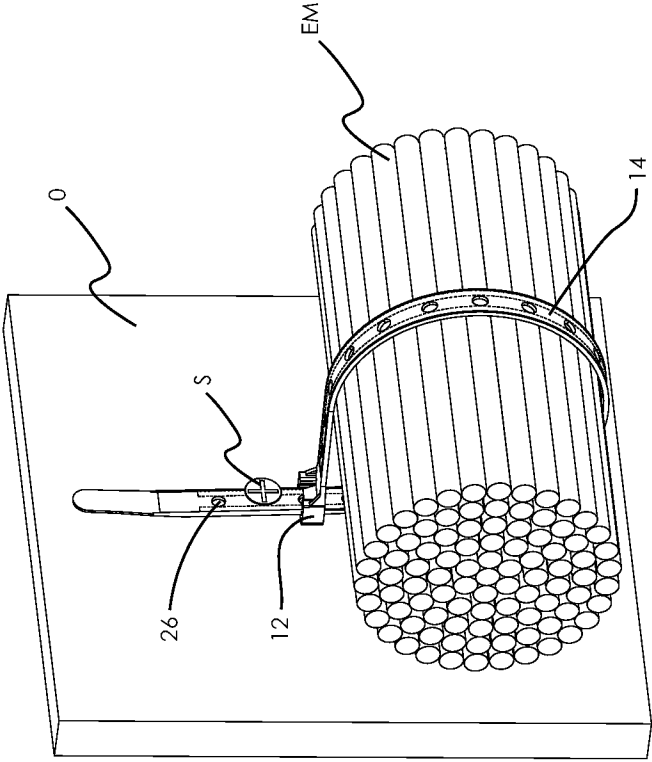


FIG. 7

12/14

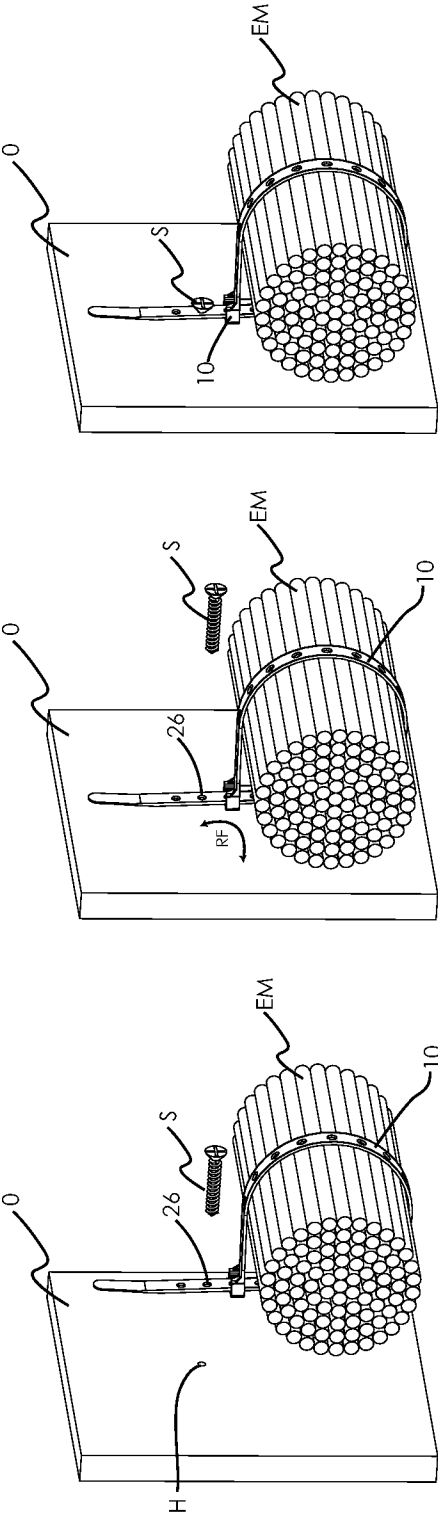


FIG. 8

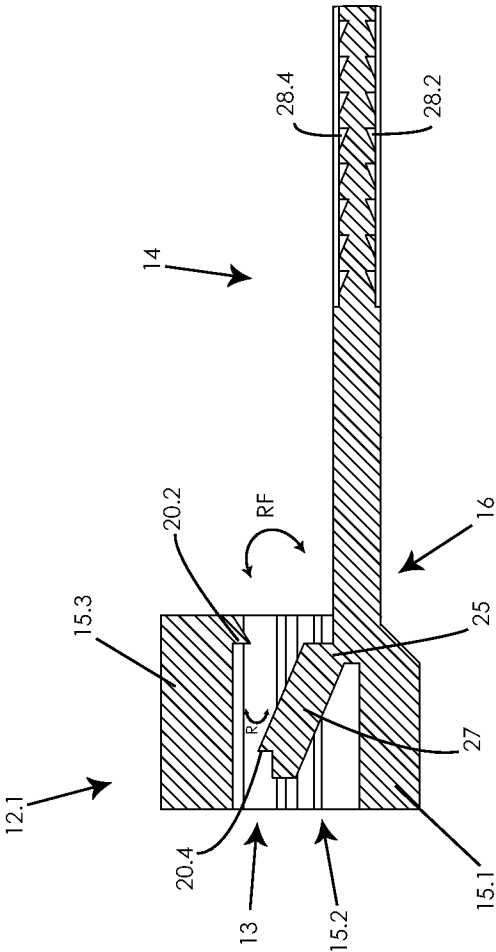


FIG. 9

14/14

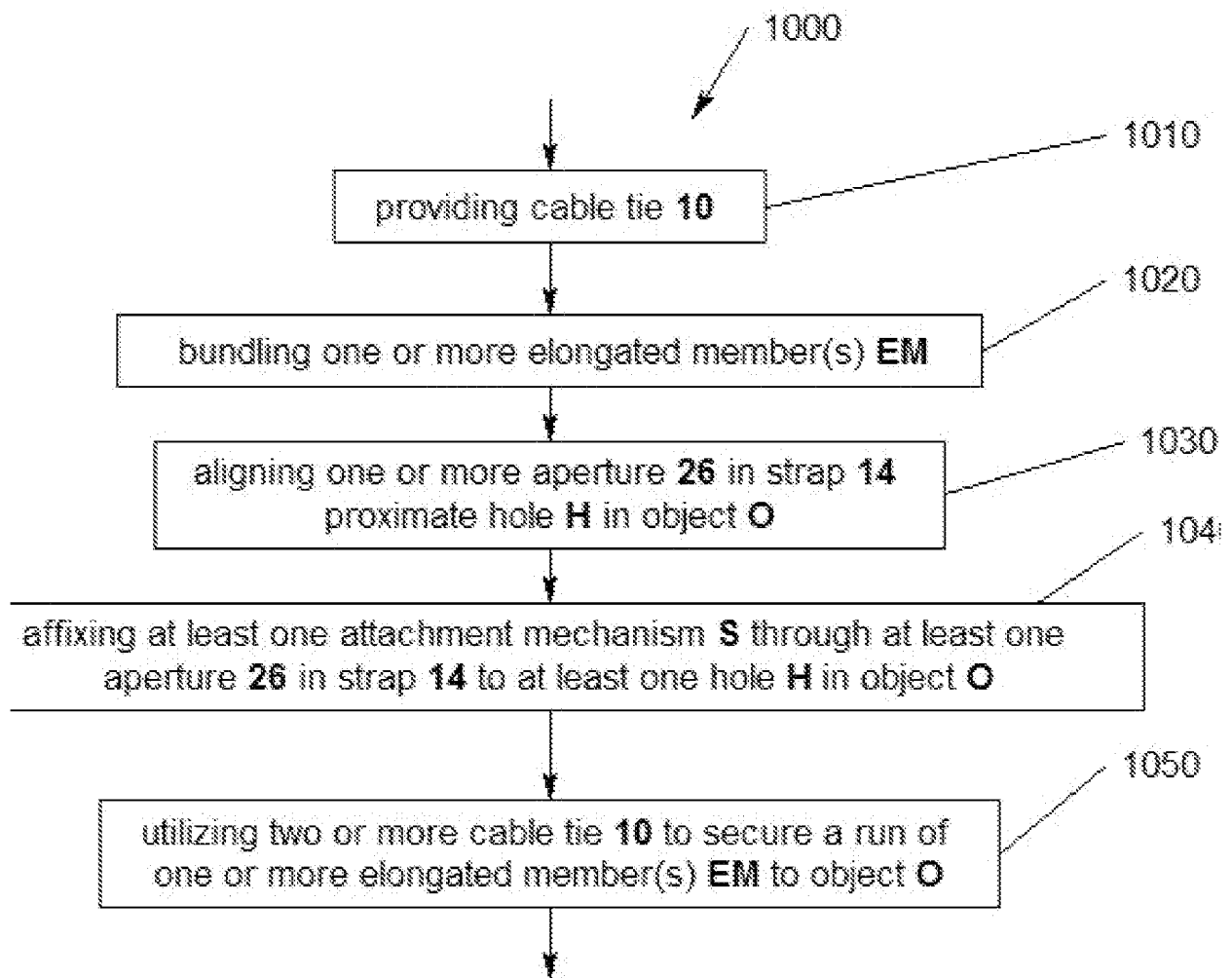


FIG. 10

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US13/59230

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8) - B65D 63/10, 63/16; F16L 3/22 (2014.01)

USPC - 24/16PB, 17AP, 30.5P

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)

IPC(8) Classification(s): B65D 63/10, 63/16; F16L 3/22 (2014.01)

USPC Classification(s): 24/16PB, 17AP, 30.5P

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 practicable, search terms used)

MicroPatent (US-G, US-A, EP-A, EP-B, WO, JP-bib, DE-C,B, DE-A, DE-T, DE-U, GB-A, FR-A); Google/Scholar; IEEE

KEYWORDS: Cable, zip, tie, strap, band, belt, pawl, tang, catch*, buckle, clasp, harness, crossbars, rungs, rails, ribs, teeth, *side*, top, aperture*, hole*, tongue

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 2004/0154139 A1 (CROOK DJ) 12 August 2004; figures 1, 3; paragraphs [0015], [0016]	1-28
Y	US 5,193,254 A (GEISINGER GG) 16 March 1993; figures 1, 7; column 2, lines 5-35	1-6, 8, 11-28
Y	US 6,185,792 B1 (NELSON, A. et al.) 13 February 2001; figure 9; column 2, lines 1-35, column 7, lines 25-50	1, 6, 7, 9-10
A	US 4,045,843 A (LOOSE WW et al.) 6 September 1977; entire document	1-28

☐ 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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"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"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

"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

"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

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

03 February 2014 (03.02.2014)

Date of mailing of the international search report

14 FEB 2014

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