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MULTIPLE TERMINAL CONNECTOR

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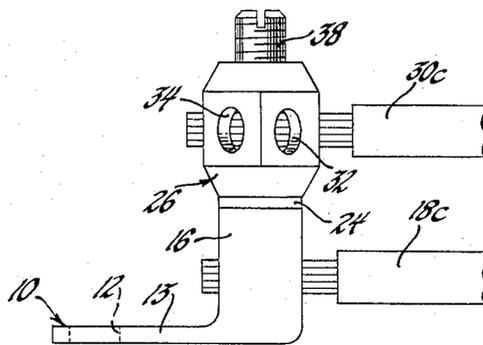


FIG. 1

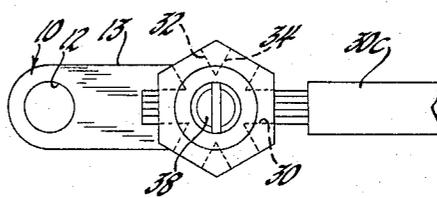


FIG. 2

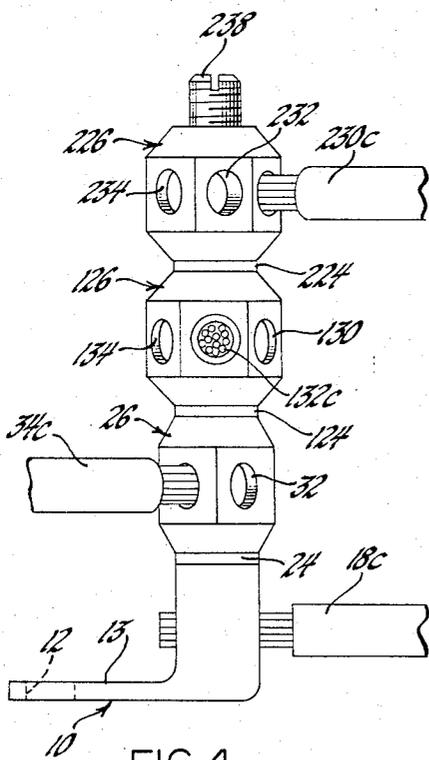


FIG. 4

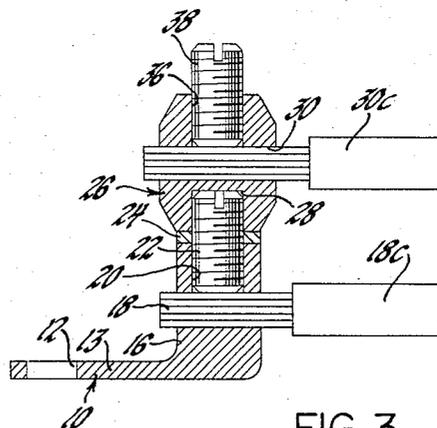


FIG. 3

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MULTIPLE TERMINAL CONNECTOR
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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A multiple connector for a plurality of electrical wires and the like wherein a connector body has aligned upper and lower threaded bores and a plurality of openings transversely disposed to and intersecting the upper threaded bore, a set screw in the upper threaded bore engages a wire extending through one of such openings and retains it in the connector body; the set screw has a portion extending out of the upper threaded bore whereby the lower threaded bore of a second connector body may be stacked thereon.

This invention relates to multiple terminal connectors for wires, cables and the like, and, in particular, to such a connector for staking a plurality of electrical conductors in a prearranged sequence.

An object of the present invention is to stack and space angularly a plurality of conductor terminals.

Another object of the present invention is to utilize a polygonal sided nut for clamping a wire at any angle thereto.

Other objects and advantages of the present invention will become apparent from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing wherein:

FIG. 1 is a side elevation of an electric terminal embodying the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a top plan view of FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a cross-section view taken along the line 3—3 of FIG. 2; and

FIG. 4 is a side elevation similar to FIG. 1 with additional connectors in staked arrangement.

In practicing the present invention, a preferred embodiment of a connector for electric wires or the like includes a body member having mounting means on one end and having bore means on another end, a plurality of opening means in the body member spaced from each other and communicating with the bore means, and retaining means in the bore means adapted to retain wire means in said opening means.

As is illustrated in FIG. 1, a preferred embodiment of the present invention includes a base member, indicated generally at 10, having a mounting aperture 12 in one end of a flat strip 13 and a connector body 16 extending transversely from the other end thereof. The connector body 16 has a transverse opening 18 for receiving the end of a electric conductor wire or cable 18c. The top of the connector body 16, as viewed in FIG. 3, has a centrally disposed threaded bore 20 which communicates with the opening 18 and which receives a set screw 22 that retains or clamps the end of wire 18c therein.

A lead washer 24 is seated on the top of connector body 16 and the set screw 22 has a portion protruding out of the threaded bore 20 and through the washer 24. As is illustrated in FIG. 3, a connector body member, indicated generally at 26, has a lower threaded bore 28 whereby the connector body 26 may be threaded onto

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the protruding portion of the set screw 22 in the lower connector body 16. Because of the lead washer, the two connector bodies 16 and 26 may be angularly adjusted relative to each other.

As is illustrated in FIGS. 1 and 2, the connector body 26 is a polygonal sided member, in this case a hexagon, with intersecting through bores 30, 32 and 34 transversely extending through each side. The top of connector body 26 has a centrally disposed threaded bore 36 which communicates with the intersection of the bores 30, 32 and 34 and which receives the inner end of a set screw 38 that retains or clamps the end of a wire 30c inserted in one of the bores, i.e., in bore 30.

From the foregoing, it is apparent that the connector body 26 may have any desired number of transversely extending bores and may be of any suitable conforming shape, such as a cylinder, cube, etc. As is apparent in FIG. 4, the number of connector bodies that may be stacked is unlimited and there is no need to bend or deform the numerous wires connected thereto. For example, with the base connector 10 defining a ground terminal, a first ground wire 18c is connected thereto by connector body 26, the set screw 22 and a second ground wire 34c fastened to the connector body 26 which is mounted on the top of set screw 22. The lead washer 24 facilitates angular adjustment between the connectors 16 and 26 and assures good electrical conductivity therebetween. The connector bodies 126 and 226 define stacking connectors for third and fourth wires 132C and 230C, respectively; since their structures are identical to connector body 26, the same reference numerals added to 100 and 200, respectively, are utilized.

Inasmuch as the present invention is subjected to many variations, modifications and changes in detail, it is intended that all matter contained in the foregoing description or shown on the accompanying drawings, shall be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

What is claimed is:

1. A connector for electric wires and the like comprising a body member having mounting means on one end having bore means on another end, a plurality of opening means in said body member spaced from each other and communicating with said bore means, retaining means in said bore means adapted to retain wire means in said opening means, said retaining means having a portion protruding out of said bore means to define fastening means, and a second body member having mounting means thereon being fastened to the protruding portion of said retaining means.

2. In a connector device for electric wires and the like, the combination comprising a plurality of connector body members, each body member having mounting means on one end and threaded bore means on another end and having a plurality of opening means spaced from each other and communicating with said bore means, clamping screw means in said bore means adapted to retain a wire in one of said opening means, said clamping screw means having a portion protruding out of said bore means, said protruding portion defining fastening means securing the mounting means on an adjacent connector body member, and washer means disposed between said plurality of connector body members to facilitate adjustment therebetween.

3. In a connector, the combination comprising a polygonal sided connector member having openings through each side, a threaded bore in its lower portion transversely disposed to said openings and defining a mount-

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ing bore, a threaded bore in its upper portion transversely disposed to and in communication with said openings, a set screw in the threaded bore of the upper portion for clamping a wire in one of said openings, said set screw having an outer portion protruding out of the threaded bore of the upper portion, a second connector member attached to the outer portion of said set screw, and washer means disposed between the said polygonal sided connector member and the second connector member to facilitate angular adjustment therebetween.

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