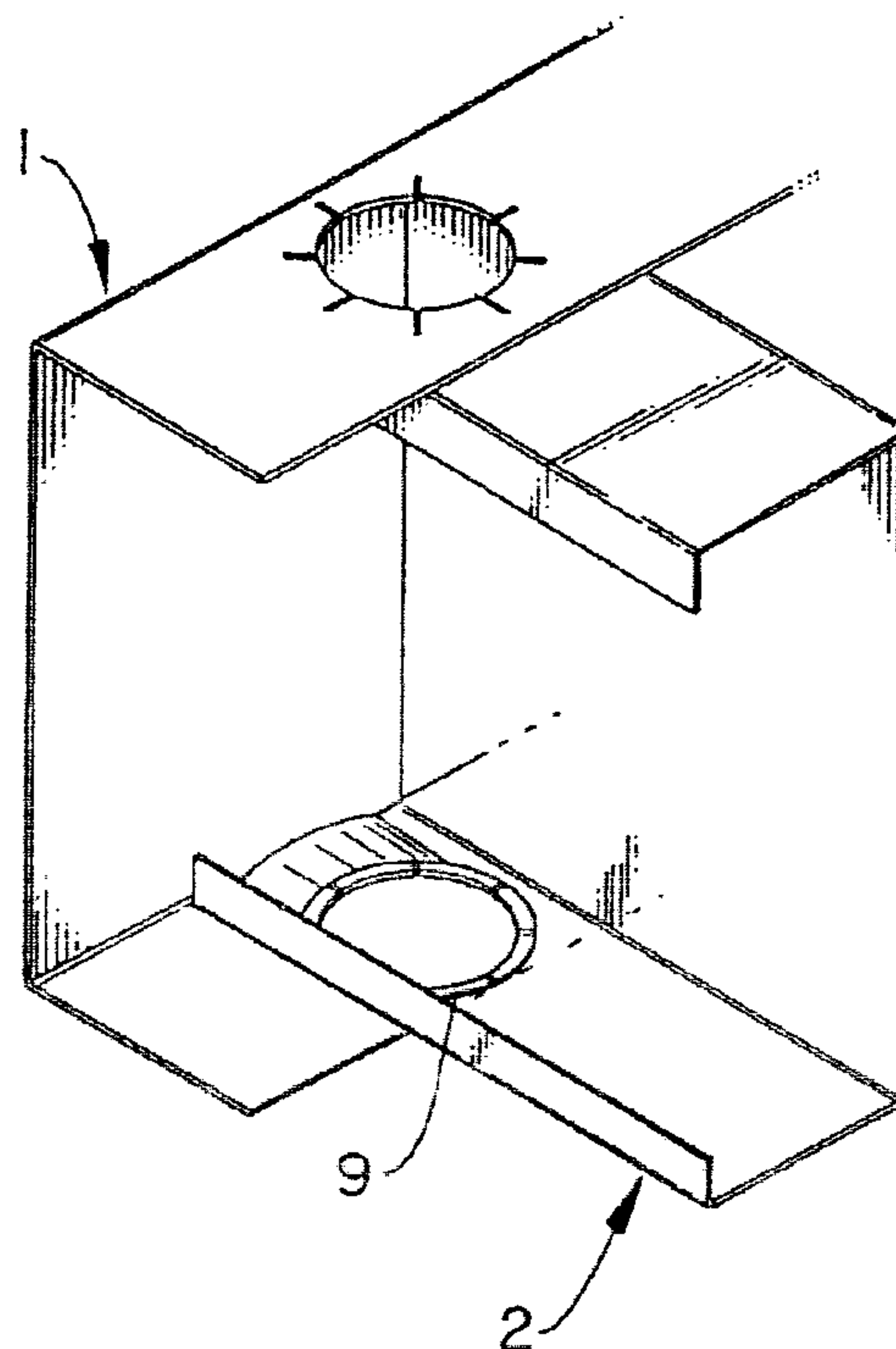




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(54) Titre : ASSEMBLAGE D'ELEMENTS METALLIQUES
(54) Title: JOINING METAL MEMBERS



(57) Abrégé/Abstract:

Studs, tracks and metal members used in steel frame panel systems are joined or attached to each other. Metal members (1, 2) are joined to each other by the use of depending collars (3, 4) and through holes. A tool head (11) inserted through the collars and holes and the tool shoulder (12) exert pressure to simultaneously

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(57) Abstract

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Prepunched holes on metal members surround collars on adjoining metal members. A tool head, inserted through both members, pulls on the collar of one member to bend the collar against the other member and a tool shoulder. The force of the tool bends and crimps the collar tightly with the result that the members are connected, fastened or joined together in a rigid manner.

The members can be in a C-shape or U-shape or other structural shapes and of various thicknesses or gauges, and are applicable to tracks and studs and metal plates in general. In an automated manufacturing process frames and trusses can be easily prefabricated. A single crimped connection point gives diagonal rigidity to joined members.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of two sheet metal pieces prior to being joined.

Fig. 2 is an exploded view of a part of the tool used to join the pieces.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the two plates joined together.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a track member using the invention.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of multiple collars on each

