OPTICAL FIBER CONNECTOR WITH MOLDED LOCKING COMPONENT

Provided are optical fiber connectors having top and bottom, front and back orientation comprising: a jacketed optical cable comprising a terminating fiber (11), the cable having molded thereon a locking component (13) comprising at least one locking lug (14), the locking component (13) being formed from a flexible moldable material; and an inner housing (18) having a radial cross-section which is generally rectilinear and comprises at least three corners, the inner housing (18) comprising at least a portion which defines an opening (25) for receiving the locking component (13), the opening (25) being configured such that upon insertion of the locking component (13) therein the locking lug (14) in a corner of the inner housing (18) such that the locking component (13) and inner housing (18) are secured to each other in an axial direction.
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
   IPC(7) : G02B 5/36
   US CL : 385/53, 92
   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)

   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)
   IEEE explore and INSPEC -- search terms: fiber, connector, flexible, mold

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>US 5,737,464 (UNDERWOOD et al) 07 April 1998 (07.04.1998), see entire document</td>
<td>1-27</td>
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</tbody>
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☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.  ☐ See patent family annex.

* * * Special categories of cited documents:
“A” document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
“E” earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date
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