IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS
CENTRAL DIVISION

PPC BROADBAND, INC.

Plaintiff,

v.

Case No.: 4:22-cv-204-DPM

PERFECTVISION MANUFACTURING, INC.

Defendant.

This case assigned to District Judge Marshall
and to Magistrate Judge Ray

COMPLAINT

PPC Broadband, Inc. ("PPC"), by its attorneys, Mitchell, Williams, Selig, Gates & Woodyard, P.L.L.C. and Barclay Damon LLP, files the following Complaint against Defendant PerfectVision Manufacturing, Inc. ("PerfectVision"), and alleges as follows:

Nature of Action

1. This action for patent infringement, brought under the Patent Laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C. § 1 *et seq.*, seeks relief for Perfect Vision's willful infringement of U.S. Patent Nos. 7,118,416 (the "'416 Patent").

2. PPC owns the '416 Patent, including the right to sue for past infringement.

3. PPC asserts infringement of the '416 Patent against PerfectVision for its unauthorized making, using, offering to sell, selling, and/or importing of coaxial cable connector products, including at least such connectors sold using PerfectVision's SignaLoc® and RidgeLoc® tradenames (the "Accused Products"), including, without limitation, PerfectVision's model PV6USLP and PV6UE-05 connectors.

The Parties

4. PPC is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, with its principal place of business at 6176 East Molloy Road, East Syracuse, New York.

5. PerfectVision, is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Arkansas and has its principal place of business at 16101 La Grande Drive, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Jurisdiction and Venue

6. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over the asserted claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338, and 35 U.S.C. § 281.

7. This Court has personal jurisdiction over PerfectVision because PerfectVision is an Arkansas corporation, because PerfectVision has its principal place of business in Arkansas, and/or because Arkansas has been conducting and/or is presently conducting business in the Eastern District of Arkansas on a regular basis.

8. In addition, this Court has personal jurisdiction over PerfectVision because it has knowingly and actively engaged in acts that have infringed and will infringe the claims of the Patents-in-Suit in the Eastern District of Arkansas.

9. Venue is proper in the Eastern District of Arkansas pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1400. PerfectVision is incorporated in Arkansas and has its principal place of business in the Eastern District of Arkansas, and therefore reside in Arkansas and/or the Eastern District of Arkansas for the purposes of the statute.

Factual Allegations

Background

10. PPC is a worldwide leader in the design and manufacture of products for the cable and telecommunication industries. PPC invests a substantial amount of capital in product

development and improvement to maintain its position as a leading producer of innovative connective technology products. As a result of this investment, PPC has hundreds of issued patents, and has an established track record of strictly enforcing its patents against competitors, including against PerfectVision.

11. PerfectVision uses, imports, offers for sale, and/or sells the Accused Products in Arkansas and elsewhere in the United States. Such use, importation, offers for sale, and/or sale the Accused Products is in direct competition with PPC's coaxial connector products, and without PPC's permission.

12. PPC and PerfectVision previously were parties to a case concerning PerfectVision's infringement of the '416 Patent pending in the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota under docket number 10-cv-00064-MJD-JJG. After unsuccessfully moving for summary judgment on non-infringement, and after the Court rejected its proposed claim construction, PerfectVision settled the case.

13. Upon information and belief, for some period of time after the settlement, PerfectVision stopped selling connectors made in accordance with the design accused of infringement in the Minnesota case.

14. However, PerfectVision once again is making, using, offering to sell, selling, and/or importing connectors that infringe one or more claims in the '416 Patent, this time possessed of the full knowledge of both the '416 Patent and its earlier failed attempt to use claim construction to avoid PPC's claims of infringement.

Patents-in-Suit

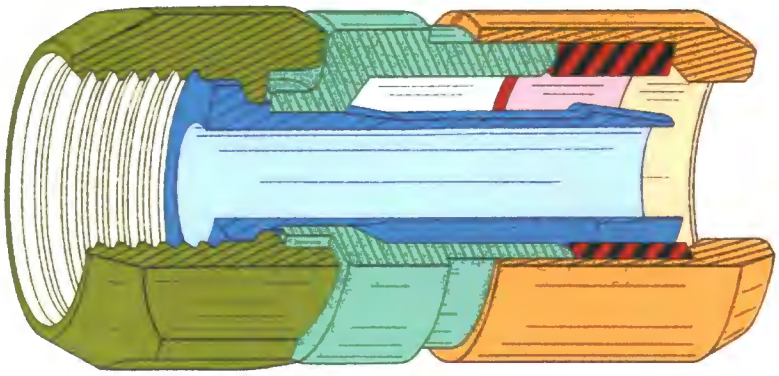
15. The '416 Patent was filed on February 18, 2004, and issued on October 10, 2006. The '416 Patent is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

16. The '416 Patent "relates generally to the field of cable connectors for CATV systems, and more particularly to a cable connector with an elastomeric band which seals the cable connector to a cable." (Col. 1, lines 6-9.)

17. As the '416 Patent explains, "[a] problem with cable connections exposed to the weather is that the connections are susceptible to moisture entering the connection whenever the cable connector is improperly or inadequately connected to the cable. Many attempts have been made to ensure that cable connections are sealed against moisture etc. from the environment. Many of the attempts require using a connector body made of two or more components in order to contain an adequate seal, thus increasing the complexity of the cable connector." (Col. 1, lines 13-22.)

18. In summarizing the invention, the '416 Patent indicates that "a connector for a coaxial cable includes a connector body and a fastening member for connecting said connector to an object such as an equipment port. A post is fitted at least partially inside the connector body for receiving a prepared end of the cable. A compression member is fitted to a back of the connector body. An elastomeric band is fitted inside a cavity formed at least in part by the compression member. Axial movement of the compression member onto said connector body causes the elastomeric band to seal an outer layer of the cable to the connector to isolate the inside of the connector from environmental influences." (Col. 1, lines 25-37.)

19. Although the specific scope of the invention is delineated by the various elements in the claims, the exemplary annotated patent figures below identify the primary connector components relevant to the claimed invention. The fastening member is show shown in **dark green**, the post is shown in **blue**, the connector body is shown in **light green**, the elastomeric band is shown in **red**, and the compression member is shown in **orange**.



PerfectVision's Knowledge of the Patents-in-Suit

20. PerfectVision has been aware of the '416 Patent at least since March 12, 2010, when PPC sued PerfectVision for infringement of the '416 Patent in the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota.

21. Although the Minnesota case was settled soon after PerfectVision failed in its attempt to have the court in that case construe the claims in a way that would have allowed PerfectVision to argue for a finding of non-infringement, and while it is believed that PerfectVision stopped selling connectors made in accordance with the design accused of infringement in the Minnesota case for some period of time, PerfectVision once again is making, using, offering to sell, selling, and/or importing connectors that infringe one or more claims in the '416 Patent, this time possessed of the full knowledge of both the patent and its earlier failed attempt to avoid a finding of infringement.

COUNT I
(Infringement of '416 Patent)

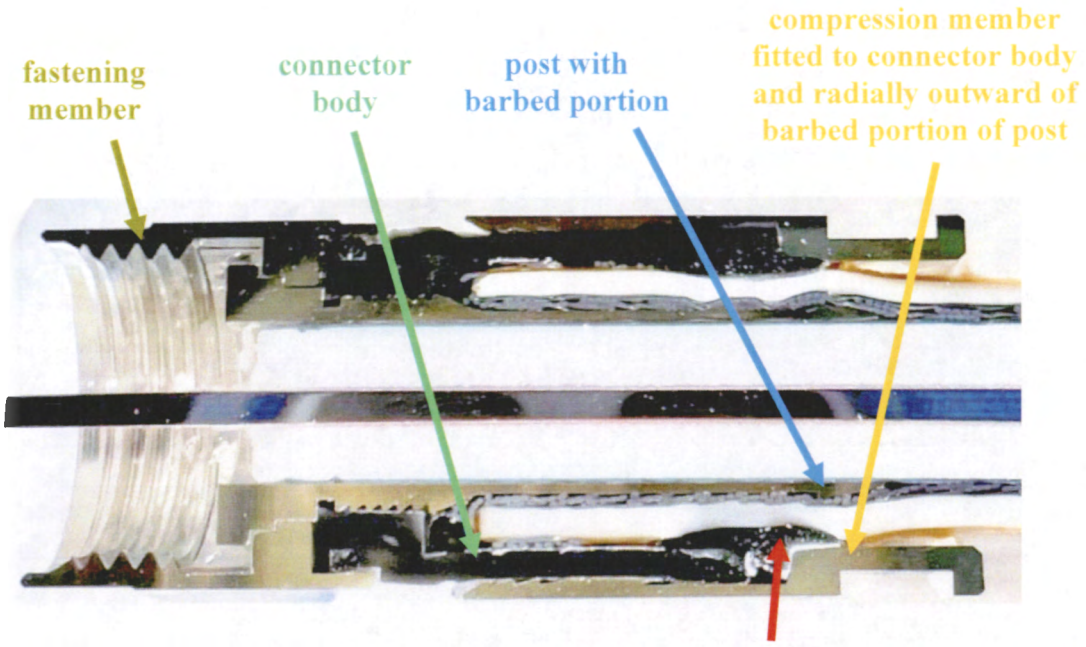
22. PPC repeats and reasserts all of the foregoing allegations as if they were stated in full herein.

23. Claim 1 of the '416 Patent claims "[a] connector for a coaxial cable, comprising: a connector body; a fastening member for connecting said connector to an object; a post including a

barbed portion, said post fitted at least partially inside said connector body for receiving a prepared end of said cable; a compression member fitted to said connector body radially outward of the barbed portion of the post; and an elastomeric band fitted inside a cavity formed at least in part by said compression member; wherein axial movement of said compression member onto said connector body causes said elastomeric band to deform and seal an outer layer of said cable to said connector to isolate an inside of said connector from environmental influences."

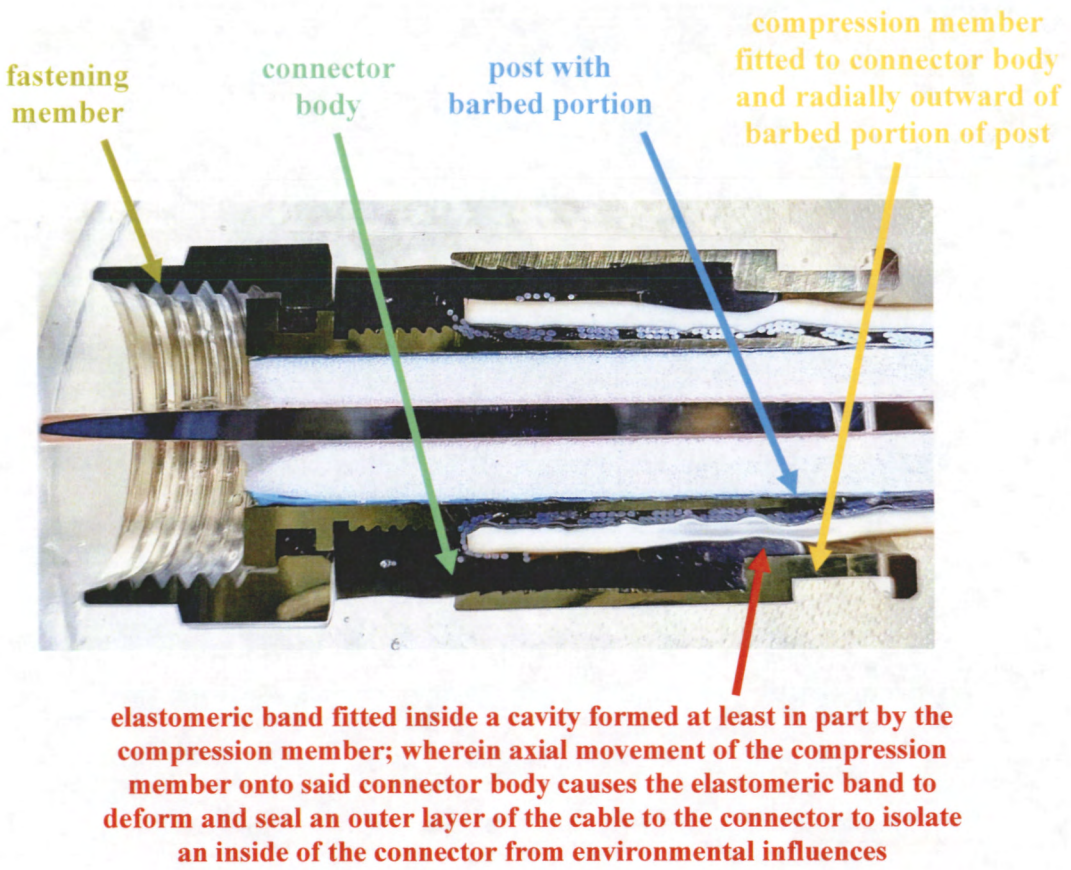
24. As illustrated in the representative figures below, PerfectVision has directly infringed and continues to directly infringe at least Claim 1 of the '416 Patent, within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 271(a) and either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents, by using, selling, offering for sale, and or importing the Accused Products in the United States, without license or authorization by PPC.

Representative SignaLoc® Connector



elastomeric band fitted inside a cavity formed at least in part by the compression member; wherein axial movement of the compression member onto said connector body causes the elastomeric band to deform and seal an outer layer of the cable to the connector to isolate an inside of the connector from environmental influences

Representative RidgeLoc® Connector



25. The Accused Products include each of the elements of at least Claim 1 of the '416 Patent and PerfectVision's manufacture, importation, use, offer for sale and/or sale of such products in the United States constitutes infringement of the '416 Patent.

26. PerfectVision's infringement has caused and continues to cause PPC irreparable harm and damages in an amount to be proven at trial.

27. Upon information and belief, PerfectVision's unlawful infringing activity will continue unless and until it is enjoined by this Court from further infringement, and, at least since the commencement of this suit, such infringement has been willful, egregious, deliberate, and/or intentional. PerfectVision's continuing infringement since the commencement of this suit will

cause PPC further irreparable harm and damages, and entitle it to recover, among other things, treble damages, attorney's fees, and costs.

Prayer for Relief

WHEREFORE, PPC prays for judgment in its favor and against PerfectVision, as follows:

A. Entry of judgment that PerfectVision infringed one or more claims of the '416 Patent;

B. Entry of judgment that preliminarily and/or permanently enjoins PerfectVision and its representatives, assigns or successors, or any subsidiaries, parents, divisions, agents, servants, employees thereof, and/or those in privity with PerfectVision from infringing the '416 Patent;

C. An award of compensatory damages for PPC as a result of infringement, as provided in 35 U.S.C. § 284, the extent of which will be determined at trial, but in no event less than a reasonable royalty, together with interest and costs;

D. A determination that PerfectVision's acts of infringement of one or more claims of the '416 Patent have been, and continue to be, egregious and/or willful, and that PPC is entitled to an award of enhanced damages of up to three times the amount of actual damages pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284;

E. A determination that, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 285, this is an exceptional case and that PPC be awarded its reasonable attorney's fees;

F. An award of interest on any judgment rendered in this action;

G. An award of PPC's costs in this action; and

H. Such other and further relief as is just and proper.

Jury Demand

PPC demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

Dated: March 2, 2022

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US007118416B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Montena et al.

(10) **Patent No.: US 7,118,416 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent: Oct. 10, 2006**

(54) **CABLE CONNECTOR WITH ELASTOMERIC BAND**

(75) Inventors: **Noah Montena**, Syracuse, NY (US); **Michael T. Fox**, Syracuse, NY (US)

(73) Assignee: **John Mezzalingua Associates, Inc.**, East Syracuse, NY (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **10/781,376**

(22) Filed: **Feb. 18, 2004**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2005/0181652 A1 Aug. 18, 2005

(51) **Int. Cl.**
H01R 9/05 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **439/584**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** 439/578, 439/584, 583, 274, 275, 287, 582
See application file for complete search history.

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Primary Examiner—Phuong Dinh
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Wall Marjama & Bilinski LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A connector for a coaxial cable includes a connector body and a fastening member for connecting said connector to an object such as an equipment port. A post is fitted at least partially inside the connector body for receiving a prepared end of the cable. A compression member is fitted to a back of the connector body. An elastomeric band is fitted inside a cavity formed at least in part by the compression member. Axial movement of the compression member onto said connector body causes the elastomeric band to seal an outer layer of the cable to the connector to isolate the inside of the connector from environmental influences.

21 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets

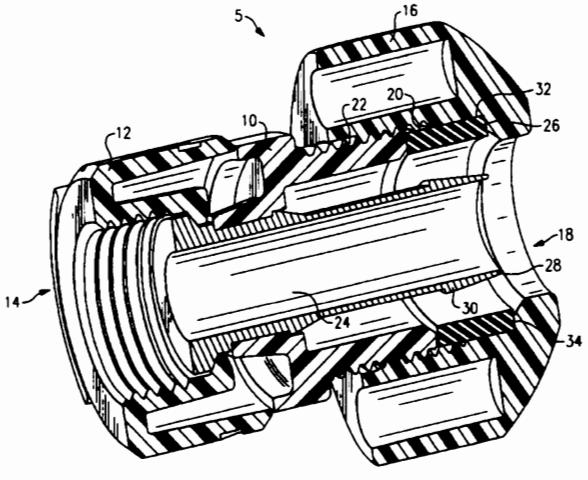

EXHIBIT
A

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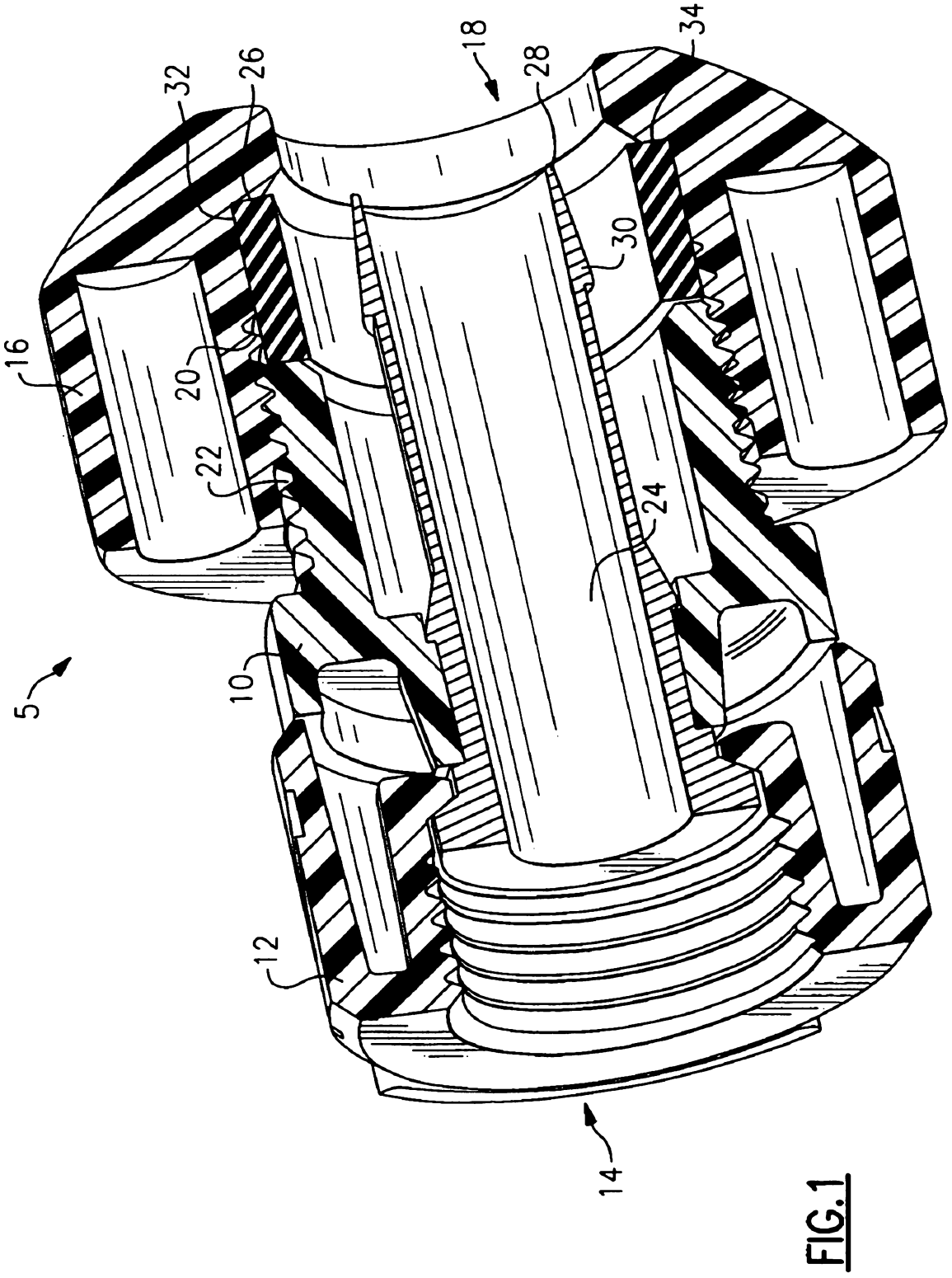

FIG.1

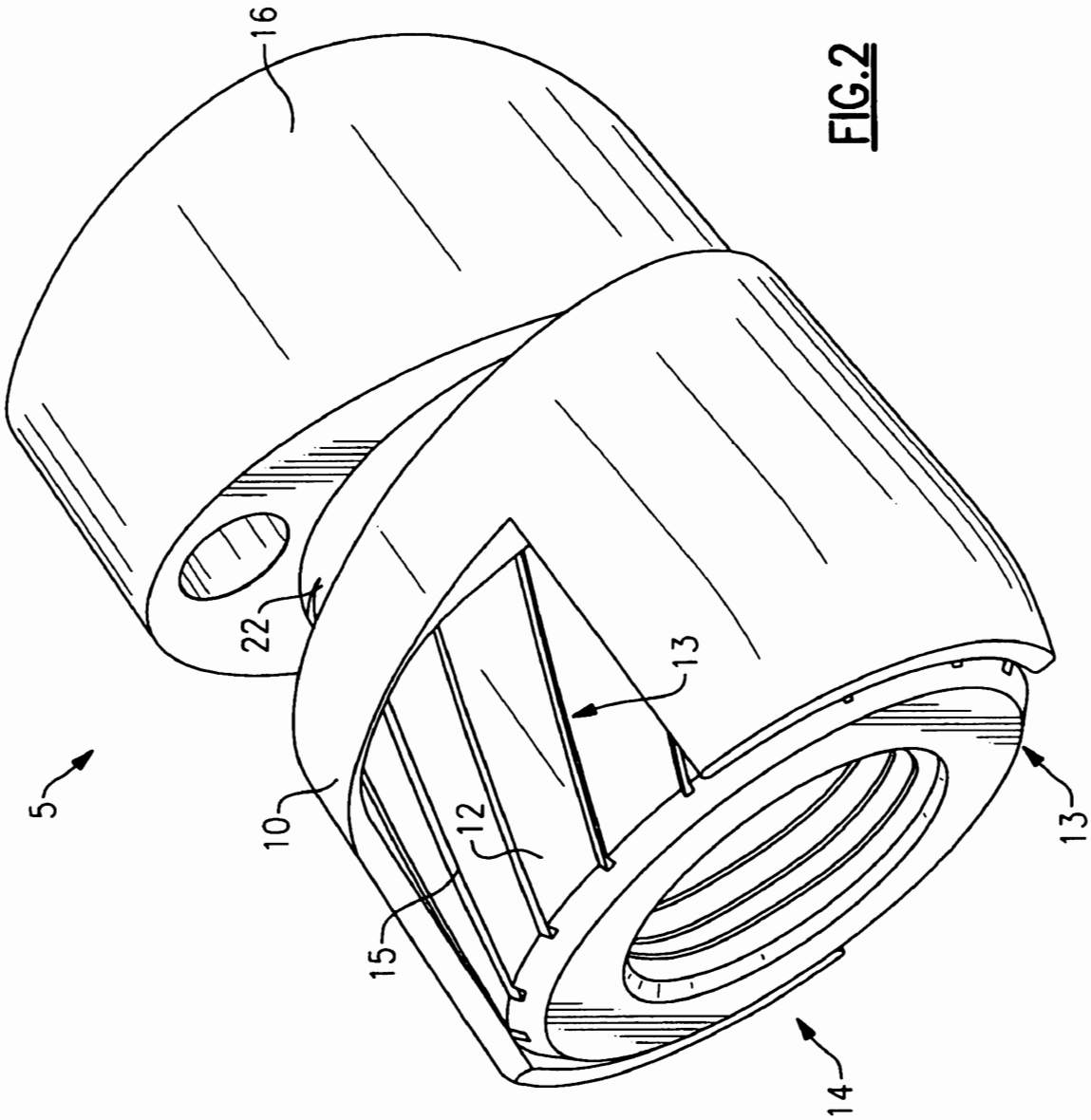

FIG.2

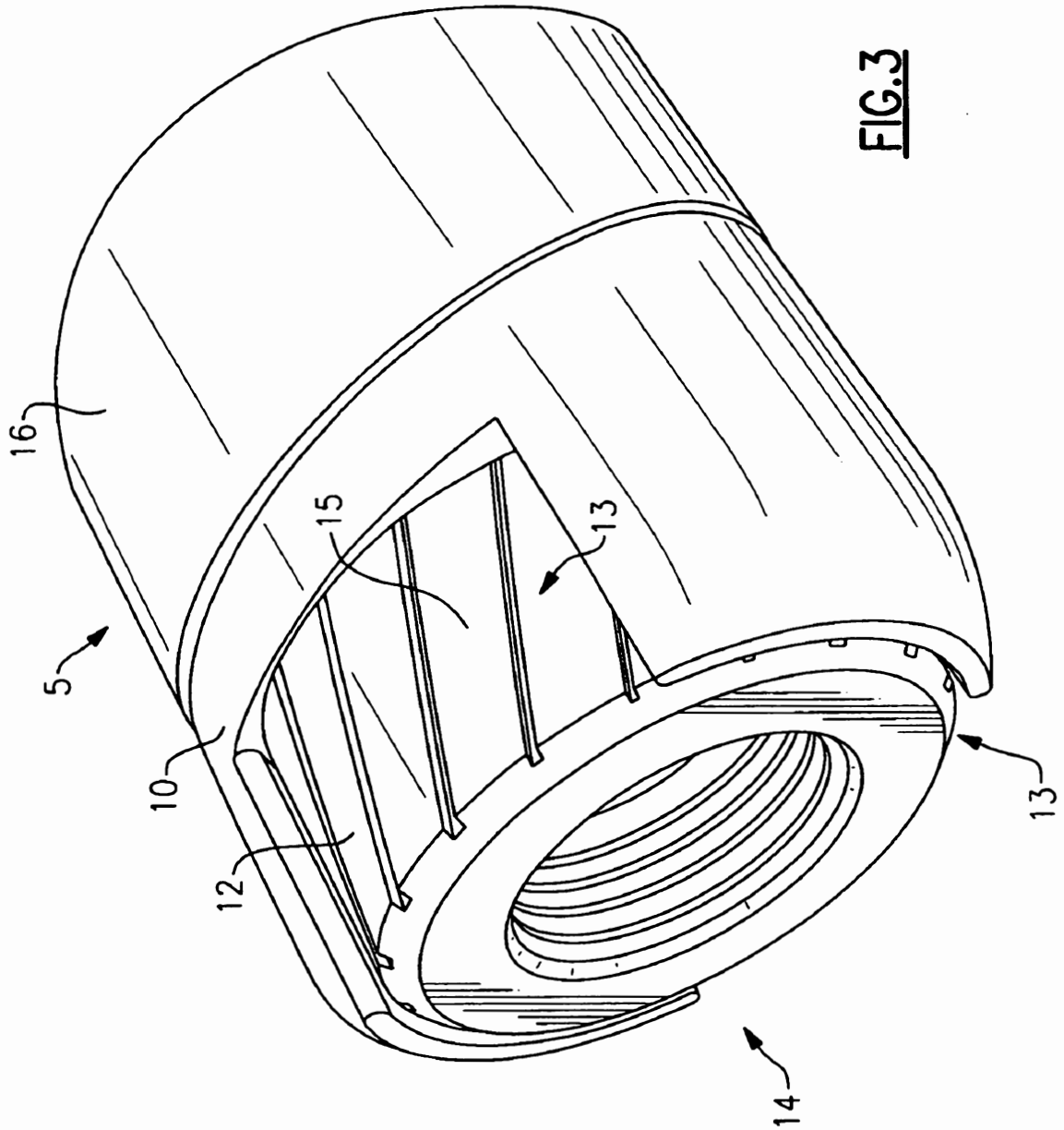

FIG.3

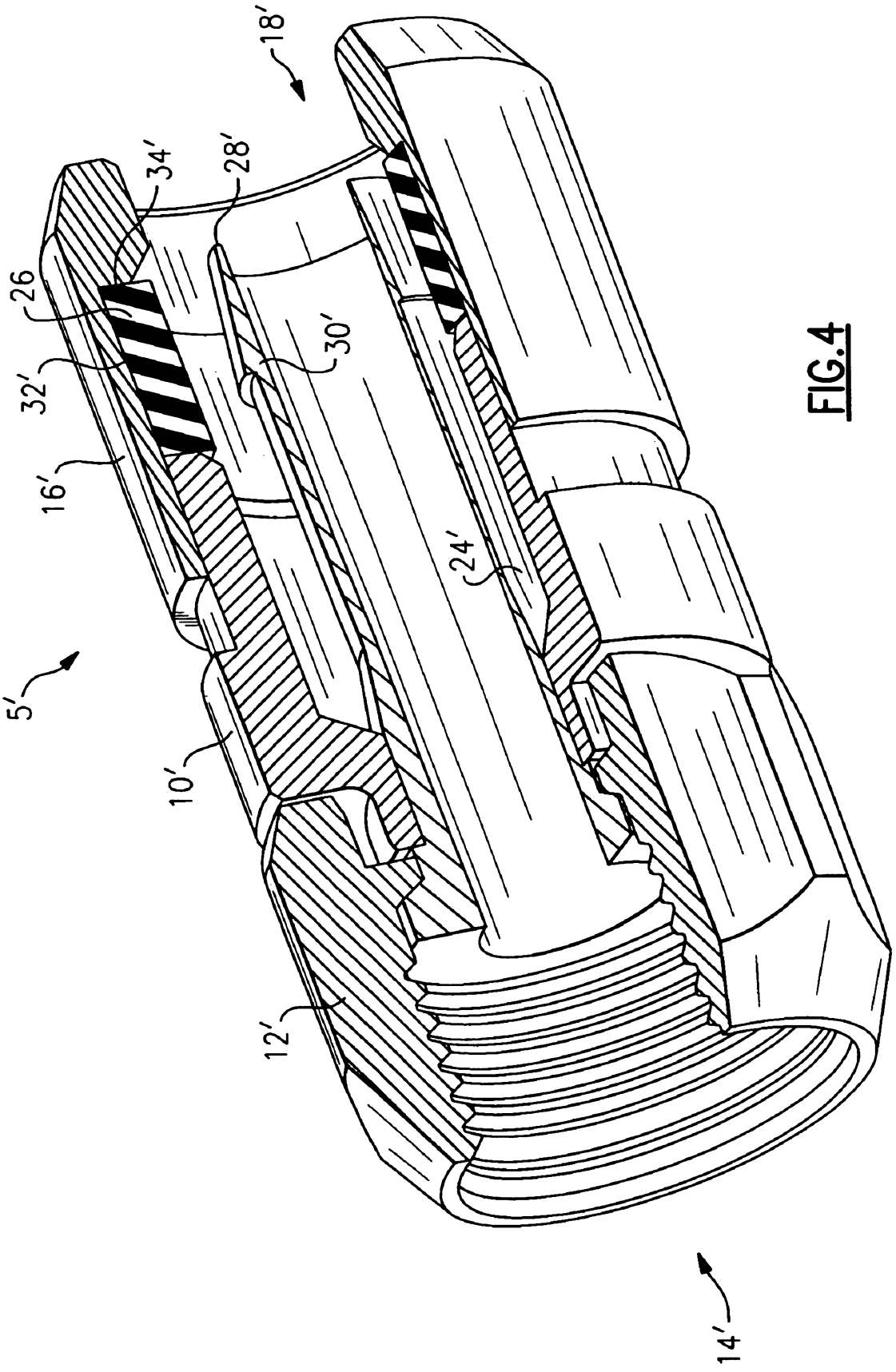

FIG.4

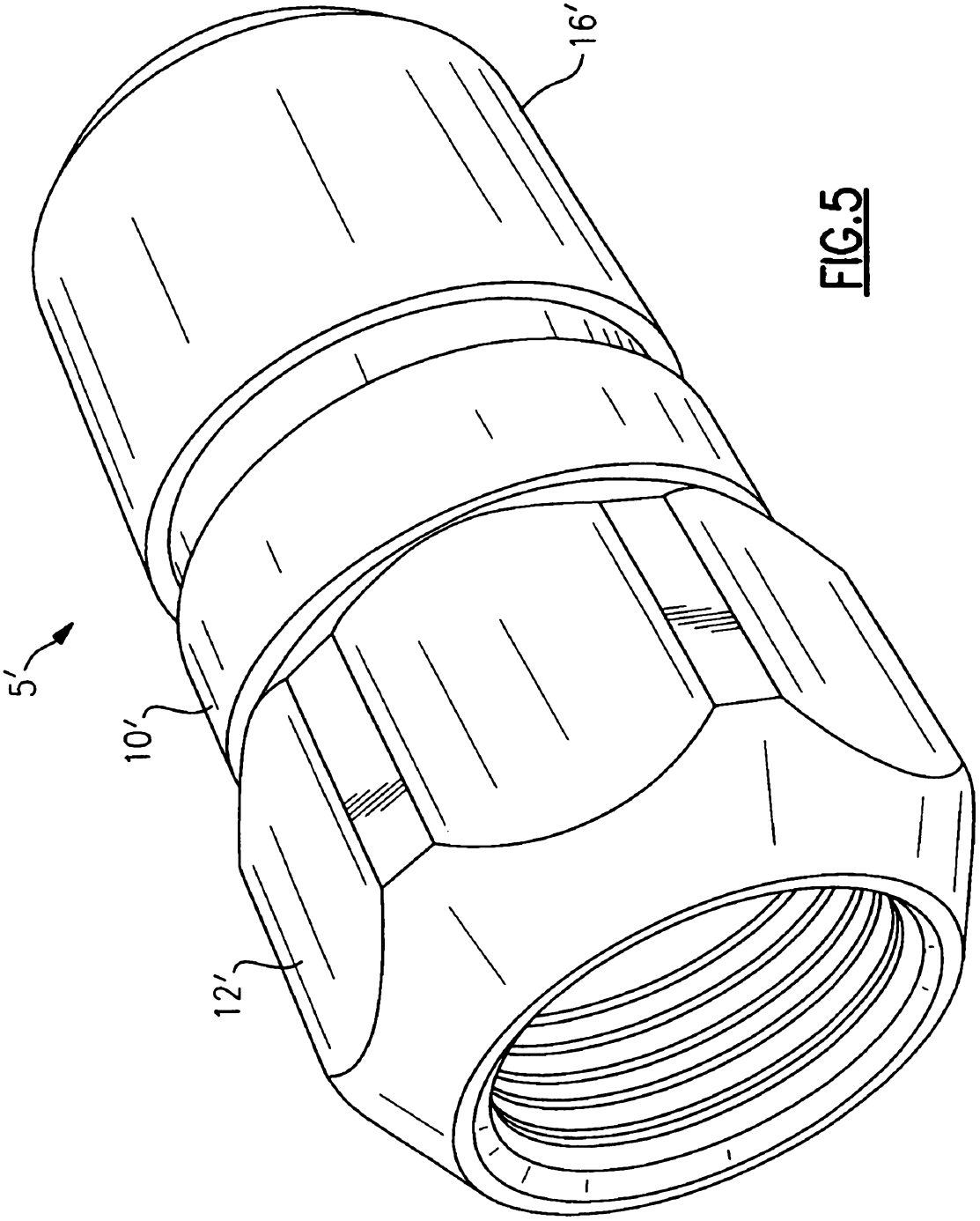

FIG.5

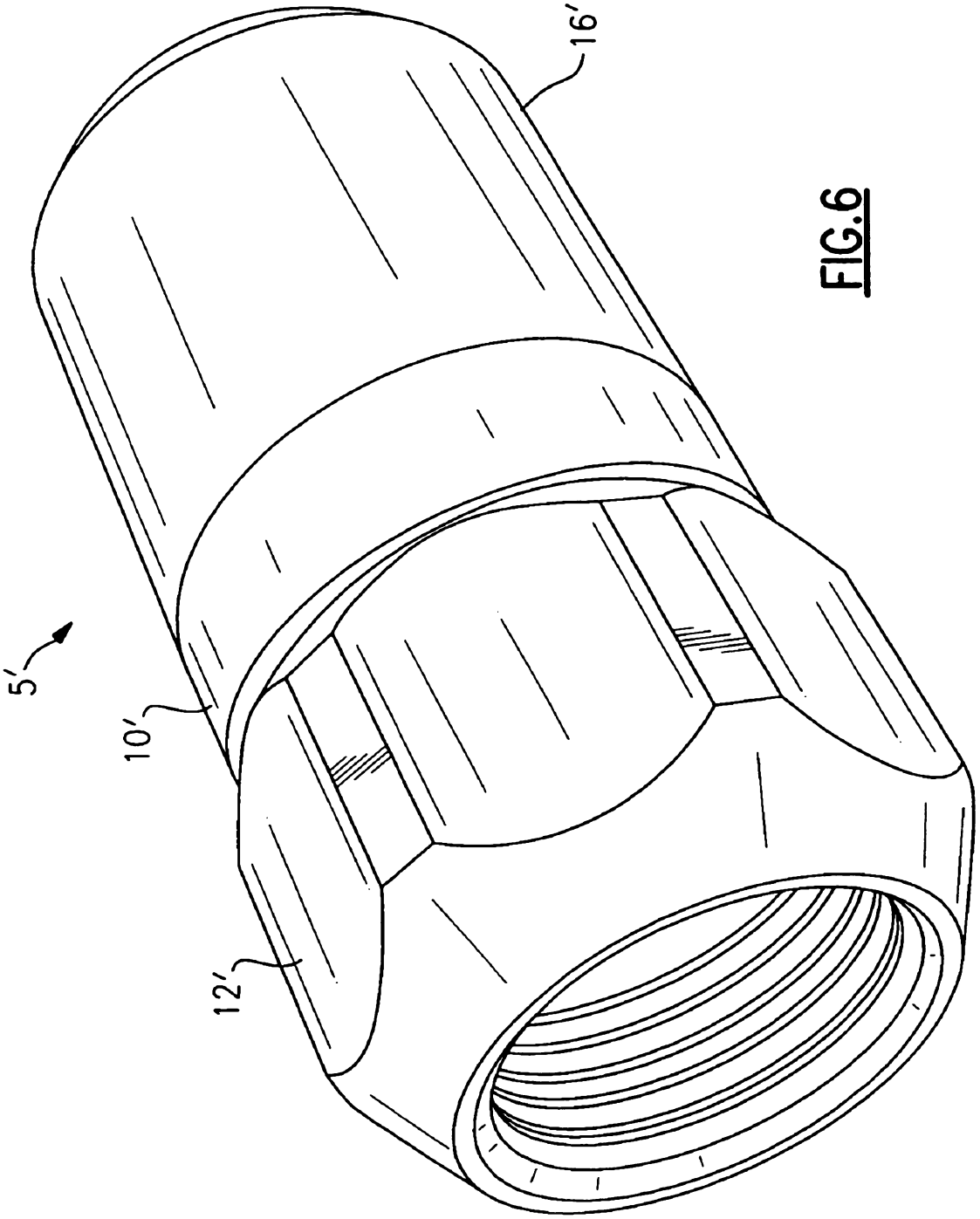

FIG.6

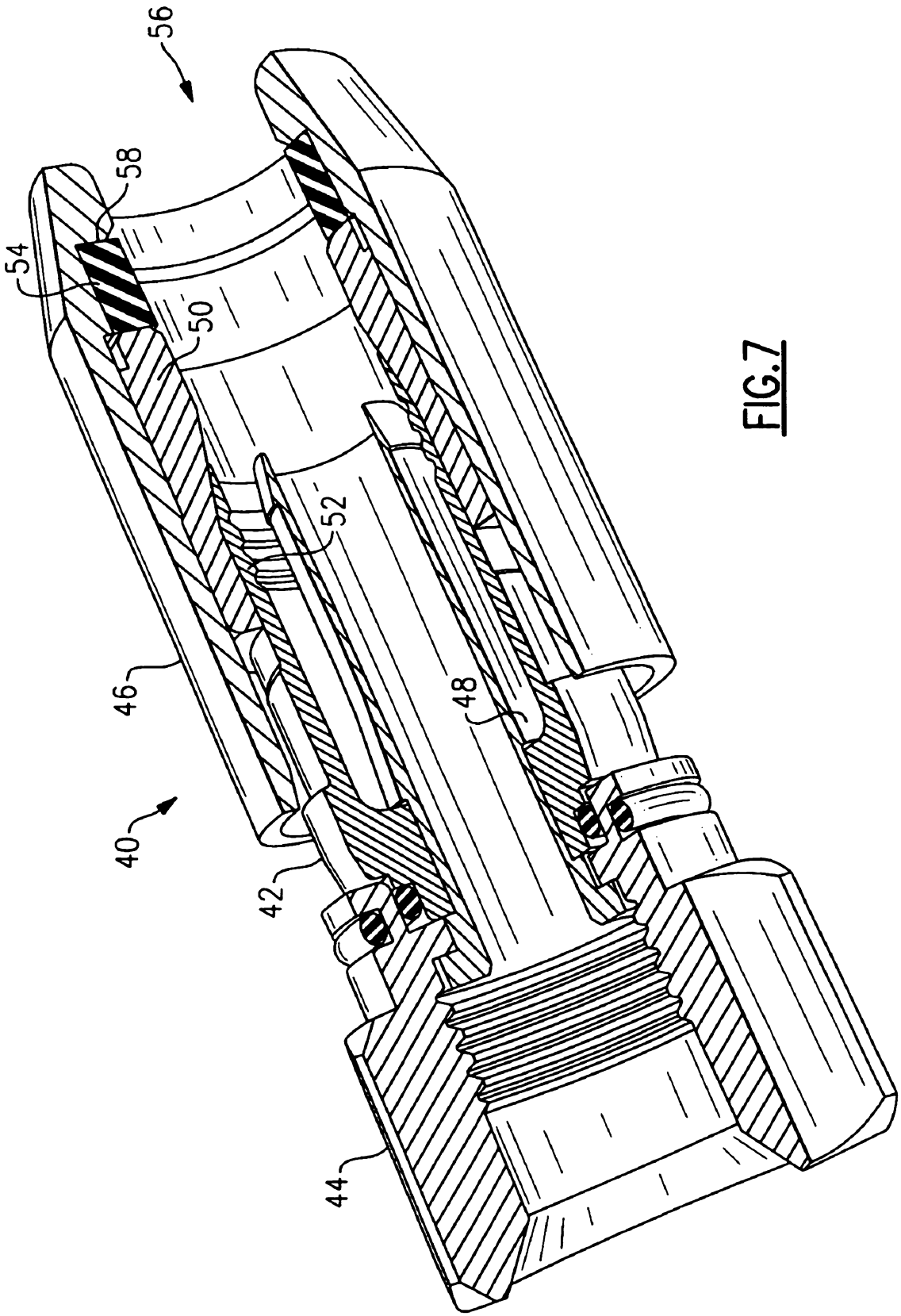

FIG.7

CABLE CONNECTOR WITH ELASTOMERIC BAND

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates generally to the field of cable connectors for CATV systems, and more particularly to a cable connector with an elastomeric band which seals the cable connector to a cable.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

A problem with cable connections exposed to the weather is that the connections are susceptible to moisture entering the connection whenever the cable connector is improperly or inadequately connected to the cable. Many attempts have been made to ensure that cable connections are sealed against moisture etc. from the environment. Many of the attempts require using a connector body made of two or more components in order to contain an adequate seal, thus increasing the complexity of the cable connector.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Briefly stated, a connector for a coaxial cable includes a connector body and a fastening member for connecting said connector to an object such as an equipment port. A post is fitted at least partially inside the connector body for receiving a prepared end of the cable. A compression member is fitted to a back of the connector body. An elastomeric band is fitted inside a cavity formed at least in part by the compression member. Axial movement of the compression member onto said connector body causes the elastomeric band to seal an outer layer of the cable to the connector to isolate the inside of the connector from environmental influences.

According to an embodiment of the invention, a connector for a coaxial cable includes a connector body; a fastening member for connecting the connector to an object; a post fitted at least partially inside the connector body for receiving a prepared end of the cable; a compression member fitted to the connector body; and an elastomeric band fitted inside a cavity formed at least in part by the compression member; wherein axial movement of the compression member onto the connector body causes the elastomeric band to deform and seal an outer layer of the cable to the connector to isolate an inside of the connector from environmental influences.

According to an embodiment of the invention, a connector for a coaxial cable includes a connector body; first connection means for connecting the connector to an object; and second connection means for connecting a prepared end of the cable to the connector; wherein the second connection means includes an elastomeric band for sealing an outer layer of the cable to the connector to isolate an inside of the connector from environmental influences.

According to an embodiment of the invention, a method of constructing a connector for a coaxial cable includes the steps of providing a connector body; providing a fastening member for fastening the connector body to an object; providing a compression member; fitting an elastomeric band into a cavity formed at least in part by the compression member; inserting a prepared end of the cable through the compression member and the elastomeric band; and fitting the prepared cable end and the compression member to the connector body, wherein axial movement of the compression member onto the connector body causes the elastomeric band to deform and seal an outer layer of the cable to the connector to isolate an inside of the connector from environmental influences.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. **1** shows a partial cutaway perspective view of a connector according to an embodiment of the invention.

FIG. **2** shows a perspective view of an embodiment of the invention, prior to installation, where the connector components are of plastic.

FIG. **3** shows a perspective view of an embodiment of the invention, after installation, where the connector components are of plastic.

FIG. **4** shows a partial cutaway perspective view of an embodiment of the invention where the connector components are of metal.

FIG. **5** shows a perspective view of an embodiment of the invention, prior to installation, where the connector components are of metal.

FIG. **6** shows a perspective view of an embodiment of the invention, after installation, where the connector components are of metal.

FIG. **7** shows a partial cutaway perspective view of an embodiment of the invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Referring to FIG. **1**, a connector **5** includes a connector body **10** with a nut **12** on a front end **14** of body **10**. Nut **12** is shown in this embodiment as a nut for connecting connector **5** to an F-port, but the type of connection is not an essential part of the present invention. A compression nut **16** is connected to body **10** at a back end **18** of body **10** via a plurality of threads **20** on compression nut **16** engaging a plurality of threads **22** on body **10**. A post **24** is contained within connector **5**. An elastomeric band **26** is disposed within a cavity **32** formed in part by a shoulder **34** of compression nut **16**. "Band" is used in the sense of a flat strip, i.e., the width is greater than the thickness. (The "length" would be the circumference of the band, with the width being in the radial direction.) An O-ring is not considered a band and would not work as a replacement for the band of the present invention. Connector **5** is intended to be used with a conventional coaxial cable (not shown) which consists of an inner or center conductor surrounded by a dielectric material which in turn is surrounded by a braided ground return sheath. A cable jacket then surrounds the sheath. As a coaxial cable end (not shown) is inserted into back end **18** of connector **5**, an end **28** of post **24** fits between the sheath and the dielectric, so that the dielectric and center conductor fit inside post **24**, with the sheath and cable jacket between post **24** and connector body **10**. In this embodiment, post **24** is of metal with connector body **10**, nut **12**, and compression nut **16** being of plastic. The electrical ground path thus goes from the cable sheath to post **24** to a ground portion (not shown) of the terminal that connector **5** is screwed into. Post **24** can also be of plastic when not needed to conduct an electrical path.

Post **24** preferably includes a barbed portion **30**, and as compression nut **16** is tightened onto body **10**, elastomeric band **26** is forced to deform around the cable jacket, resulting in decreased length and increased thickness. In it's "open" position, i.e., when compression nut **16** is not tightened onto body **10**, band **26** has enough clearance to allow the cable to pass through easily. By tightening com-

pression nut **16** onto body **10**, which applies a compressive force to elastomeric band **26**. band **26** is squeezed inward onto the cable, thus creating a weather seal, as well as providing a great deal of normal force between elastomeric band **26** and the cable sheathing, thus providing retention force to the cable/connector combination. In addition to the tractive forces created by surface friction, the coaction of barbed portion **30** under the cable sheathing along with the inward pressure of elastomeric band **26** cause the cable sheath to conform closely to the profile of barbed portion **30**, thus creating a mechanical interlock.

This type of connector easily accommodates a broad range of cable diameters within a given cable family because of the flowable nature of elastomeric band **26** which conforms to the surface irregularities of the cable. Elastomers are also "sticky" which enables elastomeric band **26** to create a better seal than otherwise. Types of connectors with which elastomeric band **26** can be used include tool-compressed, standard compression styles, hand tightened styles, etc. In addition, elastomeric band **26** could be added to an existing connector design as a redundant means of sealing.

Because the sealing and gripping are done by a small, contained element of the connector, the exterior of the connector can be made of whatever material suits a particular application. For instance, for outdoor applications the exterior of the connector can be entirely of brass for increased customer appeal, while a hand-tightened all plastic version with only a metal post **24** could easily be injection molded for the indoor consumer market. Outdoor versions of connector **5** can include a brass nut **12**, a brass or stainless steel post **24**, a brass or die-cast zinc body **10**, and a brass or stainless steel compression nut **16**.

FIG. **2** shows a plastic version of the embodiment of FIG. **1** prior to installation, while FIG. **3** shows the embodiment of FIG. **2** after the embodiment has been installed on a cable (not shown). In the plastic version, all parts are preferably plastic except for post **24**. A pair of reveals **13** permit easy thumb and finger access to a knurled portion **15** of plastic nut **12**.

Referring to FIG. **4**, another embodiment of the present invention is shown. A connector **5'** includes a connector body **10'** with a nut **12'** on a front end **14'** of body **10'**. Nut **12'** is shown in this embodiment as a nut for connecting connector **5'** to an F-port, but the type of connection is not an essential part of the present invention. A compression fitting **16'** is connected to body **10'** at a back end **18'** of body **10'** via a sleeve **21** on compression fitting **16'** engaging a portion **23** of body **10'**. A post **24'** is contained within connector **5'**. An elastomeric band **26** is disposed within a cavity **32'** formed in part by a shoulder **34'** of compression fitting **16'**. As the coaxial cable end (not shown) is inserted into back end **18'** of connector **5'**, an end **28'** of post **24'** fits between the cable sheath and the cable dielectric, so that the dielectric and center conductor fit inside post **24'**, with the sheath and cable jacket between post **24'** and connector body **10'**.

Post **24'** preferably includes a barbed portion **30'**, and as compression fitting **16'** is pushed onto body **10'**, elastomeric band **26** is forced to deform around the cable jacket, resulting in decreased length and increased thickness. In it's "open" position, i.e., when compression fitting **16'** is not tightened onto body **10'**, band **26** has enough clearance to allow the cable to pass through easily. By axial compression, band **26** is squeezed inward onto the cable, thus creating a weather seal, as well as providing a great deal of normal force between elastomeric band **26** and the cable sheathing, thus providing retention force to the cable/connector combination. In addition to the tractive forces created by surface friction, the coaction of barbed portion **30'** under the cable sheathing along with the inward pressure of elastomeric band **26** cause the cable sheath to conform closely to the profile of barbed portion **30'**, thus creating a mechanical interlock.

FIG. **5** shows an external view of a metal version of FIG. **4** prior to installation, while FIG. **6** shows the embodiment of FIG. **5** after the embodiment has been installed on a cable (not shown). The metal version, intended primarily for outdoor use, can have a brass nut **12'**, a brass or stainless steel post **24'**, a brass or diecast zinc body **10'**, and a brass or stainless steel compression fitting **16'**.

Referring to FIG. **7**, an embodiment is shown in which the elastomeric band of the present invention is used in addition to the seal already present in a cable connector. A cable connector **40** includes a connector body **42** to which a nut **44** is connected. Nut **44** attaches cable connector **40** to a piece of equipment or another connector. A post **48**, extending inside body **42**, is connected to both nut **44** and body **42**. A driving member **50** overlaps a sealing portion **52** of body **42**. A compression member **46** fits over both driving member **50** and a part of body **42**. In normal operation, a prepared cable end (not shown) is inserted into connector **40** through a back end **56**. When compression member is forced axially towards a front end of connector **40**, driving member **50** forces sealing portion **52** radially against the cable, thus providing a seal against the outside environment. In this embodiment, an elastomeric band **54** fitted into a cavity **58** formed within compression member **46** and an end of driving member **50** provides extra sealing against the cable by axial compression. When band **54** is squeezed inward onto the cable, it creates a weather seal, as well as a great deal of normal force between elastomeric band **54** and the cable sheathing, thus providing retention force to the cable/connector combination.

Examples of elastomers include any thermoplastic elastomer (TPE), silicone rubber, or urethane. The key properties are resilience, resistance to creep, resistance to compression set, and the creation of a good grip with the cable jacket. The length of band **26**, i.e., in the axial direction of connector **5**, can be equal to the length of the cavity in which it is seated. The important consideration is that any pre-compression done to band **26** must not affect insertion of the cable end, i.e., the thickness of elastomeric ring **26** cannot become so large during pre-compression as to impede insertion of the cable end.

While the present invention has been described with reference to a particular preferred embodiment and the accompanying drawings, it will be understood by those skilled in the art that the invention is not limited to the preferred embodiment and that various modifications and the like could be made thereto without departing from the scope of the invention as defined in the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A connector for a coaxial cable, comprising:

a connector body;

a fastening member for connecting said connector to an object;

a post including a barbed portion, said post fitted at least partially inside said connector body for receiving a prepared end of said cable;

a compression member fitted to said connector body radially outward of the barbed portion of the post; and

an elastomeric band fitted inside a cavity formed at least in part by said compression member;

wherein axial movement of said compression member onto said connector body causes said elastomeric band to deform and seal an outer layer of said cable to said connector to isolate an inside of said connector from environmental influences.

2. A connector according to claim **1**, wherein said connector body, said compression member, and said fastening member are of plastic, and said post is of an electrically conductive material.

3. A connector according to claim **1**, wherein said connector body, said compression member, said fastening member, and said post are all of metal.

4. A connector for a coaxial cable, comprising: a connector body;

first connection means for connecting said connector to an object; and

second connection means for connecting a prepared end of said cable to said connector;

wherein said second connection means includes a post having a barbed portion, an elastomeric band radially outward of said barbed portion, said band forming a seal against an outer layer of said cable.

5. A connector according to claim **4**, wherein said second connection means includes means for axially moving a compression member onto said connector body, and said elastomeric band is fitted inside a cavity formed at least in part by said compression member.

6. A connector according to claim **4**, wherein said connector body, said first connection means, and said second connection means are of plastic, and said receiving means is of an electrically conductive material.

7. A connector according to claim **4**, wherein said connector body, said first connection means, said second connection means, and said receiving means are all of metal.

8. A method of constructing a connector for a coaxial cable, comprising the steps of:

providing a connector body;

fitting a metal post having a barbed portion at least partially inside said connector body,

providing a fastening member for fastening said connector body to an object;

providing a compression member;

fitting an elastomeric band into a cavity formed at least in part by said compression member;

inserting a prepared end of said cable through said compression member and said elastomeric band; and

fitting said prepared cable end and said compression member to said connector body, wherein axial movement of said compression member onto said connector body causes said elastomeric band to deform and seal against an outer layer of said cable radially outward of the barbed portion of the post.

9. A method according to claim **8**, wherein said connector body, said fastening member and said compression member are of plastic.

10. A method according to claim **8**, wherein said connector body, said fastening member and said compression member are of metal.

11. A method according to claim **8**, wherein said step of fitting said prepared cable end and said compression member to said connector body includes the step of fitting a ground sheath of said cable between said connector body and a metal post, and fitting a center conductor an dielectric portion of said cable inside said metal post.

12. A coaxial cable connector, comprising:

a connector body having a first end and a second end, said second end including external threads;

a post having a first end, a second end and a barbed portion, said post fitting at least partially within said connector body and said second end of the post adapted for insertion into an end of a coaxial cable;

a fastening member operatively attached to one of said first end of said body or said first end of said post;

a compression member having internal threads complementary to said external threads on the second end of the body; and

an elastomeric band fitted inside a cavity formed at least in part by said compression member and said body;

wherein axial advancement of said compression member onto said connector body causes said elastomeric band to deform and seal against an outer layer of said cable radially outward of the barbed portion of the post.

13. The connector of claim **12** wherein said first end of the body partially covers a portion of said fastener member.

14. The connector of claim **13** wherein the first end of the body at least partially covering said fastener member is adapted to facilitate manual rotation of the body member independently of the rotation of said compression member.

15. The connector of claim **13** wherein the first end of the body defines a plurality of reveals permitting manual manipulation of the fastener member.

16. The connector of claim **12** wherein the nut has a textured surface to facilitate gripping and turning said nut.

17. The connector of claim **12** wherein the compression member further includes a non-cylindrical external surface adapted to facilitate manual rotation of said compression member about said body.

18. The connector of claim **17** wherein the non-cylindrical external surface of the compression member is elliptical in cross-section.

19. The connector of claim **12** wherein the compression member has an internal shoulder.

20. The connector of claim **19** wherein the internal shoulder of the compression member forms part of the cavity for receiving the elastomeric band.

21. The connector of claim **12** wherein said connector body, said compression member, and said fastener member are comprised of plastic, and said post is comprised of an electrically conductive material.

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