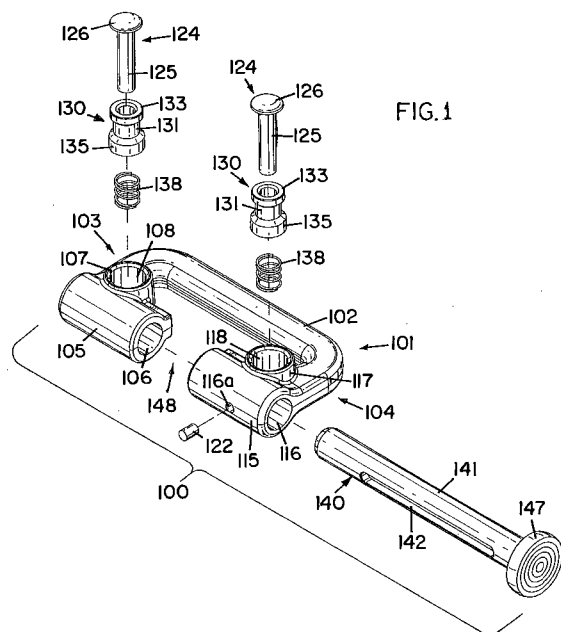




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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: CONNECTOR



(57) Abstract: A connector comprises a base, a gate, and a locking mechanism. The base forms an opening. The gate is slidably operatively connected to the base and spans the opening. The locking member has an engaging position and a releasing position. The engaging position secures the gate to the base, and the releasing position allows the gate to be moved relative to the base.



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**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

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