CLAIMS

~~What is claimed is:~~

1. An apparatus to be introduced into a conduit comprising a cable having a length, sleeve means to assist the introduction of the cable into the conduit and to protect the cable from friction when the cable is being introduced into the conduit, said sleeve means extending longitudinally along said length and having opposed lateral edges, a first connector extending laterally outwardly at one edge of said sleeve means, and a second connector, complementary to the first connector, extending laterally outwardly at the opposed edge of said sleeve means, wherein said sleeve means is positioned around said cable for said length as said second connector engages said first connector to secure said sleeve means around said cable, wherein said first connector has a longitudinally extending loop portion and said second connector has a longitudinally extending hook portion, wherein said loop portion and said hook portion are on the same side of said sleeve means, and wherein when said sleeve means is attached to said cable, said loop portion and said hook portion form a longitudinally extending tab extending radially outwardly from said cable.

2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said first connector is a longitudinally extending hook and said second connector receives said hook.

3. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein said second connector includes a longitudinally extending engagement portion and a longitudinally extending opening, said hook being received through said opening and engaging said engagement portion.

4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said first connector is generally in the form of a longitudinally extending ball and said second connector is

generally in the form of a longitudinally extending socket, said ball being received in said socket.

~~5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said connectors are in the form of a VELCRO® like attachment, said first connector having a longitudinally extending loop portion and said second connector having a longitudinally extending hook portion.~~

~~6. The apparatus of claim 5 wherein said loop portion and said hook portion are on the same side of said sleeve.~~

~~7. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein when said sleeve is attached to said cable, said loop portion and said hook portion form a longitudinally extending tab extending radically outwardly from said cable.~~

5~~8~~. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said first connector includes a plurality of zipper teeth extending longitudinally along said one edge, and said second connector includes a plurality of zipper teeth extending longitudinally along the opposed ~~said other~~ edge, one of said first and second connectors including a zipper pull so that the zipper teeth of said first connector may mesh with the zipper teeth of said second connector.

6~~9~~. An apparatus to be introduced into a conduit comprising a cable having a length, a sleeve extending longitudinally along substantially all of said length and having opposed lateral edges, a first connector extending laterally outwardly from one edge of said sleeve, and having a longitudinally extending loop portion, and a second connector, complementary to the first connector, extending laterally outwardly from the opposed edge of said sleeve and having a longitudinally extending hook portion, wherein said loop portion and said hook portion are on the same side of said sleeve, and wherein said sleeve is positioned around said cable for substantially all of

said length as said second connector engages said first connector to form a longitudinally extending tab extending radially outwardly from said cable and secure said sleeve around said cable.

7~~10~~. An apparatus to be introduced into a conduit comprising a cable having a length, a sleeve extending longitudinally along said length and having opposed lateral edges, a first connector in the form of a longitudinally extending hook, extending laterally outwardly from one edge of said sleeve and a second connector, complementary to the first connector, extending laterally outwardly from the opposed edge of said sleeve, and receiving said hook wherein said sleeve is positioned around said cable for said length as said second connector engages said first connector to form a longitudinally extending tab extending radially outwardly from said cable and secure said sleeve around said cable.