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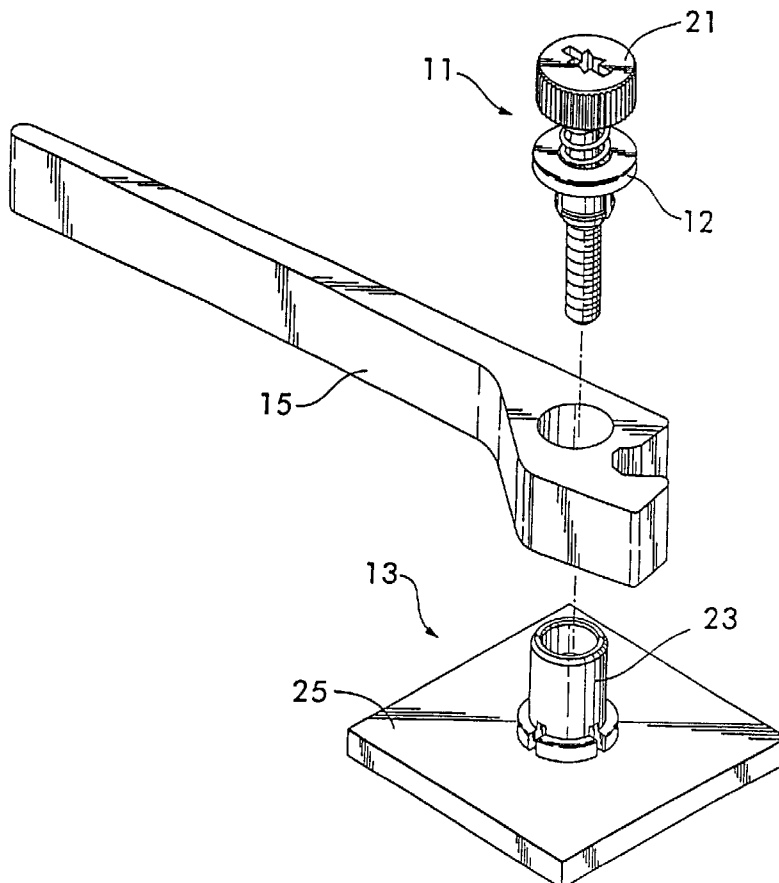
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(54) Title: TWO-PART SNAP-TOGETHER PANEL FASTENER



(57) Abstract: A two-part, snap-together captive panel fastener includes a ferrule portion and a screw sub-assembly which are attachable by snap fit. A locking mechanism prevents the unintended separation of the two components. The two-part structure of the present invention permits the ferrule which is preferably composed of a very hard and durable metal to be first wave-soldered to a printed circuit board with other elements of the board. Later, the screw sub-assembly can be snapped into the circuit board-mounted ferrule away for the harsh wave-soldering environment. The ferrule and screw retainer may further include cooperating outer flanges which captivate a pivoting structure such as a lever so that the panel fastener may not only be used to secure the attached panel to a sub-structure but may also affix other hardware to the panel.



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