CLAIMS

What is claimed:

~~1. A. connector for a flexible conduit and a second conduit having a barbed outer surface, said connector having means for securing the second conduit within the connector by exerting a force on a bottom surface of the barbed outer surface and having means for exerting a compressive force on an outer surface of said flexible conduit.~~

~~2. A connector for a flexible conduit and a second conduit having a barbed outer surface, said connector having means for securing the conduit and the second conduit within the connector by exerting a force on a bottom surface of the barbed outer surface and having means for exerting a compressive force on an inner surface of said flexible conduit.~~

~~3. The connector of Claim 1 which includes means for exerting a compressive force on an inner surface of said flexible conduits.~~

~~4. A connector for a flexible conduit and a second conduit having a barbed outer surface which comprises an annular housing section having an outer peripheral wall with an inner surface, a plurality of fingers on said inner surface, at least one tab positioned at an inner wall portion of said annular housing section, and an opening positioned within said at least one tab.~~

~~5. A connector system for transporting fluid between a flexible conduit and a second conduit having a barbed outer surface which comprises, a flexible conduit, the second conduit having a barbed outer surface and a connector for said flexible conduit and said second conduit having a barbed outer surface, said connector having means for securing the second conduit within the connector by exerting a force on a bottom surface of the barbed outer surface and having means for exerting a compressive force on an outer surface of said flexible conduit.~~

~~6. The connector system of Claim 5 which includes means for exerting a compressive force on an inner surface of said flexible conduit.~~

~~7. A connector system for transporting fluid between a flexible conduit and a second conduit having a barbed outer surface which comprises, a flexible conduit, a second conduit having a barbed outer surface and a connector for said~~

~~flexible conduit, said connector having means for securing the second conduit within the connector by exerting a force on a bottom surface of the barbed outer surface and having means for exerting a compressive force on an inner surface of said flexible conduit.~~

~~8~~1. A connector system for transporting fluid between a flexible conduit and a second conduit having a barbed outer surface which comprises, a flexible conduit, a second conduit having a barbed outer surface and a connector for said flexible conduit and said second conduit having a barbed outer surface which connector comprises an annular housing section having an outer peripheral surface with an inner surface, a plurality of fingers on said inner surface, at least one tab positioned at an inner wall portion of said annular housing section, and an opening positioned within said at least one tab, wherein the flexible conduit has a hollow inner pathway therethrough, the second conduit having a barbed outer surface with a step part and a bottom part, a flange portion adjacent the barbed outer surface and an opening between the flange and the farthermost portion of the barb, the second conduit barb portion being inserted within the inner hollow pathway of the flexible conduit, the connector for said flexible conduit and second conduit, the connector having a central annular opening through which the flexible conduit and barbed portion of the second conduit can be inserted, the at least one flexible tab is positioned inside of and adjacent to the central annular opening and capable of interacting with the step part and bottom part of the barbed section, and the plurality of fingers are arranged outside of and adjacent to the one or more tabs to interact with the flexible conduit.

~~9. A connector system for transporting fluid between a flexible conduit and a second conduit which comprises a flexible conduit having a hollow inner pathway therethrough, a second conduit having a barbed outer surface with a step part and a bottom part, a flange portion adjacent the barbed outer surface and an opening between the flange and the farthermost portion of the barb, the second conduit barb portion being inserted within the inner hollow pathway of the flexible conduit, a connector for said flexible conduit and second conduit, the connector having a central annular opening through which the flexible conduit~~

~~and barbed portion of the second conduit can be inserted, one or more flexible tabs outside of and adjacent to the central annular opening and capable of interacting with the step part and bottom part of the barbed section, and one or more fingers arranged outside of and adjacent to the one or more tabs to interact with the flexible conduit.~~

~~10~~2. The connector system of Claim ~~9~~1 wherein ~~one or more~~ the plurality of the fingers are capable of interacting with an outer surfaced of the flexible conduit.

~~11~~3. The connector system of Claim ~~9~~1 wherein the fingers extend from an outer surface of the at least one ~~or ore~~ tabs and the ~~one or more~~ plurality of fingers are capable of interacting with an inner surface of the flexible conduit.

4. The connector system of Claim 1 further comprising a ring that is attachable to said annular housing section.

5. The connector system of Claim 1 further comprising plate sections attached to said housing section by hinges.

6. The connector system of Claim 1 wherein said connector includes a detachable ring capable of exerting a compressive force on an outer surface of said flexible conduit.

7. The connector system of Claim 1 wherein said connector includes a hinged plate section capable of exerting a compressive force on an outer surface of said flexible conduit.

8. The connector system of Claim 1 further comprising the connector has a wireless enabled communication and memory device.

9. The connector system of Claim 1 further comprising the connector has a wireless enabled communication and memory device and wherein the device is selected from the group consisting of RFID tags, Bluetooth device and Zigbee devices.

10. The connector system of Claim 1 further comprising the connector has a wireless enabled communication and memory device attached to it by a means selected from the group consisting of mechanical, adhesive and thermal bonding means.

11. The connector system of Claim 1 further comprising the connector has a wireless enabled communication and memory device molded onto or into one of its surfaces.

12. The connector system of Claim 1 further comprising the connector has a wireless enabled communication and memory device that has read/write capability.

13. The connector system of Claim 1 further comprising the connector has a wireless enabled communication and memory device that has read/write capability and tracks one or more event that occur to the connector and/or a component to which it is connected.

~~12~~14. A process of securing a flexible conduit to a second conduit using the connector system of any of claims 1-3 comprising the steps of supplying ~~a~~ the flexible conduit having an outer wall and an inner pathway therethrough, ~~a~~ the second conduit having a flange portion and an outer barbed portion extending away from at least one side of the flange portion, the barbed portion having a step part and a bottom part, the second conduit having a first opening in the flange portion and a second opening in the barbed portion with a bore between the first and second openings, supplying a connector formed of a central opening having an inner diameter that is greater to or equal to the outer diameter of the flexible conduit, one or more flexible tabs, and one or more fingers arranged outside the one or more tabs, inserting the barbed portion of the second conduit into the inner pathway of the flexible conduit so as to cause the one or more tabs to interact with the barbed portion of the second conduit and the one or more fingers to interact with a surface of the flexible conduit to produce a strong seal between the second conduit, the connector and the flexible conduit.

~~13. The connector of Claim 1 wherein said means for exerting a compressive force on an outer surface of said flexible conduit includes a detachable ring.~~

~~14. The connector of Claim 1 wherein said means for exerting a compressive force on an outer surface of said flexible conduit includes hinged plate sections.~~

~~15. A connector for a flexible conduit and a second conduit having a barbed outer surface which comprises an annular housing section having an outer peripheral surface with an inner surface, a plurality of fingers on said inner surface, at least one tab positioned at an inner wall portion of said annular housing section, an opening positioned within said at least one tab and a ring that is attachable to said annular housing section.~~

~~16. A connector for a flexible conduit and a second conduit having, a barbed outer surface which comprises an annular housing section having an outer peripheral surface with an inner surface, a plurality of fingers on said inner surface, at least one tab positioned at an inner wall portion of said annular housing section, an opening positioned within said at least one tab and plate sections attached to said housing section by hinges.~~

~~17. The connector system of Claim 5 wherein said means for exerting compressive force on an outer surface of said flexible conduit includes a detachable ring.~~

~~18. The connector system of Claim 5 wherein said means for exerting compressive force on an outer surface of said flexible conduit includes a hinged plate section.~~

~~19. The connector system of Claim 7 wherein said connector includes a detachable ring capable of exerting a compressive force on an outer surface of said flexible conduit.~~

~~20. The connector system of Claim 7 wherein said connector includes a hinged plate section capable of exerting a compressive force on an outer surface of said flexible conduit.~~

~~21. The process of Claim 12 wherein said connector includes a detachable ring capable of exerting a compressive force on an outer surface of said flexible conduit.~~

~~22. The process of Claim 12 wherein said connector includes a hinged plate section capable of exerting a compressive force on an outer surface of said flexible conduit.~~

~~23. The connector system of Claim 8 wherein said connector includes~~

~~a detachable ring capable of exerting a compressive force on an outer surface of said flexible conduit,~~

~~24. The connector system of Claim 9 wherein said connector includes a detachable ring capable of exerting a compressive force on an outer surface of said flexible conduit.~~

~~25. The connector system of Claim 10 wherein said connector includes a detachable ring capable of exerting a compressive force on an outer surface of said flexible conduit.~~

~~26. The connector system of Claim I 1 wherein said connector includes a detachable ring capable of exerting a compressive force on an outer surface of said flexible conduit.~~

~~27. The connector system of Claim 8 wherein said connector includes a hinged plate section capable of exerting a compressive force on an outer surface of said flexible conduit.~~

~~28. The connector system of Claim 9 wherein said connector includes a hinged plate section capable of exerting a compressive force on an outer surface of said flexible conduit.~~

~~29. The connector of claim 1 further comprising the connector has a wireless enabled communication and memory device.~~

~~30. The connector of claim 1 further comprising the connector has a wireless enabled communication and memory device and wherein the device is selected from the group consisting of RFID tags, Bluetooth devices and Zigbee devices.~~

~~31. The connector of chin. I further comprising the connector has a wireless enabled communication and memory device attached to it by a means selected from the group consisting of mechanical, adhesive and thermal bonding means.~~

~~32. The connector of claim I further comprising the connector has a wireless enabled communication and memory device molded onto or into one of its surfaces.~~

~~33. The connector of claim I further comprising the connector has a wireless enabled communication and memory device that has read/write~~

~~capability.~~

~~34. The connector of claim 1 further comprising the connector has a wireless enabled communication and memory device that has read/write capability and tracks one or more event that occur to the connector and/or a component to which it is connected.~~