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- (71) **Applicant:** **AAI CORPORATION** [US/US]; 124 Industry Lane, Hunt Valley, Maryland 21030 (US).
- (72) **Inventors:** **USKERT, Richard C.**; 15708 Carroll Road, Monkton, Maryland 21111 (US). **LEASE, Keith A.**; 560 Barts Church Road, Hanover, Pennsylvania 17331 (US).
- (74) **Agent:** **HUANG, David E.**; Bainwood, Huang & Associates, LLC, 2 Connector Road, Westborough, Massachusetts 01581 (US).

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(54) **Title:** APPARATUS AND METHOD OF ATTACHMENT OF A PAYLOAD

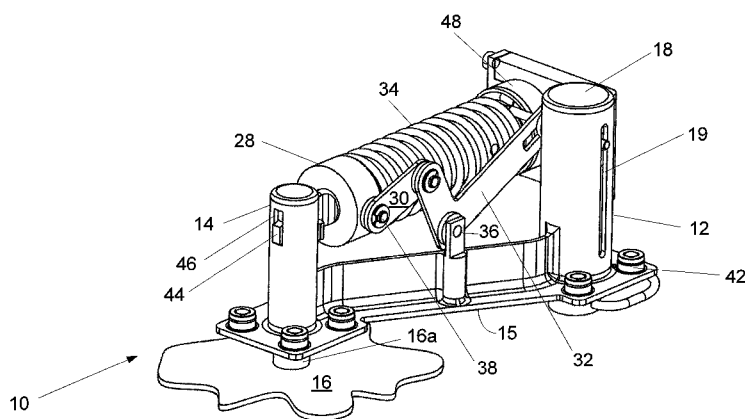


FIGURE 1

(57) **Abstract:** An apparatus and a method for the removable retention of a store/ payload to a vehicle comprising: a housing (15) having an elongated base, said base having a first and second distal end; a retention receptacle (14) disposed adjacent said first distal end, said retention receptacle configured to removably receive and retain the store/ payload; a release receptacle (18) disposed adjacent said second distal end, said release receptacle configured to house a release mechanism assembly; and said release mechanism assembly configured to move between a closed and locked position and an opened and unlocked position, wherein when the release mechanism assembly is in said closed and locked position the store/payload is retained to the vehicle, and wherein when the release mechanism assembly is in said open and unlocked position the store/payload may be disengaged from the vehicle.

