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ABSTRACT

ELECTRICAL CONNECTOR ASSEMBLY WITH TERMINAL LOCK

An electrical power connector assembly (12,14) includes a dielectric housing (16,54) having at least one terminal receiving passage (18,60) defined by at least a pair of opposite side walls. At least one elongate terminal (20,62) is positionable in the passage and has a front mating section (30,70), an intermediate section (32,72), and a rear terminating section (34,74). The terminal is unitary and the front mating section includes at least one forwardly extending spring contact arm (30a,84a,84b). The cross sectional area along substantially the entire length between the upwardly extending side wall (32b,72b) and the spring arm (30a,84a,84b) is generally uniform. The intermediate section includes a base (32a,72a) and at least one upwardly extending side wall (32b,72b) integral with the spring arm. A locking shoulder (42,76) is formed in an upper edge of the side wall of the intermediate section of the terminal. A complementarily engageable locking surface (52,78) is formed on an adjacent solid wall of the housing passage. The width (E) of the side wall of the terminal at the locking shoulder is at least substantially equal to that of a juncture (F) of the side wall and the spring contact arm which is integral therewith.

