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ABSTRACT

A LEADFRAME CARRIER

A leadframe carrier (10) for transporting leadframes (11, 12) includes lower carrier elements (14), intermediate carrier elements (18, 19) and upper carrier elements (24). The carrier elements (14, 18, 19, 24) include fork arrangements in the form of V-shaped grooves (16, 20, 21, 25) which engage the respective longitudinal edges (17, 22, 23, 26) of the leadframes (11, 12). The carrier elements (14, 18, 19, 24) are arranged in vertically spaced apart linear arrays and the spacing between the linear arrays is closed to engage the carrier grooves (16, 20, 21, 25) with the longitudinal edges (17, 22, 23, 26) to captively retain the leadframes (11, 12) in vertical alignment. At least some of the carrier elements (14, 18, 19, 24) provide electrical connection to one or both of the leadframes (11, 12).

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