

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An anti-electrostatic discharge electrical connector assembly includes a housing, a plurality of terminals supported in the housing, and a grounding system for electrically connecting at least a group of the terminals to ground when the connector is not fully mated to a mating connector. In the preferred embodiment, the grounding system includes a printed circuit board that is in contact with the terminals and has a grounding area thereon, a conductive grounding bar that is biased into contact with the grounding area, and a camming system for moving the grounding bar away from the grounding area when the connector assembly is substantially fully mated with a mating connector or interface. When the assembly is connected to a mating connector or interface, any electrostatic discharges will be passed to ground through the terminals, the grounding area, and the ground bar.

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