

COMBINED WIRE LEAD AND INTERPHASE BARRIER FOR POWER SWITCHES

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 Insulative guide members (45) secured to an end face (21) of switching apparatus (1) between power terminals (17) route electrical leads (29) from attachment devices (25) mounted inside the molded housing (3) of the switch (1) which exit the housing above the power terminals (17) down between the power terminals (17) toward the rear face (41) thereby providing physical separation and electrical isolation between these leads (29) and the power terminals (17) and conductors (23) connected to them. The insulative guide members (45) are secured to the molded housing (3) by a tongue-and-groove connection (51, 53). The insulative guide members (45) also form interface barriers with increased, oversurface distance (61) between adjacent power terminals (17) and conductors (23) which can be further increased by longitudinal ribs (63) on the guide members (45). In another configuration, the guide members (45) can be secured to the confronting end walls (21) of adjacent switching apparatus (1) to provide interface isolation and to route leads (29) from auxiliary switches (25) from adjacent a front face (15) of the switches (1) toward a rear face (41).

10 (Fig. 1)