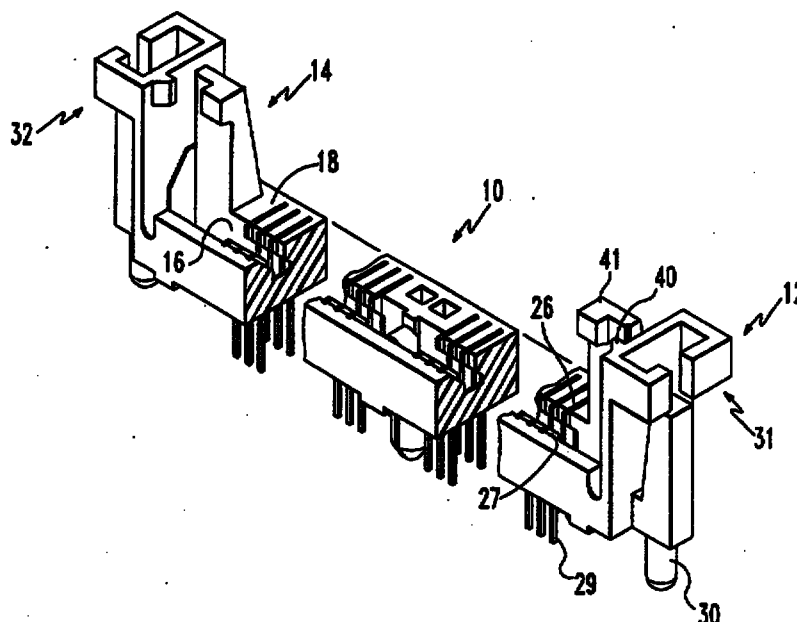


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(54) Title: CARD EDGE CONNECTOR APPARATUS**(57) Abstract**

Disclosed is a card edge connector (10) having mirror image latches (31, 32) which are integrally molded into the housing and which have horizontal latch manipulation platform members (42) which extend outwardly from their body section. A stopper member (60) is positioned outwardly from the latches to prevent overstressing when the latches are deflected. The horizontal latch manipulation has a central major slot (56) and a peripheral secondary slot (58) which are vertically aligned respectively with a vertical slot (70) between the latch body and the stopper member and the top surface of the stopper member to allow for relatively easy molding of the latch. A separately molded finger engagement portion (72) may be inserted into the central principal slot which the stopper member is received by the secondary slot when the latch is flexed. The finger engagement portion may advantageously be of a different color from the housing to make it easier to locate.