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ABSTRACT**ELECTRICAL CONNECTOR WITH IMPROVED HOLD-DOWN MECHANISM**

A surface mounted electrical connector assembly (10) includes a dielectric housing (12) having a mounting peg (32) projecting outwardly from one surface of the housing for insertion into a hole (38) in a printed circuit board (22). The mounting peg is split to define a slot (42) extending through a distal end (44) of the peg. A bifurcated metal retainer member (40) having barbs (50) thereon is disposed in the slot and projects transversely outwardly therefrom for biasingly engaging the board. Inwardly projecting ribs or protrusions (60) are provided on the peg, within the slot, with the ribs being engageable with the metal retainer member (40) when the peg is inserted into the hole in the printed circuit board. The ribs (60) are spaced axially from the distal end (44) of the peg to define the compressibility of the peg. By selecting the point at which the ribs are spaced from the distal end of the peg, a method is provided for varying the relative insertion and retention forces between the connector assembly (10) and the printed circuit board (22) and for accommodating different insertion and retention force requirements.

This Sheet Has Been Replaced

