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(54) Title: UNITARY PIECE DUAL LOCK SPLIT WASHER

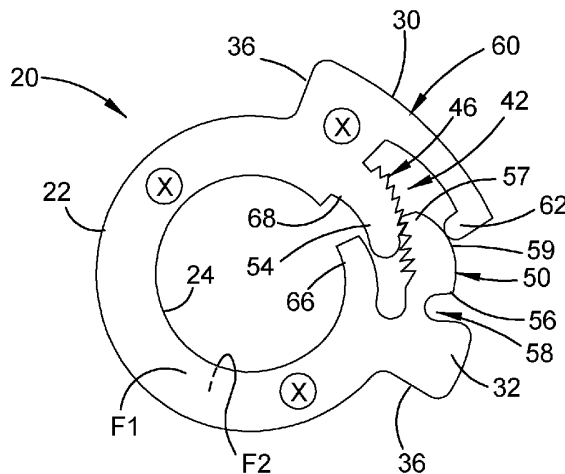


FIGURE 3

(57) Abstract: A washer (20) comprises a single piece body (22) made of a resilient and flexible material. The body (22) has a split (28) extending between an inner circumferential edge (24) and a radially outer peripheral edge (26) to provide the body with first and second ends (30), (32). The end (30) has circumferentially extending and radially spaced fingers (54) and (64). The end (32) has circumferentially extending and radially spaced fingers (56) and (66). A joint structure (40) is integrally formed with the first and second ends. The joint structure has a first locking mechanism (42) and a second locking mechanism (44). The second locking mechanism is only engageable after the first locking mechanism is fully engaged. The first locking mechanism (42) comprises teeth (48) on the finger (54), and teeth (52) on the finger (56). The second locking mechanism (44) comprises a recess (58) carried by the finger (56) and a protrusion (62) carried on the finger (64). When the washer (20) is fully engaged the finger (54) fits into the gap between the fingers (56) and (66) of the second end (32) and finger (56) fits into the gap between the fingers (64) and (54) of the second end (32) with the

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teeth (48) and (52) fully engaged and the protrusion (62) can be pushed into the recess (58).