

ABSTRACT

VARIABLE HEIGHT THERMAL INTERFACE

A variable-height thermal-interface device (110, 120, 200, 300) is provided for transferring heat from a heat source to a heat sink. The device comprises a first uniaxial rotary cylindrical joint (315a-315b) comprising a first cylindrically concave surface (321) in slidable contact with a first cylindrically convex surface (322). The first cylindrically concave surface and the first cylindrically convex surface share a common first radius of curvature (335) relative to a common first cylinder axis (325). The first cylindrically concave surface is operable to rotate α_i about the common first cylinder axis relative to the first cylindrically convex surface to compensate for uniaxial angular misalignment between the heat source and the heat sink.

(FIG. 3B)