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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **VALUE PLASTICS, INC.** [US/US]; 3325 Timberline Road, Fort Collins, Colorado 80525 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **WHITAKER, Carl T.** [US/US]; 18726 WCR 3, Berthoud, Colorado 80513 (US). **LEWIS, Peter D.** [US/US]; 2702 Paddington Road, Fort Collins, Colorado 80525 (US).

(74) Agents: **HATTENBACH, Brad J.** et al.; Dorsey & Whitney LLP, 1400 Wewatta Street, Suite 400, Denver, Colorado 80202 (US).

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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- as to the identity of the inventor (Rule 4.17(i))
- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: FLUID CONNECTOR LATCHES WITH PROFILE LEAD-INS

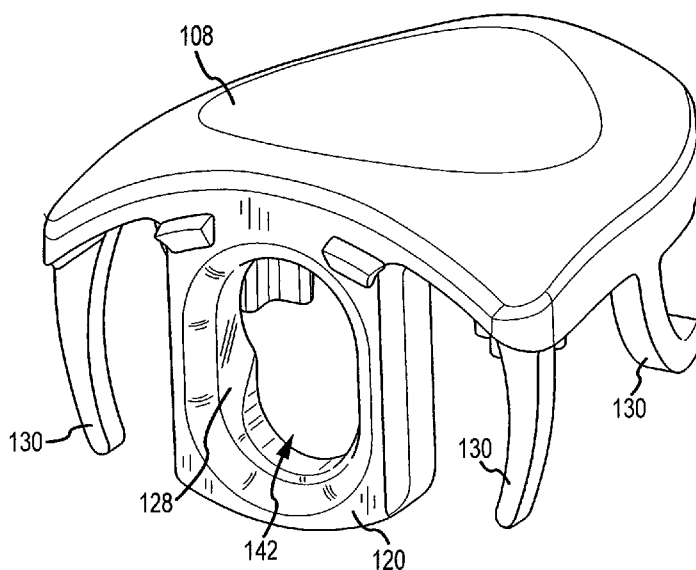


FIG. 3

(57) Abstract: A female receiving connector for connecting sections of tubing is provided. The female receiving connector includes a housing having a top housing portion and a bottom housing portion coupled to the top housing portion. The female receiving connector also includes a button moveably coupled within the housing. A locking plate is coupled to the button and configured to move with the button. The locking plate has a profile lead-in having an interfacing surface located at a proximal side of the profile lead-in for interfacing a male connector. The interfacing surface extends along at least a portion of at least three sides of an aperture of the locking plate and is tapered along one or more of the at least three sides. Additionally, the profile lead-in includes a locking surface located at a distal side of the profile lead-in for securing the male connector within the housing of the female receiving connector. A substantially flat surface is located between the interfacing surface and the locking surface.



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- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))*
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