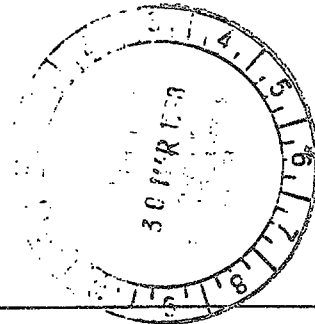


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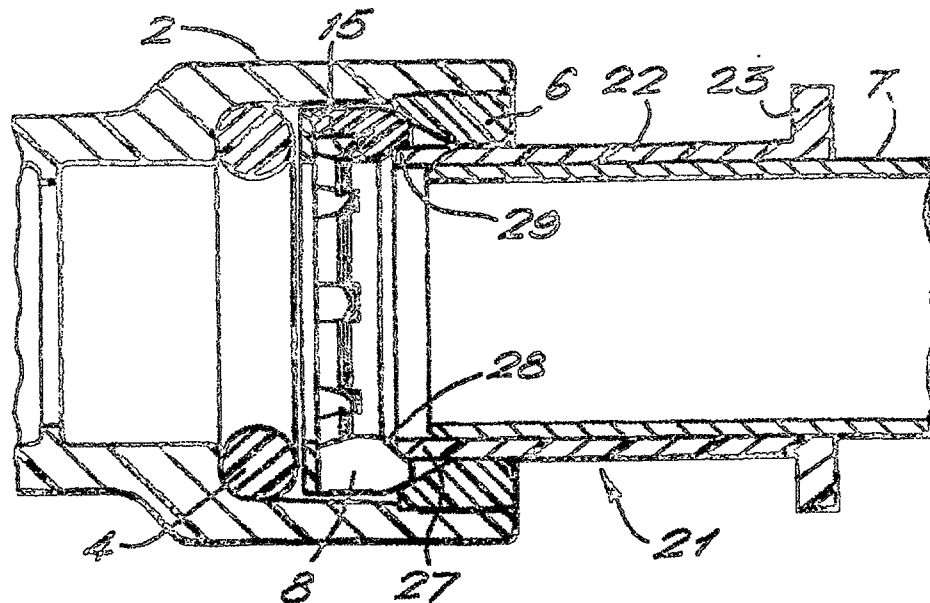
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| (21) International Application Number: PCT/GB96/01611<br>(22) International Filing Date: 5 July 1996 (05.07.96)<br>(30) Priority Data:<br>9513919.2      7 July 1995 (07.07.95)      GB<br>9526370.3      22 December 1995 (22.12.95)      GB<br>(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): MARLEY EXTRUSIONS LIMITED [GB/GB]; Lenham, Maidstone, Kent ME17 2DE (GB).<br>(72) Inventor; and<br>(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): DUDLEY, Steven, John [GB/GB]; 79 Monmouth Road, Brighton, East Sussex BN1 3SD (GB).<br>(74) Agent: BUTLER, Michael, John; Frank E. Dehn & Co., 179 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4EL (GB). |  | (81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, ARIPO patent (KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG), Eurasian patent: (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent: (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).<br>Published<br>With international search report. |



(54) Title: PUSH-FIT TUBE COUPLINGS



(57) Abstract

A tube coupling system comprises a coupling having a main body (2) which defines a tube receiving bore, the tube receiving bore being provided with a seal (4) to seal around the outer surface of a tube (T) received within the bore and being provided with tube gripping means such as a split ring (8) for engaging the outer surface of the tube. The system further comprises a release tool (21) which may be moved axially with respect to the bore to release the tube gripping means (8) from the tube (T). The release tool is removable and the tube gripping means has an outwardly facing tapering surface (28) which is engaged by a corresponding surface on the release tool. The tool is a two part or hinged sleeve to enable it to be placed over, and removed from, the tube (T).