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NASA TECH BRIEF

Marshall Space Flight Center



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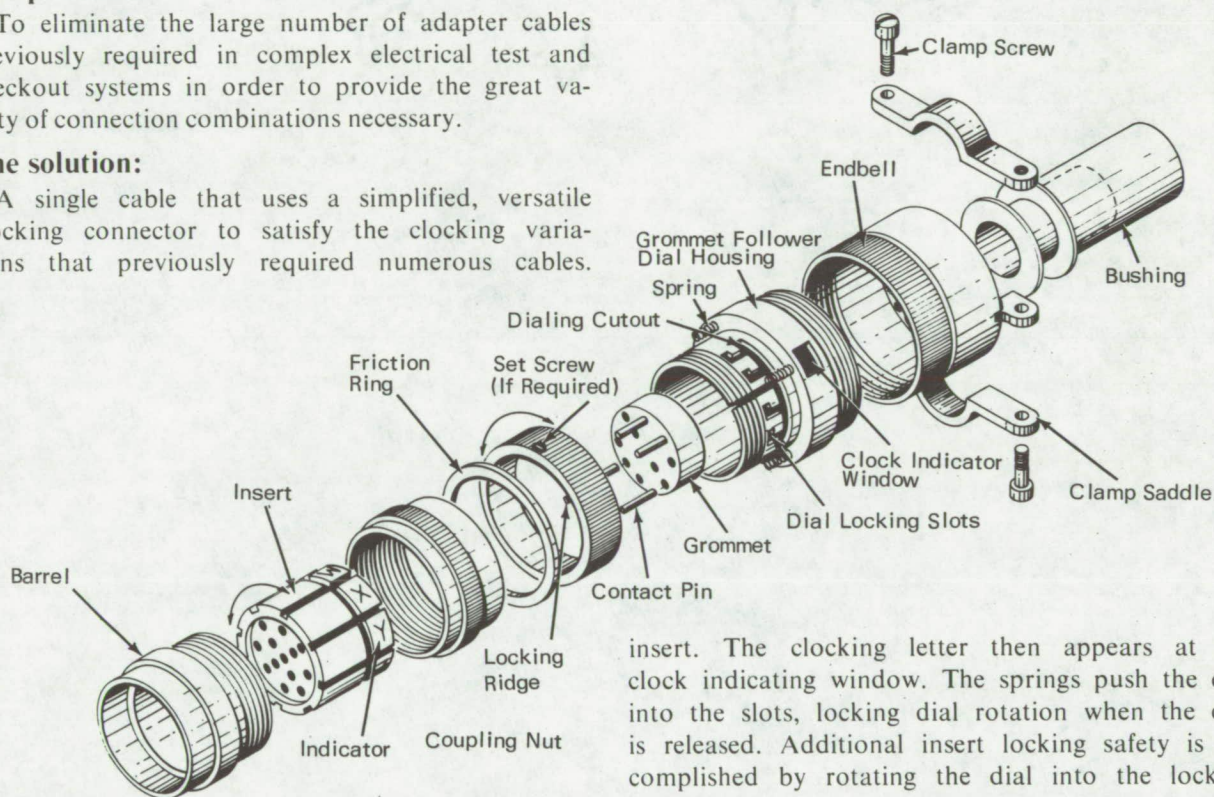
Clocking Connector Replaces Adapter Cables

The problem:

To eliminate the large number of adapter cables previously required in complex electrical test and checkout systems in order to provide the great variety of connection combinations necessary.

The solution:

A single cable that uses a simplified, versatile clocking connector to satisfy the clocking variations that previously required numerous cables.



How it's done:

The simplified clocking connector consists of a specially fabricated grommet follower dial housing, a dial assembly, and a modified insert. These items are incorporated into a conventional Military Standard (MIL STD) connector, as shown in the figure. Clocking is accomplished by pushing the dial against the springs until the locking ridge reaches the dialing cutout, allowing the ridge to rotate the

insert. The clocking letter then appears at the clock indicating window. The springs push the dial into the slots, locking dial rotation when the dial is released. Additional insert locking safety is accomplished by rotating the dial into the locking slots.

Note:

No further documentation is available. Specific questions, however, may be directed to:

Technology Utilization Officer
Code A&TS-TU
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(continued overleaf)

Patent status:

No patent action is contemplated by NASA.

Source: S. Arriola and R. A. Rasmussen of
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