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GB 2230291 A GB 2210921 A

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INT CL⁵ E04F, E04G, E06B

(54) Cover for an electrical apparatus

(57) A cover (2, 4), for attachment e.g. via steel bands (14, 15) over an opening in electrical apparatus such as a lamp post, is formed from a flexible sheet of material and has suitable means such as screw or peg (22) extending from an insurface of the sheet to locate the cover in the opening. The cover can be hinged (8) or in the form of a split tube and may have a bottle shaped upper portion.

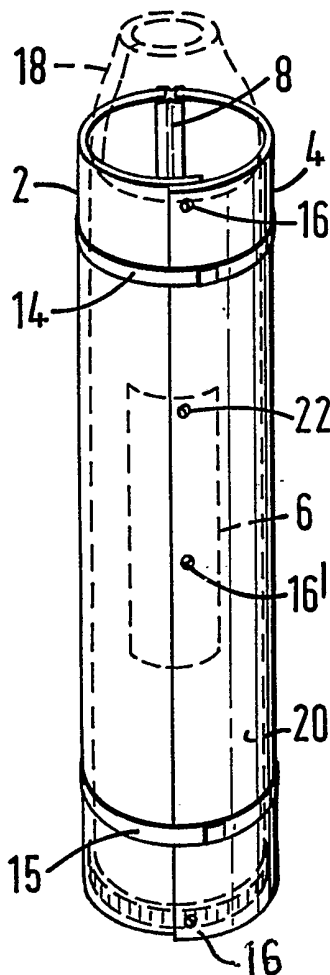


Fig. 1

At least one drawing originally filed was informal and the print reproduced here is taken from a later filed formal copy.

The claims were filed later than the filing date within the period prescribed by Rule 25(1) of the Patents Rules 1990.

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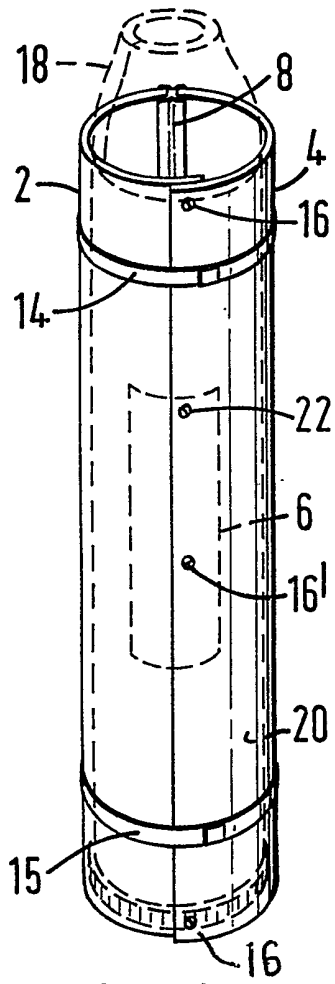


Fig. 1

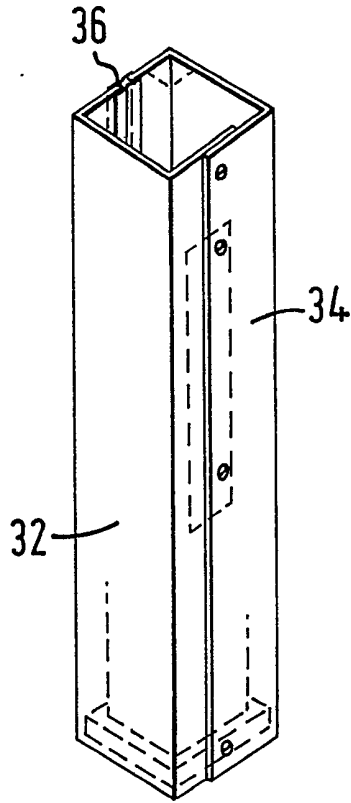


Fig. 2

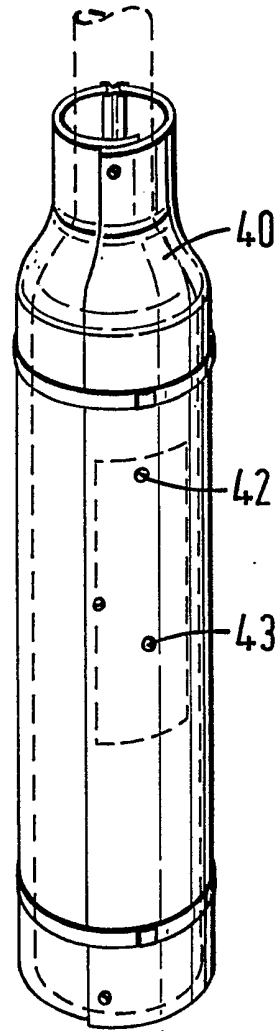


Fig. 3

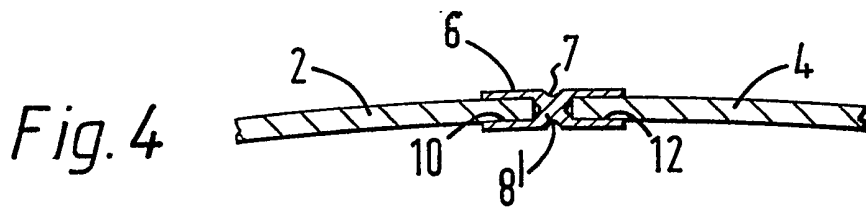


Fig. 4

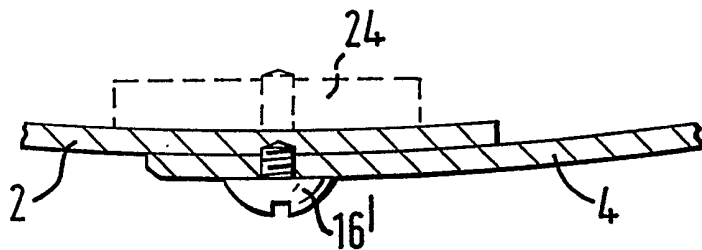


Fig. 5

Fig. 6

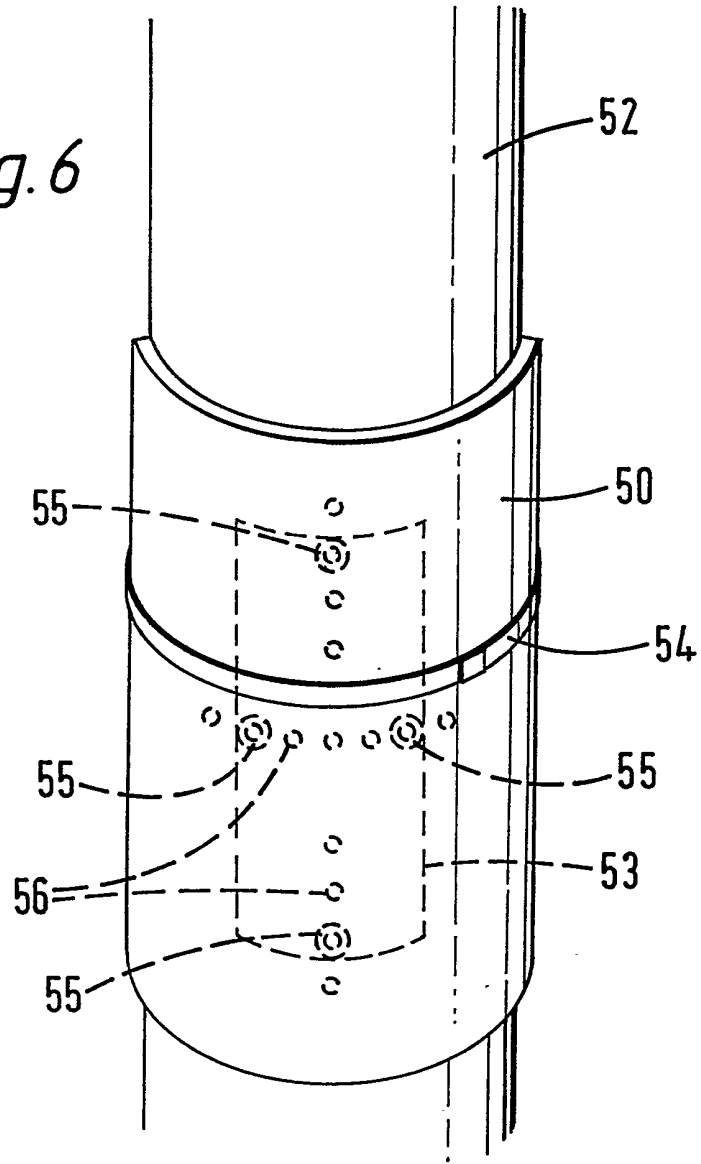
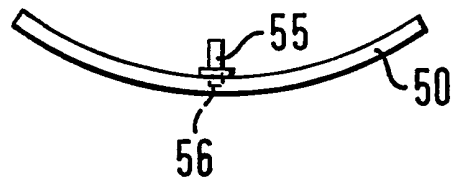


Fig. 7



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COVER FOR ELECTRICAL APPARATUS

The present invention relates to a cover for an opening
5 in electrical apparatus such as a pylon or column of a
street lamp.

Street lighting columns and illumination posts
conventionally are provided with covers in the columns or
10 posts to access terminals, fuses or other electrically
alive components. Unfortunately, these covers are
subject to vandalism or are damaged by street accidents so
that they are missing or cannot close the openings. New
covers may be difficult to obtain and a temporary cover
15 is therefore necessary to make the column or post safe.

A cover for an opening in electrical apparatus according
to the invention comprises a flexible sheet of material,
means to attach the cover to the apparatus and means
20 extending from an inner surface of the sheet to locate the
cover in the opening.

Preferably the extending means are protrusions movably
locatable in, and in relation to, the sheet so as to fit a
25 multiplicity of different shapes and sizes of opening.

In one embodiment of the invention the flexible sheet is
made flexible by a longitudinal hinge extending between
sides of the sheet and wherein the cover is designed to
30 extend around the apparatus such as a circular or square
column.

In a further embodiment of the invention the flexible
sheet is resilient and in the form of a split tube which

which can be sprung around the apparatus such as a column.

Preferably, in the case where the cover extends around at least substantially the whole apparatus such as a column, the top of the sheet is formed with a bottle shaped neck.

The attachment means is preferably a strap of steel or plastics material.

Embodiments of the invention will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 is an isometric view of a cylindrical cover according to a first embodiment of the invention;

Figure 2 is an isometric view of a rectilinear cover according to a second embodiment of the invention;

Figure 3 is an isometric view of a bottle shaped cover according to a third embodiment of the invention;

Figure 4 is a detail showing in plan longitudinal hinge for the covers of Figure 1 to 3;

Figure 5 is a detail showing in plan an overlap joint of the sides of the cover of Figure 1;

Figure 6 is an isometric view of a cover extending round or partly round a lighting pylon according to a fourth embodiment of the invention; and

Figure 7 is a detail showing in plan the cover of Figure 6.

In the first embodiment shown in Fig. 1 the cover formed of flexible plastics material or metal comprises two side portions 2 and 4 hinged at 8 to cover an opening shown in broken lines at 6. The plastics material may be self coloured plastics or polyvynolchloride. The hinge 8 shown in Fig. 4 is formed as a separate component 8' with a

notched central section 7 and lateral grooves 10 and 12 to receive side portions 2 and 4. The cover is held in place by a pair of tensioned steel bands 14 and 15 or by a screw 16 shown in detail in Fig. 5. A split collar 18 made of aerated rubber or plastics material as shown in broken lines can be fitted to the column 20 before placing the cover around the column 20 so as to be trapped at its base between the cover and column. In order to prevent vertical movement a screw or peg 22 can be fitted to the sides, or a block 24 as shown in Fig. 5 can be screwed to the inside by means of screw 16'.

The second embodiment shown in Fig. 2 in which the cover has a rectilinear shape with side portions 32 and 34 and a hinge 36 between the side portions similarly to that shown in Fig.s 1 and 4. The fastening arrangements are similar to those shown in Fig. 1.

The third embodiment of a cover is shown in Fig. 3 and is similar to that shown in Fig. 1 except that it has a bottle shaped neck portion 40 to prevent downward movement of the cover and throw off water. Upward movement is prevented by a peg 42 fitted at one of several locations 43 on the inside of the cover.

In the fourth embodiment of the cover shown in Fig.s 6 and 7 the cover 50 only extends partly round column 52 to cover opening 53, A strap 54 is used as before to hold the cover in place. The cover is prevented from moving around the column or up the column by four pegs 55 fitted into a cruxiform array of holes 56 on the inside of the sheet.

In a further embodiment the hinge 6 is not used, the cover being merely made of resilient flexible material and split so that it be opened out to fit the cover over the opening, yet has sufficient resilience to clasp the column when in place. A strap will be necessary as previously discussed.

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C L A I M S

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1. A cover for an opening in electrical apparatus comprising a flexible sheet of material means to attach the cover to the apparatus and means extending from an inner surface of the sheet to locate the cover in the opening.

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2. A cover according to claim 1 wherein the extending means are protrusions movably locatable in, and in relation to, the sheet so as to fit a multiplicity of different shapes and sizes of opening.

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3. A cover according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the protrusions are locatable in a plurality of lengthwise and lateral positions.

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4. A cover according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the cover is resilient and in the form of a split tube.

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5. A cover according to any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein the cover when closed has an upper bottle shaped neck portion.

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6. A cover according to any one of claims 1 to 5 including a strap arranged to fit around the cover.

7. A cover according to any one of claims 1 to 6 wherein the cover is substantially circular in cross section when fitted.

5 8. A cover according to any one of claims 1 to 7 wherein the
cover is substantially square in cross section when fitted.

10 9. A cover for an opening in electrical apparatus
substantially as described with reference to any one of the
accompanying drawings.

Relevant Technical fields

- (i) UK CI (Edition K) E1D (DCB, DF132, DF133, DF134)
E15 (SAE, SAW) H2E (ECCX, EDBB)
- (ii) Int CL (Edition 5) E04F, E04G, E06B

Search Examiner

D J LOVELL

Databases (see over)

- (i) UK Patent Office
- (ii)

Date of Search

29 JUNE 1992

Documents considered relevant following a search in respect of claims

1-9

Category (see over)	Identity of document and relevant passages	Relevant to claim(s)
X	GB 2230291 A (BOULTON)	1
X	GB 2210921 A (BOULTON)	1

Category	Identity of document and relevant passages	Relevant to claim(s)

Categories of documents

X: Document indicating lack of novelty or of inventive step.

Y: Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of the same category.

A: Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.

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