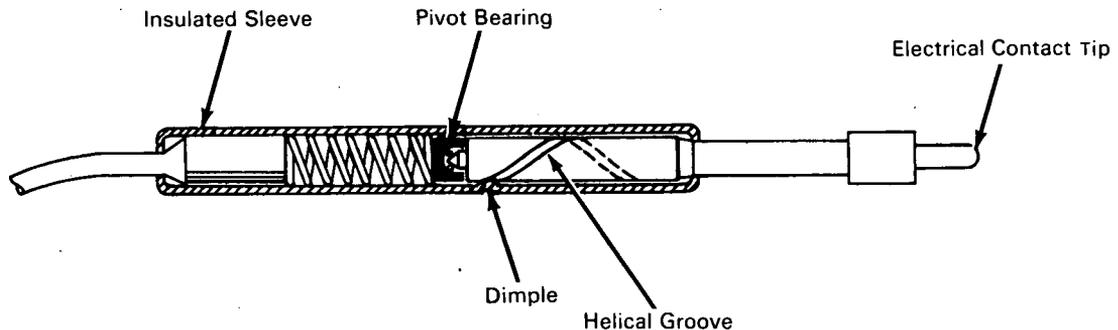


NASA TECH BRIEF



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Electrical Probe Ensures Reliable Contact in Socket



The problem: To design a probe or pin connector that will make a reliable electrical contact when it is inserted in a mating socket.

The solution: A spring-loaded probe that forces the tip of the pin connector to make a wiping contact when it is inserted into the socket.

How it's done: One end of the connector pin is seated in the spring-loaded pivot bearing contained in the cylindrical sleeve. A dimple on the inside surface of the sleeve mates with the helical groove around the pin. When the tip of the pin is engaged in a socket and pressure is applied at the opposite end of the probe, the pin is forced to rotate and thereby produce a circular wiping action at the tip.

Note: Inquiries concerning this invention may be directed to:

Technology Utilization Officer
Marshall Space Flight Center
Huntsville, Alabama, 35812
Reference: B65-10215

Patent status: NASA encourages the immediate commercial use of this invention. It is owned by NASA and inquiries about obtaining royalty-free rights for its commercial use may be made to NASA, Code AGP, Washington, D.C., 20546.

Source: International Business Machines
under contract to Marshall
Space Flight Center (M-FS-315)
Category No. 01