Contact-Spring Forming Machine for Flat Conductor Cable Receptacles

This machine tool has been developed to produce beryllium-copper contact springs for FCC (flat conductor cable) feed-through receptacles (Figures 38 and 39 of NASA SP-5043). The machine will receive spring stock, form, and eject the finished contact springs at the rate of approximately 60 springs per minute.

As the spring stock is pushed into the machine, an electrical circuit is completed to initiate the following punch and die cycle: (1) cutting the stock to the proper length; (2) forming the central portion of each spring; (3) forming the lateral portions of each spring; and (4) ejecting the formed springs.

Notes:
1. The springs must be heat-treated and plated to impart the required electrical contact properties (page 19 of NASA SP-5043).

Patent status:
No patent action is contemplated by NASA.
Source: W. Angele and H. G. Martineck (MFS-20126)
Category 05

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