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(54) **RELEASE LINK FOR INTERCONNECTED CABLES**

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(58) **Field of Search** 403/322.1, 321, 403/325, DIG. 3; 114/377; 294/82.28, 82.25

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A release link for interconnecting first and second cables, includes a cylinder having an open first end and an aperture through a second end, a collar fixed to the cylinder first end, and having an annular internal flange, and a guide washer slidably disposed in the collar second end. The link further includes a piston extending through the cylinder aperture and through the guide washer, the piston including a neck portion and a head portion disposed at a first end of the piston. A cap is connectable to the collar. Balls are adapted to be disposed adjacent the piston neck portion and radially adjacent the collar internal flange. A spring is disposed in the cylinder and biases the guide washer toward the balls. A first connector is on the cap for attachment to the first cable, and a second connector is on a second end of the piston for attachment to the second cable. Tension on the cables exceeding the bias of the spring is operative to move the guide washer and the piston, to move the balls from radial adjacency to the collar internal flange, to permit the piston to disengage from the cylinder.

16 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets

