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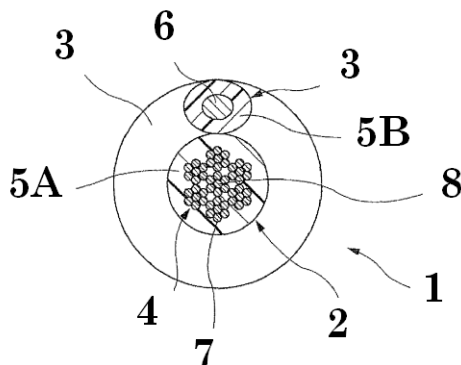
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prevented from being displaced from the first rope when the second rope meshes with a gear.

In the present embodiment, the resin coating 5A included in the rope body 2 and the resin coating 5B included in the linear body 3 are directly fusion-bonded together. Therefore, unlike the helical toothed rope according to the related art, it is not necessary to use an adhesive. In addition, the helical toothed rope 1 can be manufactured without performing the step of applying an adhesive to the rope body 2 or the linear body 3. The helical toothed rope 1 can be manufactured simply by helically winding the linear body 3 around the rope body 2, and then causing the linear body 3 and the rope body 2 in this state to pass through an environment where the temperature is set to a certain temperature or irradiating contacting portions of the resin coating 5A and the resin coating 5B with far-infrared rays. Thus, the process of manufacturing the helical toothed rope is simplified.



**Pat. 8,307,624**

Figure 9: Cross sectional view of the helical toothed rope.

The helical toothed rope 1 applies an operational force to a gear H through the linear body 3. Therefore, the linear body 3 must be shaped such that the operational force can be transmitted to the gear H after the linear body 3 is fusion-bonded to the rope body 2. More specifically, although the adhesive can be saved and the manufacturing process can be simplified when the resin coating 5A included in the rope body 2 and the resin coating 5B included in the linear body 3 are directly fusion-bonded together, there is a possibility that the shape of the resin coating 5B will change when the resin coating 5A and the resin coating 5B melt.

As a result of various studies conducted by the inventors of the present invention, it was found that the shape of the resin coating 5B does not largely change after the melting process if the resin coating 5B is softer than the resin coating 5A at an ordinary temperature and has a higher viscosity than that of the resin coating 5A in a molten state.

In particular, the resin coating 5B and the resin coating 5A were easily fusion-bonded together without changing the shape of the resin coating 5B when the resin coating 5B and the resin coating 5A were made of the following materials. That is, the resin coating 5B was made of nylon having plasticizer contained therein (hereinafter referred to as plasticizer-containing nylon), and the resin coating 5A was made of mixed resin of the plasticizer-containing nylon and resin containing less plasticizer than the plasticizer content in the plasticizer-containing nylon.

In the present embodiment, the resin coating 5B and the resin coating 5A are made of nylon 12. Nylon 12 has high melting characteristics and high flexibility, and is suitable for use as a material of the helical toothed rope 1 of the present embodiment. As an example, the helical toothed rope 1

*continued on next page*