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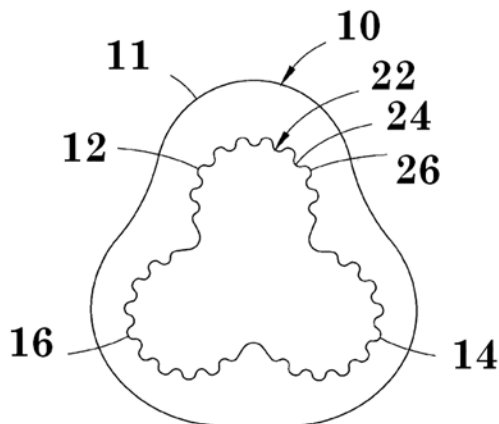
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the disclosure. Specifically, internal axial teeth or serrations 22 having tips 24 and recesses 26 between the tips are shown in accordance with another aspect of the disclosure. Each of the three channels 12, 14, 16 has a plurality of axial teeth 22 and with tips 24 and recesses 26 formed therebetween where the tips 24 extend toward a center of the sleeve.

Referring to figure 27, a liner 28 that acts as grip between the sleeve and wire rope 30 can optionally be added to the sleeve in accordance with another aspect of the disclosure. This optional grip interface is installed directly on the teeth 22 and conforms readily to all the surface irregularities in both the sleeve and the wire rope and its coating without compromising the coating. The liner 28 can also conform to

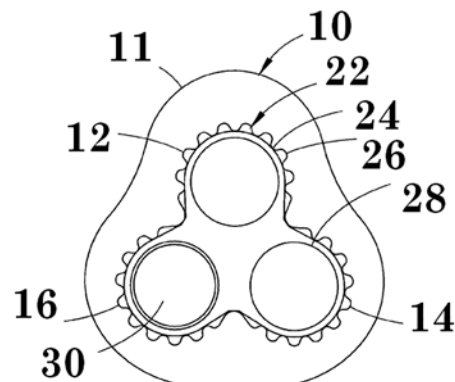


**Pat.9,869,368**

Figure 26: Cross-sectional side elevational view of a serrated sleeve.

the tips 24 and recesses 26 of the internal axial teeth 22. The liner 28 can be extruded, molded, or cast. The liner 28 can be three simple tubes, three form fitting tubes, or a single complex tube that combines three tubes.

Internal serrations in the sleeve 10 provide greater surface area than the simple oval profiles of existing sleeves. Increasing the gripping surface area is the primary factor in the holding power of a wire splice and the present disclosure applies this to one splice instead of multiple splices. It is important to note that the conventional logic to squeeze the wire rope more tightly together with a tighter crimp to obtain a better splice does not necessarily apply. A tighter crimp brutalizes the rope fibers consequently making them weaker. The rubberized plastic liner 28 addresses this problem by creating a softer, less brutal squeeze. ■



**Pat. 9,869,368**

Figure 27: Cross-sectional side elevational view of a liner in the sleeve.