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### (54) DROP CABLE CLAMP WITH CONTROLLED CABLE CUTTING FEATURE

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#### (57)**ABSTRACT**

A cable clamp includes a shell having a shell base, a first sidewall and a second sidewall forming a channel extending in a first direction to receive a cable therein. A wedge resides between the first and second sidewalls and includes a wedge base facing the shell base. A shim resides between the wedge base and the shell base, and the cable fits between the shim and the shell base. Movement of the shell relative to the wedge causes the cable to engage more tightly between the shim and the shell base. In one embodiment, a blade element resides between the shim and the shell base. The blade may be a separate element from the shim or attached to or integrally formed with the shim. The wedge may include a recessed area or a cutout portion to accommodate the blade. A cutting edge of the blade element faces toward the cable and will cut the cable in response to an excessive force along the first direction being applied to the cable within the channel.

