

allel to the axis **12** and substantially prevents radial movement of the panels **100**, **102** outward relative to the projection **66**. The panels **100**, **102** define heights in the radial direction that are substantially equal to a distance between the base **108** and the flange **112**. The second panels **102** include a lip **116** received at the base **108**. The lip **116** receives a radially-innermost edge of the first panel **100**. The first panel **100** defines a height in the radial direction that is substantially equal to a distance between the lip **116** and the flange **112** to maintain the first panel **100** in a fixed radial position relative to the projections **66**.

While the invention has been described with reference to an exemplary embodiment, it will be understood by those skilled in the art that various changes may be made and equivalents may be substituted for elements thereof without departing from the scope of the invention. In addition, many modifications may be made to adapt a particular situation or material to the teachings of the invention without departing from the essential scope thereof. Therefore, it is intended that the invention not be limited to the particular embodiment disclosed as the best mode contemplated for carrying out this invention, but that the invention will include all embodiments falling within the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A combination, comprising:
  - a gas turbine engine extending along an axis and including an annular combustor having a combustor liner;
  - a plurality of projections extending from said combustor liner and spaced from one another circumferentially about said axis;
  - a free-standing ring disposed about said combustor liner and positioned adjacent to said plurality of projections along said axis;
  - wherein said plurality of projections engage a corresponding circumferentially-facing portion of said free-standing ring and circumferentially support said combustor liner while allowing relative radial displacement between said combustor liner and said free-standing ring; and
  - a rolling assembly operably disposed to roll between said free-standing ring and said plurality of projections during said relative radial displacement to reduce binding.
2. The combination of claim 1 wherein said rolling assembly further comprises:
  - a plurality of slots defined in one of said free-standing ring and said plurality of projections and extending in a substantially radial direction with respect to said axis; and
  - a plurality of pins each being rotatably engaged with the other of said free-standing ring and said plurality of projections and each being received in one of said plurality of slots to thereby engage said combustor liner and said free-standing ring together for said relative radial displacement and concurrently reduce binding.
3. The combination of claim 2 wherein said plurality of pins are further defined as being rotatably engaged with both said free-standing ring and said plurality of projections.
4. The combination of claim 2 each of said plurality of slots defines a width extending circumferentially about said axis and wherein each of said pins is sized relative to said width to substantially prevent relative movement in the circumferential direction between said plurality of projections and said free-standing ring.
5. The combination of claim 2 wherein each of said plurality of slots extends between first and second closed ends to limit said relative radial displacement.
6. The combination of claim 2 wherein said free-standing ring further comprises:

- a first radially-extending flange disposed on a first side of said plurality of projections along said axis; and
- a second radially-extending flange disposed on a second side of said plurality of projections along said axis opposite said first side, wherein each of said plurality of pins includes a first end rotatably engaged with said first radially-extending flange and a second end rotatably engaged with said second radially-extending flange and a center portion between said first and second ends and rotatably disposed in one of said plurality of slots.

7. The combination of claim 6 wherein said center portion of each of said plurality of pins has a larger diameter than said first and second ends such that a first shoulder is defined between said center portion and said first end and a second shoulder is defined between said center portion and said second end, said first and second shoulders operable to maintain a minimum gap between said first and second radially-extending flanges and prevent both said first and second flanges from concurrently contacting said plurality of projections.

8. The combination of claim 1 further comprising:
  - an annular seal disposed between said plurality of projections and said free-standing ring and extending across a space defined between adjacent projections to minimize passage of a fluid through said space, wherein said annular seal includes first and second panels disposed in back-to-back relation and moveable relative to one another about said axis.

9. The combination of claim 8 wherein said free-standing ring further comprises:

- a first radially-extending flange disposed on a first side of said plurality of projections along said axis; and
- a second radially-extending flange disposed on a second side of said plurality of projections along said axis opposite said first side, wherein said first panel contacts said first radially-extending flange and said protrusion extends through said space to contact said second radially-extending flange and thereby support said first panel against deflection.

10. The combination of claim 9 wherein said rolling assembly is further defined as maintaining a circumferential alignment of said annular seal with said space.

11. The combination of claim 10 wherein said rolling assembly further comprises:

- a plurality of slots defined in one of said free-standing ring and said plurality of projections and extending in a radial direction with respect to said axis; and
- a plurality of pins each being rotatably engaged with the other of said free-standing ring and said plurality of projections and each being received in one of said plurality of slots to thereby couple said combustor liner and said free-standing ring together for said relative radial displacement, wherein at least one of said first and second panels includes an aperture aligned with one of said plurality of slots and receiving one of said plurality of pins to align said annular seal with said space.

12. The combination of claim 11 wherein said first panel includes a first aperture aligned with a first of said plurality of slots and said second panel includes a second aperture aligned with a second of said plurality of slots different than said first of said plurality of slots such that said first and second panels are circumferentially offset from one another to enhance sealing.

13. The combination of claim 11 wherein said first panel includes a first aperture aligned with and wider than one of said plurality of slots for allowing relative circumferential displacement between said first panel and said plurality of projections.