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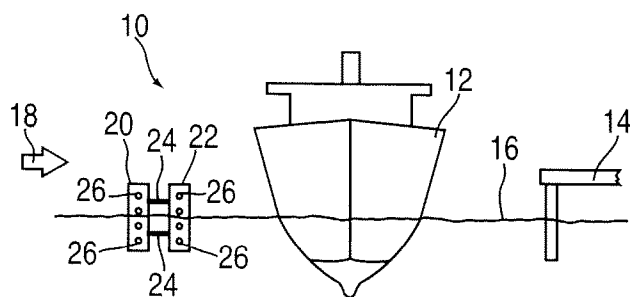


FIG. 1

(57) **Abstract:** A system to protect structures (12) in a marine environment from the effects of an impact force. The system includes a plurality of floatable devices / panels (20) and a plurality of fibrous networks (26). The fibrous networks include high tenacity fibers which extend at least in a generally horizontal direction and are in communication with the plurality of floatable devices / panels. The plurality of fibrous networks are disposed in a generally parallel arrangement with respect to each other and are vertically spaced apart by a distance not exceeding about 12 inches (30.5 cm). The system is designed to be spaced from the structure to be protected.

WO 2008/091382 A3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 681 709 B1 (NIXON LAURENCE G [US] ET AL) 27 January 2004 (2004-01-27) the whole document	1-40
A	US 2003/051652 A1 (METHERELL MARK B [US] ET AL) 20 March 2003 (2003-03-20) paragraph [0025]	1,21,30
A	FR 2 798 729 A (AUDREN JAMES [FR]) 23 March 2001 (2001-03-23) the whole document	1,21,30

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See patent family annex.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6681709	B1	27-01-2004	NONE
US 2003051652	A1	20-03-2003	US 2004194688 A1
FR 2798729	A	23-03-2001	NONE