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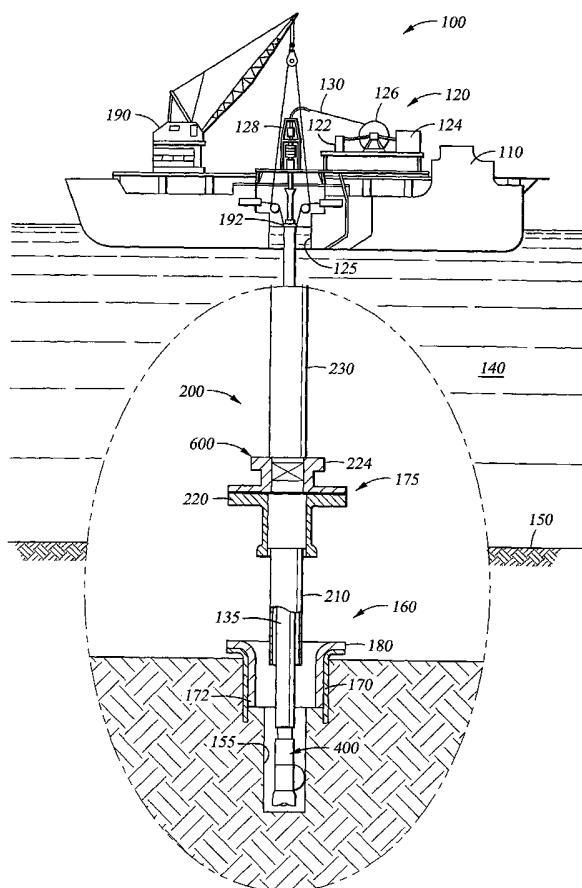
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR OPEN HOLE DRILLING



(57) Abstract: A drilling assembly for open hole drilling from an offshore platform through a cased borehole at the seafloor includes a guide assembly extending from the platform to the seafloor and having a lower end extending into the cased borehole; and a bottomhole assembly disposed on a lightweight drill string extending through the guide assembly for drilling the borehole. The guide assembly is a pipe string that may include a casing and a riser attached to the casing. The bottomhole assembly includes a formation displacement member adapted to drill a borehole having a diameter greater than the diameter of the guide assembly. The drilling assembly uses a drilling fluid that flows through the lightweight drill string and the bottomhole assembly, through a fluid passageway around the bottomhole assembly, and out of the cased borehole into the sea.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/30094

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : E21B 1/12

US CL : 175/5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 73, 74

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 175/5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 73, 74

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
NONE

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

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A,P	US 6,415,877 B1 (FINCHER et al) 09 July 2002 (09.07.2002), see entire document.	1-30
A,E	US 6,648,081 B2 (FINCHER et al) 18 November 2003 (18.11.2003), see entire document.	1-30
A,P	US 6,554,075 B2 (FIKES et al) 29 April 2003 (29.04.2003), see entire document.	1-30
A	US 6,085,838 A (VERCAEMER et al) 11 July 2000 (11.07.2000), see entire document.	1-30
A	US 6,296,066 B1 (TERRY et al) 02 October 2001 (02.10.2001), see entire document.	1-30

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

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