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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: PRESSURE EQUALIZATION APPARATUS AND ASSOCIATED SYSTEMS AND METHODS

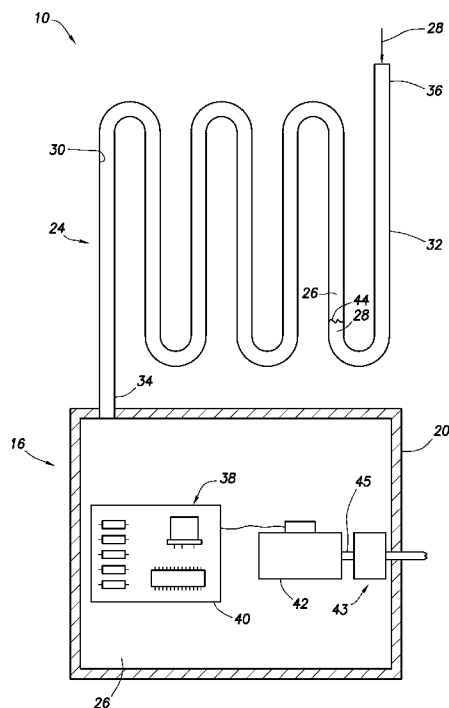


FIG.2

(57) Abstract: A pressure equalization apparatus can include separate longitudinal bores which form a continuous flowpath, the flowpath alternating direction between the bores, and the bores being interconnected at opposite ends thereof. A well system can include a well tool with a chamber therein containing an assembly in a dielectric fluid, and a pressure equalization apparatus including a flowpath having one end connected to the chamber, and the other end connected to a source of a another fluid, the flowpath extending in opposite directions between the flowpath ends through multiple separate bores. A method of installing a well tool can include attaching a mandrel to the well tool, then lowering the well tool at least partially into the well suspended from the mandrel, and then securing a pressure equalization apparatus to the mandrel, a flowpath of the apparatus being connected to a chamber of the well tool containing an assembly.

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- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))*

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER***E21B 23/08(2006.01)i, E21B 19/086(2006.01)i, E21B 34/02(2006.01)i***

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)

E21B 23/08; E21B 19/086; E21B 34/02

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Korean utility models and applications for utility models

Japanese utility models and applications for utility models

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

eKOMPASS(KIPO internal) & Keywords: pressure, equalization, tube, filter, rupture, disc, safety, valve, clamp and similar terms

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X Y	US 2010-0051260 A1 (VICK, JR., JAMES D. et al.) 04 March 2010 See paragraphs 19-24, 26, 38 and figures 1, 2.	1-3,5-37,39,40 4,38
Y A	US 6250387 B1 (CARMICHAEL, MARK et al.) 26 June 2001 See column 7 lines 20-27, 36-40, 49-58 and figures 7, 8.	4,38 1-3,5-37,39,40
X A	US 2004-0136849 A1 (DU, MICHAEL H. et al.) 15 July 2004 See paragraphs 9, 75, 77 and figures 13-15.	1-3,5-10,13-18,20 ,21,23-34,36,37,39 ,40 4,11,12,19,22,35 ,38
A	US 2010-0147064 A1 (DIFOGGIO, ROCCO) 17 June 2010 See paragraph 33.	1-40



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

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"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

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Information on patent family members

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