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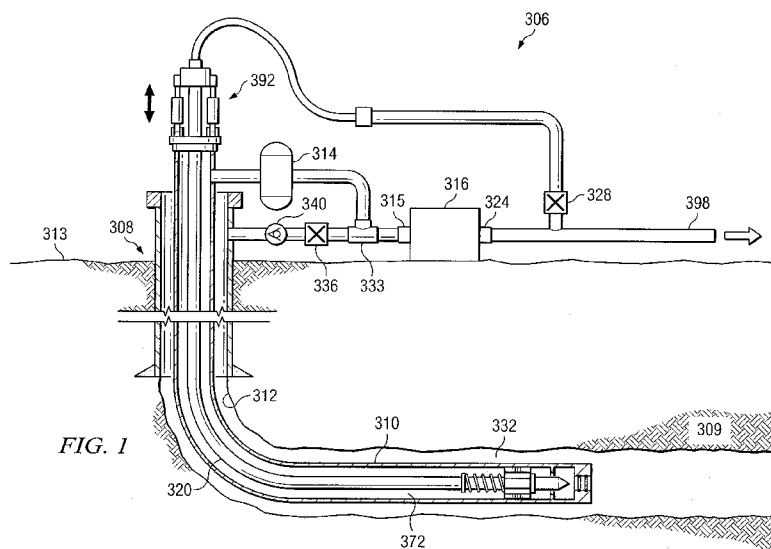
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(54) Title: IMPROVED GAS LIFT SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: An improved gas lift system is provided. In certain embodiments, the gas lift system includes a first tubing string and a second tubing string disposed within the first tubing string. The second tubing string is movable between a first position and a second position. Inflow of production fluids through an aperture in the first tubing string is selectively blocked when the second tubing string is in the second position. A port in the second tubing string delivers lift gas to the annulus between the first tubing string and the second tubing string. In the first position, the port is blocked to prevent fluid communication between the second tubing string and the first tubing string. In the second position, the port is uncovered to permit fluid communication between the second tubing string and the first tubing string, while a sealing member provides a seal that isolates the fluid communication from a well formation.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US 09/37136

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC(8) - F04F 1/06 (2009.01)
 USPC - 166/372
 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)
 IPC(8): F04F 1/06 (2009.01)
 USPC: 166/372

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
 IPC(8): F04F 1/06 (2009.01) (text search)
 USPC: 137/155; 166/372; 417/90, 109 (text search)

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
 PubWEST(USPT,PGPB,EPAB,JPAB); Internet search via Google Web and Google Scholar search engines. Search Terms Used: gas lift system removing liquid wellbore open production lift position tubing string collar sleeve slide axial valve annulus annular oil hydrocarbon water dewater pipe completion formation casing compressor

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|---|-----------------------|
| X | US 6,705,404 B2 (Bosley) 16 March 2004 (16.03.2004) col. 4 ln. 32 to col. 10 ln. 60, Fig. 1-9 | 1-40 |
| A | US 6,968,893 B2 (Rusby et al.) 29 November 2005 (29.11.2005) entire document | 1-40 |
| A | US 7,331,392 B2 (Bosley et al.) 19 February 2008 (19.02.2008) entire document | 1-40 |

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

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