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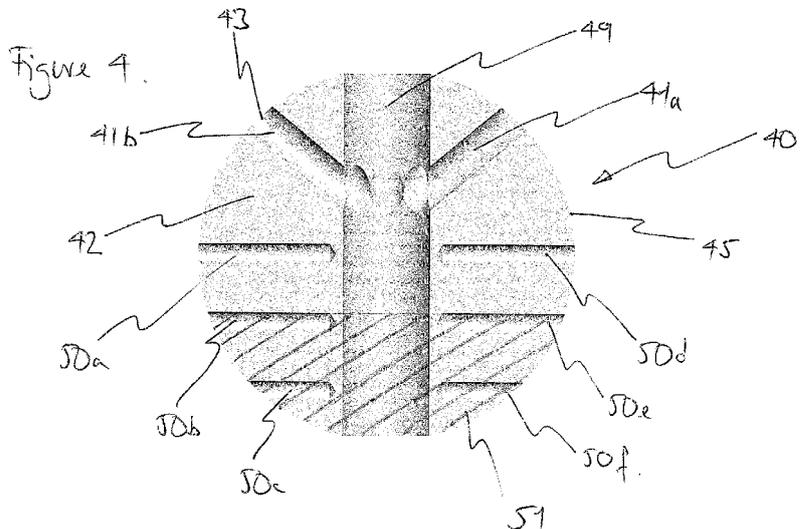
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(54) **Activation device for use in a downhole well**

(57) An activation device (10) for use in a downhole well for activation of a downhole tool in the well. The downhole tool has a seat (103) adapted to engage the activation device. The activation device can travel through a borehole of the downhole well to reach the seat. The activation device has an outer layer (22) and a core (24). The material of the outer layer resists erosion by drilling fluid when the activation device is in the bore-

hole. The material of the core is eroded by drilling fluid when the activation device is engaged in the seat. The activation device (10) is then able to pass through the seat (103). There is also described a method of operating a downhole tool having a seat (103) for engaging an activation device. The method includes the step of eroding at least a portion of the activation device with drilling fluid until it can pass through the seat.



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 12 15 7150

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 28 February 2013	Examiner Manolache, Iustin
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ..... & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
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