

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
3 July 2003 (03.07.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2003/054338 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **E21B 19/16**

(US). VAN RIJZINGEN, Hans; Nijverheidoweg 45,
NL-4879 AP Etten-Leur (NL).

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2002/034632

(74) Agent: PECK, John, W.; Christie, Parker & Hale, LLC,
Post Office Box 7068, Pasadena, CA 91109-7068 (US).

(22) International Filing Date: 28 October 2002 (28.10.2002)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(84) Designated States (*regional*): European patent (AT, BE,
BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT,
LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SK, TR).

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

10/029,585 20 December 2001 (20.12.2001) US

Published:

— with international search report

— before the expiration of the time limit for amending the
claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of
amendments

(71) Applicant: VARCO I/P, INC. [US/US]; One Briar Lake
Plaza, 2000 West Sam Houston Parkway South, Suite 1700,
Houston, TX 77042 (US).

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

5 August 2004

(72) Inventors: JUHASZ, Daniel; 5351 Duncannon Avenue,
Westminster, CA 92683 (US). BOYADJIEFF, George;
18772 Colony Circle, Villa Park, CA 92861 (US). EIDEM,
Brian, L.; 19316 Demeter Avenue, Cerritos, CA 90703

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.



WO 2003/054338 A3

(54) Title: OFFSET ELEVATOR FOR A PIPE RUNNING TOOL AND A METHOD OF USING A PIPE RUNNING TOOL

(57) Abstract: A pipe running tool (10) for use in an oil drilling system and the like comprises a lower drive shaft (14) adapted to engage a drive shaft (28) of a top drive assembly (24) for rotation therewith. The pipe running tool (10) further includes a lower pipe engagement assembly (16) which is driven to rotate by the lower drive shaft (14), and is designed to releasably engage a pipe segment (11) in such a manner to substantially prevent relative rotation between the two. Thus, when the lower pipe engagement assembly (16) is actuated to securely hold a pipe segment (11), the top drive assembly (24) may be actuated to rotate the top drive output shaft (28), which causes the lower drive shaft (14) and lower pipe engagement assembly (16) to rotate, which in turn rotates the pipe segment (11). The pipe running tool (10) having a greater slip back offset such that drill pipe and drill pipe tool joints (11) may be passed through the central passageway (76) of the tool (10) without interfering with the front of the slip.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US02/34632

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER																				
IPC(7) : E 21 B 19/16 US CL : 175/85, 162, 52 166/77.51, 77.52, 77.53, 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. : 175/85, 162, 52 166/77.51, 77.52, 77.53,																				
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 practicable, search terms used)																				
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT																				
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.																		
X, P,	US 6,443,241 B1 (JUHASZ et al.) 3 Sept. 2002 (03.09.2002), Figs. 1, 2, 5A, and 5B	1-19																		
A	US 4,605,077 (BOYADJIEFF) 12 August 1986 (12.08.1986)	1, 9, 14, 19																		
A	US 4,529,045 (BOYADJIEFF) 16 July 1985 (16.07.1985)	1, 9, 14, 19																		
A	US 4,449,596 (BOYADJIEFF) 22 May 1984 (22.05.1984)	1, 9, 14, 19																		
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.																				
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"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed																				
Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report																			
27 May 2004 (27.05.2004)	14 JUN 2004																			
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Authorized officer David Bagnell <i>J. Bagnell</i> Telephone No. (703) 306-4180																			