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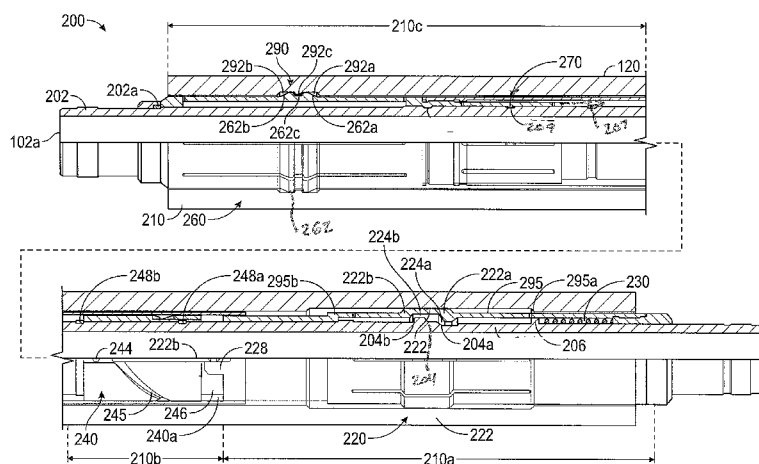


FIG. 2

(57) **Abstract:** An apparatus for use in a wellbore is disclosed that in one non-limiting embodiment includes a set down tool that includes a locating device configured to engage with an outer member at a selected location, a set down device configured to set down in a set down profile in the outer member when the set down device is activated, an alignment device for activating the set down device and a locking device that operates the alignment device to activate the set down device while maintaining the locating device engaged with the outer member.

APPARATUS AND METHODS SETTING A STRING AT PARTICULAR LOCATIONS IN A WELLBORE FOR PERFORMING A WELLBORE OPERATION

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Application No. 61/878341, filed on September 16, 2013, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

BACKGROUND

1. Field of the Disclosure

[0001] This disclosure relates generally to apparatus and methods for completing a wellbore for the production of hydrocarbons from subsurface formations, including fracturing selected formation zones in a wellbore, sand packing and flooding a formation with a fluid.

2. Background of the Art

[0002] Wellbores are drilled in subsurface formations for the production of hydrocarbons (oil and gas). Modern wells can extend to great well depths, often more than 1500 meters. Hydrocarbons are trapped in various traps in the subsurface formations at different depths. Such sections of the formation are referred to as reservoirs or hydrocarbon-bearing formations or zones. Some formations have high mobility, which is a measure of the ease of the hydrocarbons flow from the reservoir into a well drilled through the reservoir under natural downhole pressures. Some formations have low mobility and the hydrocarbons trapped therein are unable to move with ease from the reservoir into the well. Stimulation methods are typically employed to improve the mobility of the hydrocarbons through the reservoirs. One such method, referred to as fracturing (also referred to as “fracing” or “fracking”), is often utilized to create cracks in the reservoir to enable the fluid from the formation (formation fluid) to flow from the reservoir into the wellbore. To fracture multiple zones, an assembly containing an outer string with an inner string therein is run in or deployed in the wellbore. The outer string is conveyed in the wellbore with a tubing attached to its upper end and it includes various devices corresponding to each zone to be fractured for supplying a fluid with proppant to each such zone. The inner string includes devices attached to a tubing to operate certain devices in the outer string and facilitate fracturing and/or other well treatment operations. For selectively treating a zone in a multi-zone wellbore, it is

desirable to have an inner string that can be selectively set corresponding to any zone in a multi-zone well and perform a well operation at such selected zone.

[0003] The disclosure herein provides apparatus and methods for setting the inner string at a selected location in the outer string.

SUMMARY

[0004] In one aspect, an apparatus for use in a wellbore is disclosed that in one non-limiting embodiment includes a set down tool that includes a locating device configured to engage with an outer member at a selected location, a set down device configured to set down in a set down profile in the outer member when the set down device is activated, an alignment device for activating the set down device and a locking device that operates the alignment device to activate the set down device while maintaining the locating device engaged with the outer member.

[0005] in another aspect, a method of performing an operation in a wellbore is disclosed that in one non-limiting embodiment includes: conveying a service assembly into a wellbore, the service assembly including an outer string having a plurality of spaced apart locating profiles and a set down profile and an inner string having a set down tool that includes: a locating device configured to engage with a locating profile on the outer string at a selected location; a set down device configured to set down in the set down profile in the outer string when the set down device is activated; and an alignment device for activating the set down device; and a locking device configured to cause the alignment device to activate the set down device while maintaining the locating device engaged with the locating profile:

engaging the locating device with a selected locating profile; operating the alignment device by the locking device to activate the set down device, while maintaining the locating device engaged with the selected locating profile; and moving the set down tool to set down the set down device in the set down profile.

[0006] Examples of the more important features of a well completion system and methods have been summarized rather broadly in order that the detailed description thereof that follows may be better understood, and in order that the contributions to the art may be appreciated. There are, of course, additional features that will be described hereinafter and which will form the subject of the claims.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0007] For a detailed understanding of the apparatus and methods disclosed herein, reference should be made to the accompanying drawings and the detailed description thereof, wherein like elements are generally given same numerals and wherein:

FIG. 1 shows an exemplary cased hole multi-zone wellbore with a service assembly deployed therein that includes an outer string and an inner string, wherein the inner string includes a setting or set down tool made according to one non-limiting embodiment of the present disclosure;

FIG. 2 shows a non-limiting embodiment of a set down tool in an initial or run-in position before the set down tool is set down at a desired or selected location in the outer string;

FIG. 3 shows the set down tool of **FIG. 2** wherein an alignment device has been cycled once for activating a set down device for setting down the set down tool at the selected location by a locking device;

FIG. 4 shows the set down tool of **FIG. 3** wherein the alignment tool has been cycled to activate a set down device so that it can be set down at the selected location;

FIG. 5 shows the set down tool of **FIG. 4** in the set down position at the selected location; and

FIG. 6 shows an alternative embodiment of a locking device or operating the alignment device for use in the set down tool of **FIG. 1**.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0008] **FIG. 1** is a line diagram of a section of a wellbore system **100** that is shown to include a wellbore **101** formed in formation **102** for performing a treatment operation therein, such as fracturing the formation (also referred to herein as fracing or fracking), gravel packing, flooding, etc. The wellbore **101** is lined with a casing **104**, such as a string of jointed metal pipes sections, known in the art. The space or annulus **103** between the casing **104** and the wellbore **101** is filled with cement **106**. The particular embodiment of **FIG. 1** is shown for selectively fracking one or more zones in any selected or desired sequence or order. However, wellbore **101** may be configured to perform other treatment or service operations, including, but not limited to, gravel packing and flooding a selected zone to move fluid in the zone toward a production well (not shown). The formation **102** is shown to include multiple zones

Z1-Zn which may be fractured or treated for the production of hydrocarbons therefrom. Each such zone is shown to include perforations that extend from the casing **104**, through cement **106** and to a certain depth in the formation **102**. In **FIG. 1**, Zone **Z1** is shown to include perforations **108a**, Zone **Z2** perforations **108b**, and Zone **Zn** perforations **108n**. The perforations in each zone provide fluid passages for fracturing each such zone. The perforations also provide fluid passages for formation fluid **150** to flow from the formation **102** to the inside **104a** of the casing **104**. The wellbore **101** includes a sump packer **109** proximate to the bottom **101a** of the wellbore **101**. The sump packer **109** is typically deployed after installing casing **204** and cementing the wellbore **101**. The sump packer **109** is tested to a pressure rating before treating the well, such as fracturing and packing, which pressure rating may be below the expected pressures in the wellbore **101** after a zone has been treated and isolated.

[0009] After casing, cementing, perforating and sump packer deployment, the wellbore **101** is ready for treatment operations, such as fracturing and gravel packing of each of the production zones **Z1-Zn**. Although system **100** is described in reference to fracturing and sand packing production zones, the apparatus and methods described herein or with obvious modifications may also be utilized for other well treatment operations, including, but not limited to, gravel packing and water flooding. The formation **102** has a fluid **150** therein at formation pressure (**P1**) and the wellbore **101** is filled with a fluid **152**, such as completion fluid, which fluid provides hydrostatic pressure (**P2**) inside the wellbore **101**. The hydrostatic pressure **P2** is greater than the formation pressure **P1** along the depth of the wellbore **101**, which prevents flow of the fluid **150** from the formation **102** into the casing **104** and prevents blow-outs.

[0010] Still referring to **FIG. 1**, to fracture (treat) one or more zones **Z1-Zn**, a system assembly **110** is run inside the casing **104** by a conveying member **112**, which may be a tubular made of jointed pipe section, known in the art. In one non-limiting embodiment, the system assembly **110** includes an outer string **120** and an inner string **160** placed inside the outer string **120**. The outer string **120** includes a pipe **122** and a number of devices associated with each of the zones **Z1-Zn** for performing treatment operations described in detail below. In one non-limiting embodiment, the outer string **120** includes a sealing member **123a**, outside and proximate to a bottom end **123** of the outer string **120**. The outer string **120** further includes a lower packer **124a**, an upper packer **124m** and intermediate packers **124b**, **124c**, etc. The

lower packer **124a** isolates the sump packer **109** from hydraulic pressure exerted in the outer string **120** during fracturing and sand packing of the production zones **Z1-Zn**. In this case the number of packers in the outer string **120** is one more than the number of zones **Z1-Zn**. In some cases, the lower packer **109**, however, may be utilized as the lower packer **124a**. In one non-limiting embodiment, the intermediate packers **124b**, **124c**, etc. may be configured to be independently deployed in any desired order so as to fracture and pack any of the zones **Z1-Zn** in any desired order. In another embodiment, some or all the packers may be configured to be deployed at the same time or substantially at the same time. In one aspect, packers **124a-124m** may be hydraulically set or deployed packers. In another aspect, packers **124a-124m** may be mechanically set or deployed.

[0011] Still referring to **FIG. 1**, the outer string **120** further includes a screen adjacent to each zone. For example, screen **S1** is shown placed adjacent to zone **Z1**, screen **S2** adjacent zone **Z2** and screen **Sn** adjacent to zone **Zn**. The lower packer **124a** and intermediate packer **124b**, when deployed, will isolate zone **Z1** from the remaining zones: packers **124b** and **124c** will isolate zone **Z2** and packers **124m-1** and **124m** will isolate zone **Zn**. In one non-limiting embodiment, each packer has an associated packer activation device, such as a valve, that allows selective deployment of its corresponding packer in any desired order. In **FIG. 1**, a packer activation device **125a** is associated with the lower packer **124a**, device **125b** with intermediate packer **124b**, device **125c** with intermediate packer **124c** and device **125m** with the upper packer **124m**. In one aspect, packers **124a-124m** may be hydraulically-activated packers. In one aspect, the lower packer **124a** and the upper packer **124m** may be activated at the same or substantially the same time when a fluid under pressure is supplied to the pipe **112**. In one non-limiting embodiment, the activation devices associated with the intermediate packers **124b**, **124c**, etc. may include a balanced piston device that remains under a balanced pressure condition (also referred to herein as the “inactive mode”) to prevent a pressure differential between the inside **120a** and outside **120b** of the outer string **120** to activate the packer. When a packer activation device is activated by an external mechanism, such mechanism allows pressure of the fluid in the outer string **120** to cause its associated packer to be set or deployed.

[0012] Still referring to **FIG. 1**, in one non-limiting embodiment, each of the screens **S1-Sn** may be made by serially connecting two or more screen sections with interconnecting connection members to form a screen of a desired length, wherein the interconnections

provide axial fluid communication between the adjacent screen sections. For example, screen **S_n** is shown to include screen sections **126** interconnected by connections **128**. The connections **128** may include a flow communication device, such as a sliding sleeve valve or sleeve **133**, to provide flow of the fluid **150** from the formation **102** into the outer string **120**. Similarly, other screens may also include several screen sections and corresponding connection devices. The connections **128** allow axial flow between the screen sections **126**. The outer string **120** also includes, for each zone, a flow control device, referred to as a slurry outlet or a gravel exit, such as a sliding sleeve valve or another valve, uphole or above its corresponding screen to provide fluid communication between the inside **120a** of the outer string **120** and each of the zones **Z1-Z_n**. As shown in **FIG. 1**, a slurry outlet **140a** is provided for zone **Z1** between screen **S1** and its intermediate packer **124b**, outlet **140b** for zone **Z2** and outlet **140n** for zone **Z_n**. In **FIG. 1**, device **140a** is shown open while devices **140b-140n** are shown closed so no fluid can flow from the inside **120a** of the outer string **120** to any of the zones **Z2-Z_n**, until opened downhole.

[0013] In yet another aspect, the outer string **120** may further include an inverted seal below and another above each inflow control device for performing a treatment operation. In **FIG. 1**, inverted seals **144a** and **144b** are shown associated with slurry outlet **140a**, inverted seals **146a** and **146b** with the slurry outlet **140b** and inverted seals **148a** and **148b** with slurry outlet **140n**. In one aspect, the inverted seals **144a**, **144b**, **146a**, **146b**, **148a** and **148b** may be configured so that they can be pushed inside **120a** of the outer string **120** or removed from the inside of the outer string **120** after completion of the treatment operations or during the deployment of a production string (not shown) for the production of hydrocarbons from wellbore **101**. Pushing inverted seals **144a** and **144b** inside **120a** of the outer string **120** or removing such seals from the inside **120a** of the outer string **120** provides increased inside diameter of the outer string **120** for the installation of a production string for the production of hydrocarbons from zones **Z1-Z_n** compared to an outer string having seals extending inside **120a** the outer string **120**. Seals **144a**, **144b**, **146a**, **146b**, **148a** and **148b** may, however, be placed on the outside of the inner string instead on the inside of the outer string. In one non-limiting embodiment, the outer string **120** also includes a zone indicating profile or locating profile (profile **190a** for zone **Z1**, profile **190b** for zone **Z2** and profile **190n** for zone **Z_n**) for each zone and a corresponding set down profile (**192a** for zone **Z1**, **192b** for zone **Z2** and **192n** for zone **Z_n**).

[0014] Still referring to **FIG. 1**, the inner string **160** (also referred to herein as the service string) may be a metallic tubular member **161** that in one embodiment includes an opening shifting tool **162** and a closing shifting tool **164** along the lower end **161a** of the inner string **160**. The inner string **160** further may include a reversing valve **166** that enables the removal of treatment fluid from the wellbore after treating each zone, and an up-strain locating tool **168** for locating a location uphole of each set down locations, such as location **190a** for zone **Z1**, **190b** for zone **Z2** and **190n** for Zone **Zn**, when the inner string **120** is pulled uphole. A set down tool or set down locating tool **170** is configured to selectively locate a zone, which may then be set down at such selected location for performing a treatment operation. The inner string **160** includes a plug **172** above the set down **170**, which prevents fluid communication between the space **172a** above the plug **172** and the space **172b** below the plug **172**. The inner string **160** further includes a crossover tool **174** (also referred to herein as the “frac port”) for providing a fluid path **175** between the inner string **160** and the outer string **120**. In one aspect, the frac port **174** also includes flow passages **176** therethrough, which passages may be gun-drilled through the frac port **174** to provide fluid communication between space **172a** and **172b**. In one embodiment, the passages **176** are sufficiently narrow that the fluid flow through such passages is relatively small. The passages **176**, however, are sufficient to provide fluid flow and thus pressure communication between spaces **172a** and **172b**.

[0015] To perform a treatment operation in a particular zone, for example zone **Z1**, lower packer **124a** and upper packer **124m** are set or deployed. Setting the upper **124m** and lower packer **124a** anchors the outer string **120** inside the casing **104**. The production zone **Z1** is then isolated from all the other zones. To isolate zone **Z1** from the remaining zones **Z2-Zn**, the inner string **160** is manipulated so as to cause the opening tool **164** to open a monitoring valve **133a** in screen **S1**. The inner string **160** is then manipulated (moved up and/or down) inside the outer string **120** so that the set down tool **170** locates the locating or indicating profile **190a**. The set down tool **170** is then manipulated to cause it to set down in the set down profile **192a**. When the set down tool **170** is set down at location **192a**, the frac port **174** is adjacent to the slurry outlet **140a**. The pipe **161** of the inner string **160** has a sealing section that comes in contact with the Inverted seals **144a** and **144b**, thereby isolating or sealing section **165** between the seals **144a** and **144b** that contains the slurry outlet **140a** and the frac port **174** adjacent to slurry outlet **140a**, while providing fluid communication between

the inner string and the slurry outlet **140a**. Sealing section **165** from the section **169** allows the lower port **127a** of the packer setting device **125b** to be exposed to the pressure in the section **165** while the upper port **127b** is exposed to pressure in section **169**. The packer **124b** is then set to isolate zone **Z1**. Once the packer **124b** has been set, frac sleeve **140a** is opened, as shown in **FIG 1**, to supply slurry or another fluid to zone **Z1** to perform a fracturing or a treatment operation. Once zone **Z1** has been treated, the treatment fluid in the wellbore **101** is removed by the use of the reversing valve **166**. The inner string **160** may then be moved so that the set down tool **170** at another zone for treatment operations.

[0016] **FIGS. 2-5** show a sequence of operation of a non-limiting embodiment of a set down tool **200** carried by the inner string **160** and disposed inside the outer string **120** shown in **FIG. 1**. The outer string **120** is shown to include a locating or indicating profile **290** and a set down profile **295**. In one aspect, the locating profile **290** includes a lower profile **292a** and an upper profile **292b** with a locking indent **292c** therebetween. The set down profile **295** includes a lower shoulder (referred to herein as the set down shoulder) **295a** and an upper shoulder **295b**. The set down tool **200** includes a set down device **210** on the outside of a mandrel **202**. The mandrel **202** includes a mechanical stop **202a**. The set down device **210** includes a set down section **210a**, an alignment section **210b** and a locating section **210c**. The set down section **210a** includes: a set down collet **220** configured to selectively set down the tool **200** in any of the set down profiles **295** in the outer string **120**. The alignment section **210b** includes an alignment or activating device **240** that enables or activates the set down collet **220** to set down in the selected set down profile **295** and a locking device, such as collet **270** that operates or activates the alignment device **240**, while maintaining a locating collet **290** in the locating section **210c** engaged with the locating profile **290** in the outer string **120**.

[0017] The set down collet **220** includes an outer profile **222** having a lower shoulder **222a** and an upper shoulder **222b**. The set down collet **220** has an inner profile **224** that includes shoulders **224a** and **224b**. The mandrel **202** includes an outer set down profile **204** having shoulders **204a** and **204b**. The inner profile **224** of set down collet **220** is configured to engage with the profile **204** of the mandrel **202**. In **FIG. 2**, the inner profile **222** of the set down collet **220** is shown engaged with the outer profile **204** of mandrel **202**. A biasing member, such as spring **230**, in the set down collet **220** is retained by a retaining pin **206** on the mandrel **202**. In one non-limiting embodiment, the alignment section **210b** may include an alignment device, such as an indexing device **240**, that includes an indexing sleeve **242**

containing a number of axial travel slots **245** and a pin **244** that travels or moves in such slots to cause the indexing sleeve **242** to rotate about the mandrel **202**. Thus, indexing sleeve **242** rotates about the mandrel **202** when indexing pin **244** travels axially (one stroke up or down) inside slots **245**. In one aspect, the indexing sleeve **242** may be configured to complete one rotation in any desired number of axial movements of the pin **244** in the slots **245**. In the particular configuration of **FIG. 2**, the indexing sleeve **242** completes one rotation in four axial strokes of the pin **244**. The indexing sleeve **242** further includes a notch **246** (hidden in **FIG. 1** but visible in **FIGS. 4 and 5**) at its lower end **242a**. The set down collet **220** includes a pin member **228** at its upper end **220b** that mates with the notch **246** of the indexing sleeve **242** when the indexing sleeve **242** is in an alignment position, as shown and described in reference to **FIGS. 4-5**. The indexing sleeve **242** does not move axially within the set down device **210** and is retained in position by a lower indexing sleeve stop **248a** and an upper indexing sleeve stop **248b**. Pin **244** is attached to the mandrel **202** and thus, when the mandrel **202** moves upward inside the setting device **210**, pin **244** moves in one of the slots **245** and when the mandrel **202** moves downward inside the setting device **210**, pin **244** moves in the next adjacent slot **245** in the indexing sleeve **242**, thereby causing the indexing sleeve **242** to rotate about the mandrel **202** one-fourth of a turn with each axial stroke of the pin **244**.

[0018] The indicating collet section **210c** includes an indicating collet or locating collet **260** that includes a locating profile **262** having a lower profile **262a**, an upper profile **262b** and a locking indent **262c**. As discussed earlier in reference to **FIG. 1**, the outer string **120** includes an indicating profile **290** corresponding to each zone. In one non-limiting embodiment, the indicating profile **262** of the indicating collet **260** may be configured to engage with only the locating or indicating profiles **290** in the outer string **120**. In one aspect, the indicating profile **262** may be configured such that when the set down tool **200** moves in the downward or downhole direction, the profile **262** will not engage with any of the profiles **290** or any other profile in the outer string **120**. The profile **262**, however, may be configured to engage with each locating profile **290**, to the exclusion of any other profile in the outer string **120**, to engage with each locating profile **290** when the set down tool **200** is moved in the upward or uphole direction. As described later, this allows the set down tool **200** to locate and set down at any selected set down location in the outer string **120**. Therefore, when the inner string **160** with the set down device **210** having indicating collet profile **260** moves within the outer string

120, the indicating profile **262** on the indicating collet **260** will engage only with the indicating profiles **290** on the outer string **120** in the upward direction.

[0019] The locking collet **270** includes an inner profile **274** configured to engage with each of the spaced-apart locking profiles or grooves **207** and **209** in the mandrel **202**. In **FIG. 1**, the indicating collet **260** is shown engaged with the indicating profile **290** in the outer string **120**, the locking collet **274** is shown engaged with the lower locking profile **207** in the mandrel **202**, the pin **228** of the set down collet **220** is not engaged with or in alignment with notch **246** of the indexing sleeve **242** and the set down collet shoulder **222a** is not abutting against the lower shoulder **295a** of the set down profile **295**. In one aspect, the load (**F1**) required to disengage or move the locking collet **270** from the locking grooves **207** or **209** in the mandrel **202** is less than the load (**F2**) required to disengage the indicating profile **262** of the indicating collet **260** from the indicating profile **290**. Thus, when the indicating collet profile **262** is engaged with the profile **290** in the outer string **120** and the locking collet **270** is engaged with either of the locking profiles **207** or **209**, a load between two such loads (**F1** and **F2**) will cause the mandrel **202** to move between the locking profiles **207** and **209**, causing the pin **244** to travel axially in one of the slots **245**, causing the index sleeve **242** to rotate one-fourth of a turn, without disengaging the collet **260** from the locating profile **290**.

[0020] **FIG. 3** shows a configuration **300** of the set down tool **200** in which the indexing sleeve **242** has been rotated one segment by moving the mandrel **202** upward (uphole) from the configuration shown in **FIG. 2**. When the mandrel **202** is pulled upward or uphole with a load between **F1** and **F2**, the indicating profile **262** of the indicating collet **260** remains engaged with the locating profile **290**. Such a load, however, is sufficient to cause the locking collet **270** to disengage from the locking profile **207** and allow the mandrel **202** to move upward, which allows the locking profile **209** to engage with the locking collet **270**. Moving the locking profile **207** upward, causes the pin **245** to travel axially, causing the indexing sleeve **242** to rotate one segment. The set down collet **220** remains in the same position as shown in **FIG. 2** as the pin **228** is not yet aligned with the notch **246** of the indexing sleeve **242**. The index sleeve rotates one segment with each axial stroke (up or down) of the mandrel.

[0021] **FIG. 4** shows a configuration **400** of the set down tool **200** when the indexing sleeve **242** has been rotated another segment by moving the mandrel **202** downward (downhole) to align the pin **228** of the set down collet **220** with the notch **246** of the indexing

sleeve **242**. When the mandrel **202** is moved downward from the configuration of **FIG. 3** with a load between **F1** and **F2**, the indicating profile **262** of the indicating collet **260** remains engaged with the locating profile **290**. The load being greater than **F1** causes the locking profile **209** to disengage from the locking collet **270** and allows the mandrel **202** to move downward causing the locking profile **207** to engage with the locking collet **270**, as shown in **FIG. 4**. Moving (or cycling or shifting) the locking positions between **207** and **209** causes the pin **244** to travel along one of the slots **245**, thereby rotating the indexing sleeve **242** one segment (in this case one-fourth of a completed turn). The configuration of **FIG. 4** shows that notch **246** of the indexing sleeve is now aligned with the pin **228** of the set down collet **220**. Therefore, the set down collet **220** is activated and is capable of moving. As shown in **FIG. 5**, applying a downward load on the mandrel **202** above **F2** will cause the mandrel **202** to move downward to cause the stop **202a** to engage the set down device **210** and apply the load on the set down device **210**, causing the indicating profile **262** to disengage from the locating profile **292**. Moving the mandrel downward causes pin **228** to engage in notch **246** and allows the set down collet **220** to move downward, which causes the shoulder **222a** of the set down collet **220** to abut against the set down shoulder **295a** of the set down profile **295**, thereby setting the set down tool **200** at the selected location **290** in the outer string.

[0022] Thus, in the non-limiting embodiment of **FIGS. 2-5**, the locking collet **270** is configured to respectively lock in with the spaced-apart locking profiles or grooves **207** and **209** on the mandrel **202**. Locking collet **270** maintains the locating collet **260** in its neutral position, i.e., engaged with the locating profile **290** in the outer string **120**, as shown in **FIG. 2**. In one aspect, the locking collet **270** along with the grooves **207** and **209** prevent unintentionally cycling (i.e., up and down from the neutral position) of the locating collet **260**. The locking collet **260** in essence generates resistance to motion that enables the locating collet **260** to become engaged with the locating profile **290**. Also, the last motion of the mandrel **202** downward can align the set down collet **220**, push the locating collet **260** through the locating profile **290** and move the set down collet **220** to the set down position, i.e., moves the set down collet **220** to shoulder out at shoulder **295a**, beyond which the set down tool **200** cannot move. Moving the mandrel upward **202** from this position will rotate the indexing sleeve **242** one cycle, which would release the set down collet **220** from its aligned position (i.e., unlock the collet **220**). The spring **288** would then move the set down collet **220** upward in the position shown in **FIG. 1**. Thus, in aspects, the set down tool **200** includes an apparatus

that holds the locating collet **260** in its neutral or engaged position in the outer string **120** while the indexing or alignment device **240** activates the set down collet **220**.

[0023] **FIG. 6** shows an alternative embodiment of the set down tool **600** that utilizes a bidirectional pre-loaded spring device **620** as the locking device for operating the alignment device **240** instead of the locking device **260** collet **260** shown in **FIG. 2**. The locating collet **260**, the indexing device **240** and the set down collet **220** remain the same as shown in **FIG. 2**. In one non-limiting embodiment, the locking device **620** includes a bidirectional pre-loaded spring **630** between a lower stop **632** and an upper stop **634**. Referring to **FIGS. 2** and **6**, pushing the mandrel **202** downward with a force between **F3** and **F4** moves the mandrel **202** from a first position **634a** to **634b**, causing the index sleeve **244** to rotate one segment, while maintaining the locating collet **260** engaged with the locating profile **290**. Moving the mandrel **202** upward will rotate the index sleeve one segment and move the spring **630** back to its neutral position shown in **FIG. 6** while maintaining the locating collet **260** engaged with the locating profile **290**. Once the set down collet **220** has been activated or aligned, moving the set down tool **600** downward with a force greater than **F3** will cause the set down tool **600** to set down in the set down profile **295** as described in reference to **FIG. 5**.

[0024] After completion of a downhole operation, such as a treatment operation, the inner string **160** may be moved to another location having a locating profile **290** to perform another downhole operation. For ease of explanation, the embodiments of the set down tool **200** and their operations are described in relation to an inner string **160** inside an outer string **120** for performing a treatment operation, such as fracking. Such tools, however, may be utilized in any other system. In the embodiment described herein, each indicating profile **190** is same so that the set down tool can locate each such profile and set down the inner string at the selected location to treat any desired zone.

[0025] The foregoing disclosure is directed to the certain exemplary embodiments and methods. Various modifications will be apparent to those skilled in the art. It is intended that all such modifications within the scope of the appended claims be embraced by the foregoing disclosure. The words "comprising" and "comprises" as used in the claims are to be interpreted to mean "including but not limited to". Also, the abstract is not to be used to limit the scope of the claims.

CLAIMS

1. An apparatus for use in a wellbore; comprising:
a set down tool that includes:
a locating device configured to engage with an outer member at a selected location;
a set down device configured to set down in a set down profile in the outer member when the set down device is activated;
an alignment device for activating the set down device; and
a locking device configured operate the alignment device to activate the set down device while maintaining the locating device engaged with the outer member.
2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the set down tool is placed in an inner string and the locating profile is inside the outer member.
3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the set down device includes a set down collet and the alignment device includes an indexing device.
4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the locking device includes a movable member configured to move between a first locking profile and a second locking profile to operate the alignment device to activate the set down device.
5. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the first and the second locking profiles are on the movable member and the locking device further includes a locking collet that engages with the first and the second locking profiles to enable the movable member to move between the first and the second locking profiles.
6. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the locking device includes a preloaded biasing member that enables a moving member to move between spaced apart locking positions to operate the alignment device.
7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the alignment device includes an indexing sleeve having a plurality of radial slots and at least one pin configured to move in the plurality of radial slots, wherein moving the pin in the radial slots a plurality of times causes the indexing sleeve to rotate to activate the set down device.
8. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein force to disengage the locating device from the outer member is greater than the force to move the movable member to cause the alignment device to activate the setting device.
9. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein force to disengage the locating device from the outer member is greater than the force to move the movable member against the preloaded spring to cause the alignment device to activate the set down device.

10. An apparatus for use in a wellbore; comprising:
a set down tool that includes:
a first collet configured to engage with an outer member at a selected location;
a second collet configured to set down in a set down profile in the outer member when the set down collet is activated;
an alignment device for activating the set down device; and
a locking device to operate the alignment device to cause the alignment device to activate the set down device.

11. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the locking device comprises:
a mandrel movable within the first collet and the second collet, the mandrel having a first locking profile and a second locking profile;
a third collet that engages with the first locking profile and the second locking profile;
and
wherein moving the mandrel causes the third collet to switch engagement between the first locking profile and the second locking profile to cause the alignment device to activate the second collet without disengaging the first collet from the outer member.

12. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the locking device comprises a preloaded spring that enables a mandrel to move within the first collet and the second collet to operate the alignment device to activate the second collet without disengaging the first collet from the outer member.

13. A method of performing an operation in a wellbore; comprising:
conveying a service assembly into a wellbore, the service assembly including an outer string having a plurality of spaced apart locating profiles and set down profiles and an inner string having a set down tool that includes: a locating device configured to engage with a locating profile on the outer string at a selected location; a set down device configured to set down in the set down profile in the outer string when the set down device is activated; and an alignment device for activating the set down device; and a locking device configured to cause the alignment device to activate the set down device while maintaining the locating device engaged with the locating profile:

engaging the locating device with a selected locating profile;
operating the alignment device by the locking device to activate the set down device, while maintaining the locating device engaged with the selected locating profile; and
moving the set down tool to set down the set down device in the set down profile.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the locking device includes a locking collet and a mandrel having a first locking profile and a second locking profile, the method further comprising cycling the mandrel within the set down tool a plurality of times to engage the locking collet with the first and second locking profiles to cycle the alignment device to activate the set down device.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein the locking device includes a preloaded spring around a mandrel and wherein operating the locking device comprises cycling the mandrel between two positions about the preloaded spring to operate the alignment device.

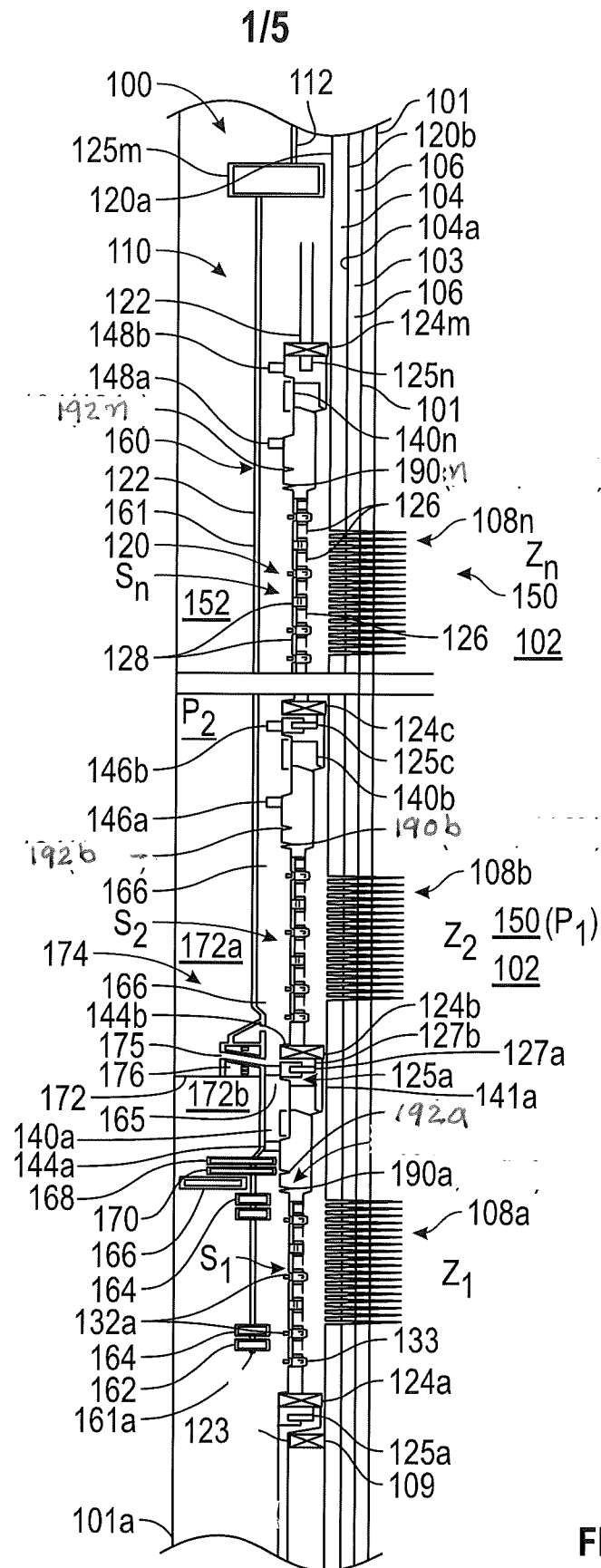
16. The method of claim 13, wherein application of a first load on the locating device disengages the locating device from the locating profile and a second load less than the first load enables the locking device to operate the alignment device.

17. The method of claim 13, wherein the locating device is a first collet, the set down device is a second collet and the alignment device is an indexing device.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the locking device comprises a mandrel having a first locking profile and a second locking profile and a third collet configured to engage with the first and second locking profiles and wherein alternately engaging the first and second locking profiles with the third collet operates the alignment device.

19. The method of claim 13 further comprising applying a first load to the locating device to operate the alignment device and a second load to disengage the locating device from the locating profile wherein the first load is less than the second load.

20. The method of claim 13 further comprising performing a treatment operation in a zone in the wellbore associated with the selected location.



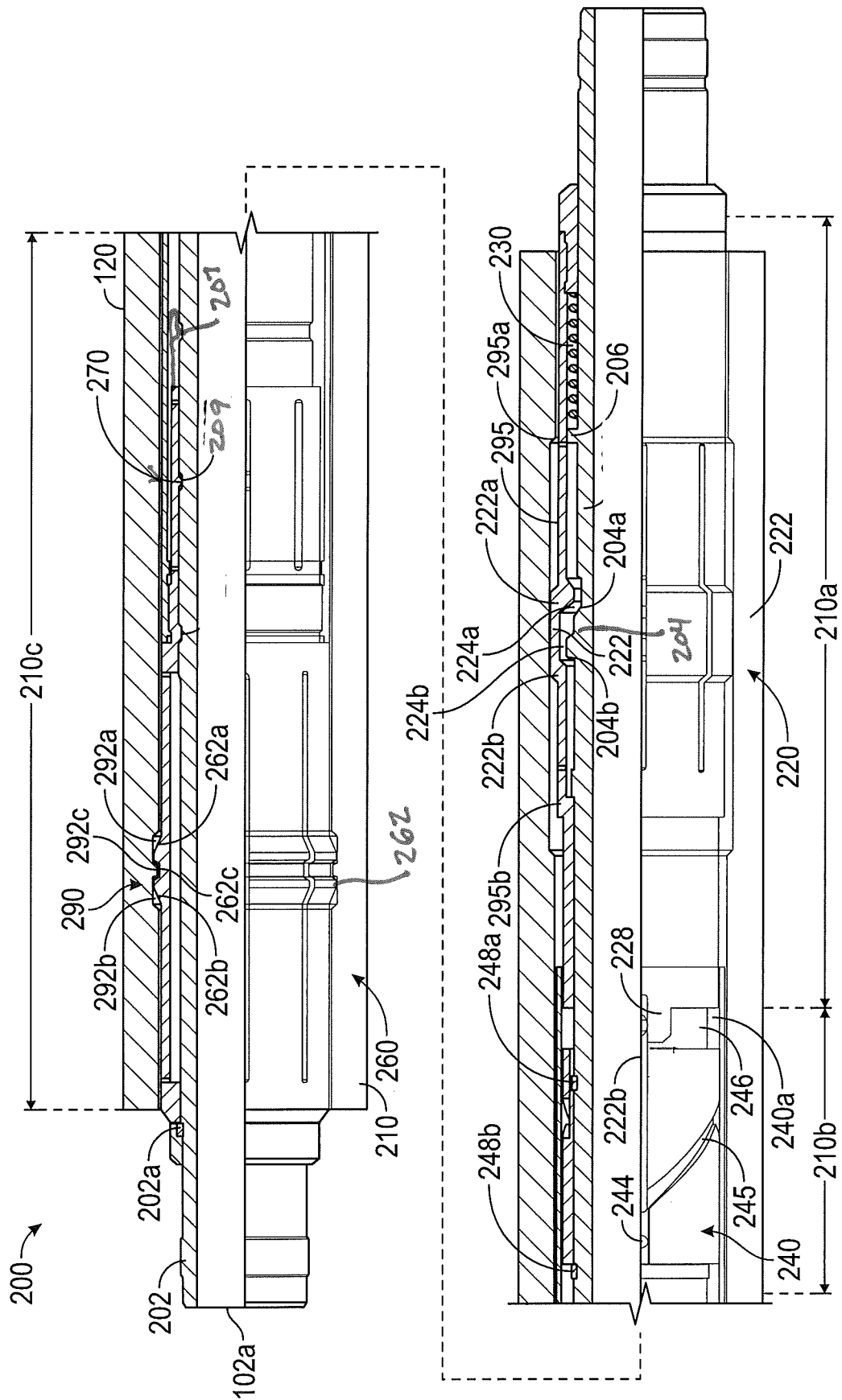


FIG. 2

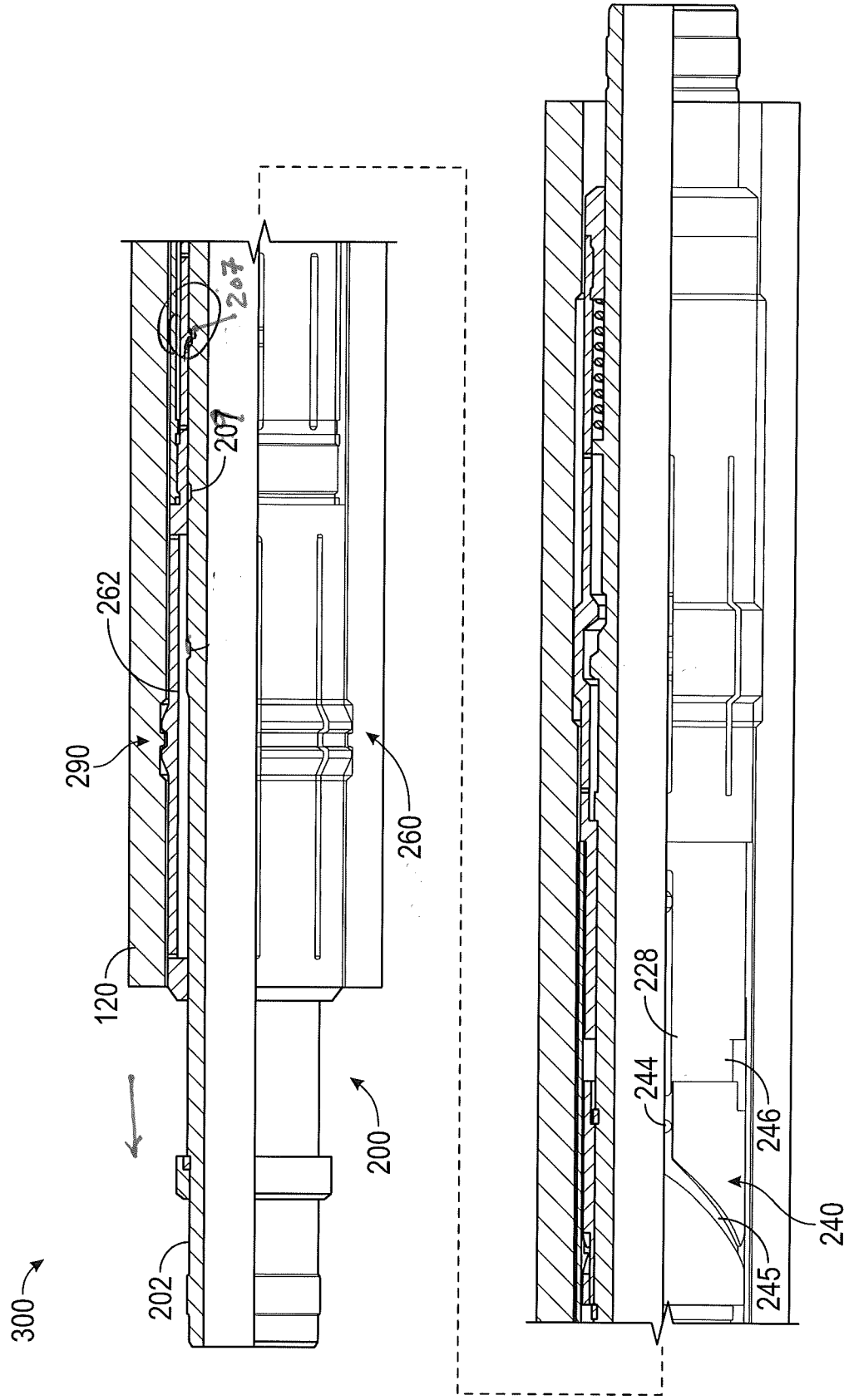


FIG. 3

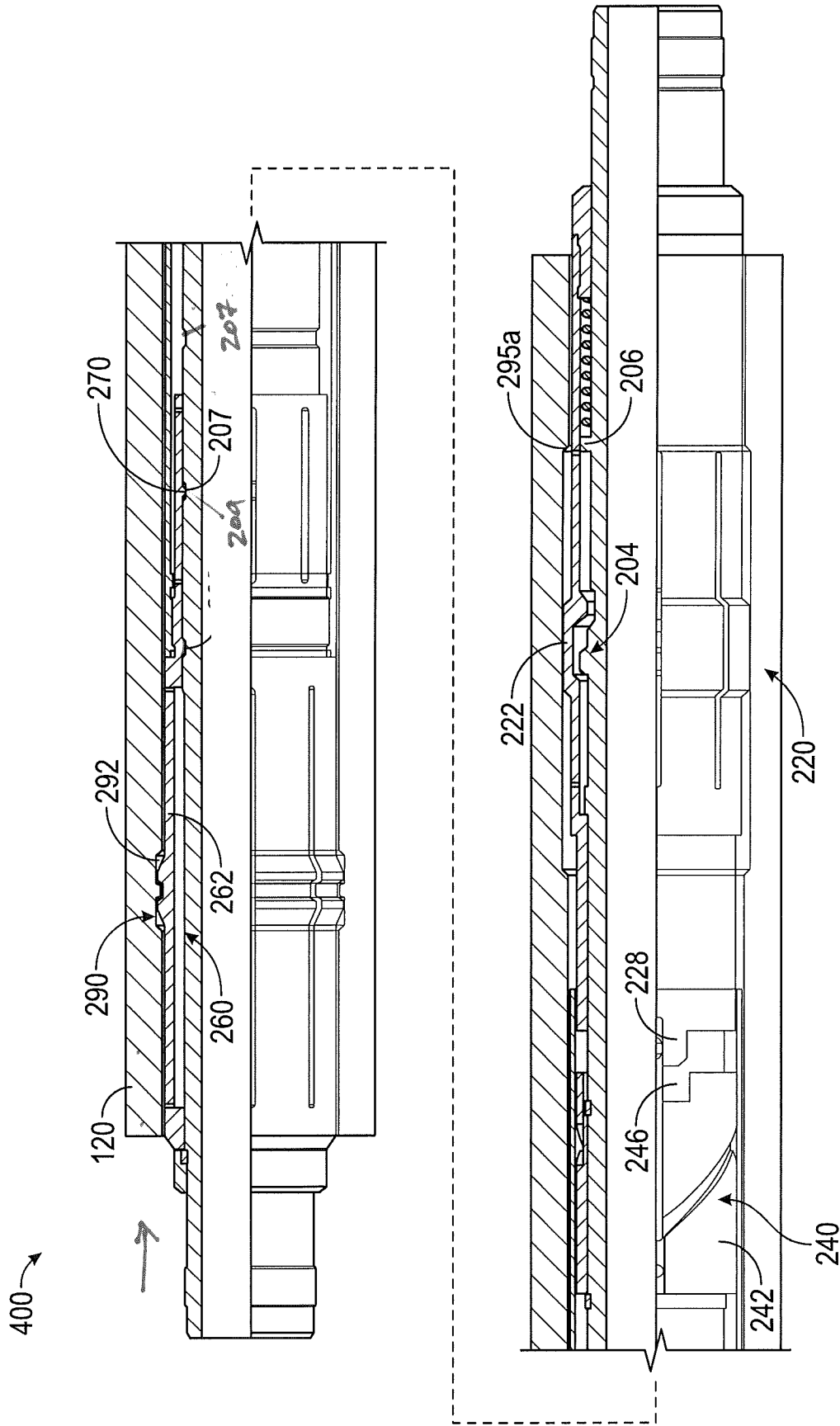


FIG. 4

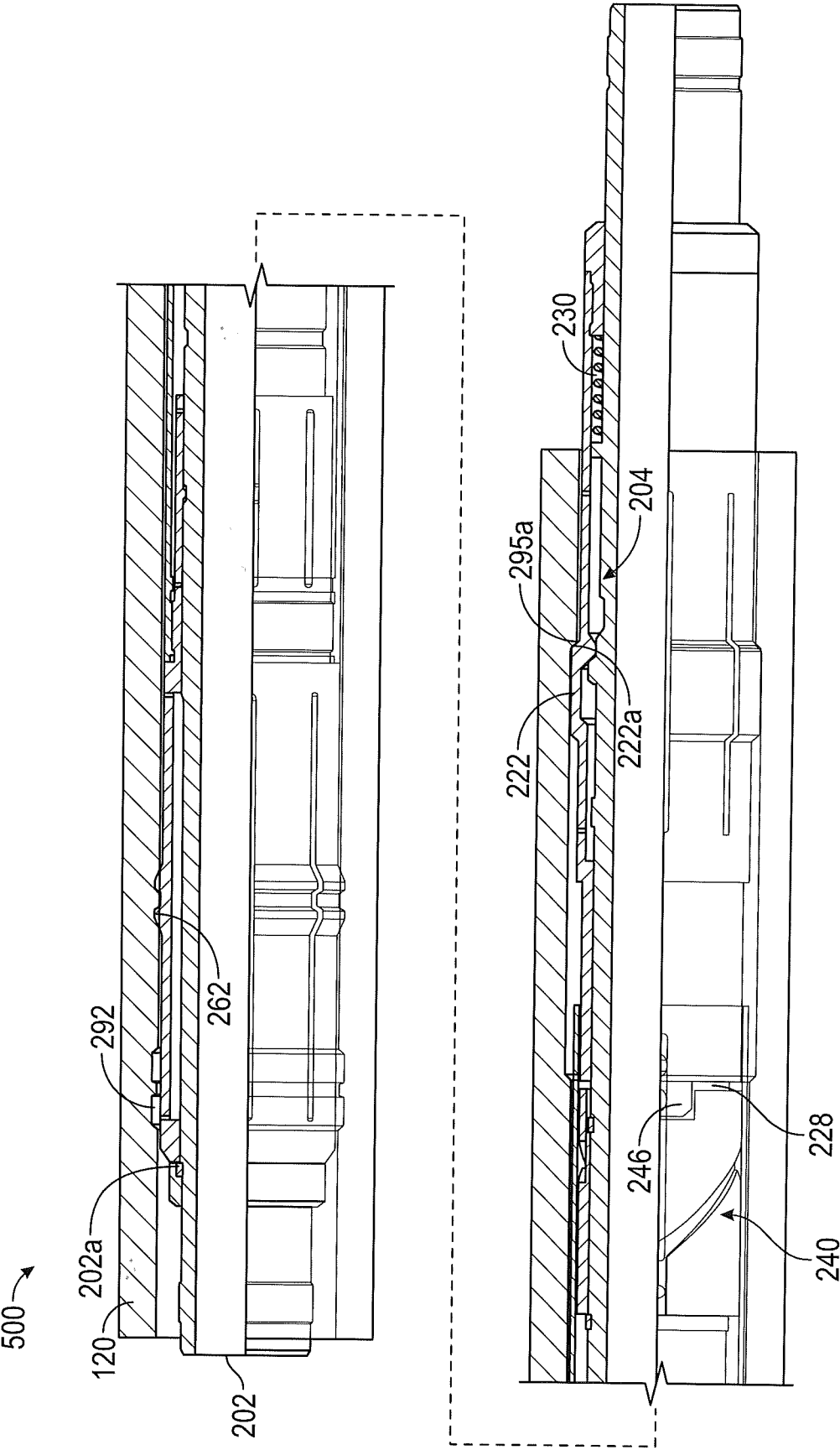


FIG. 5

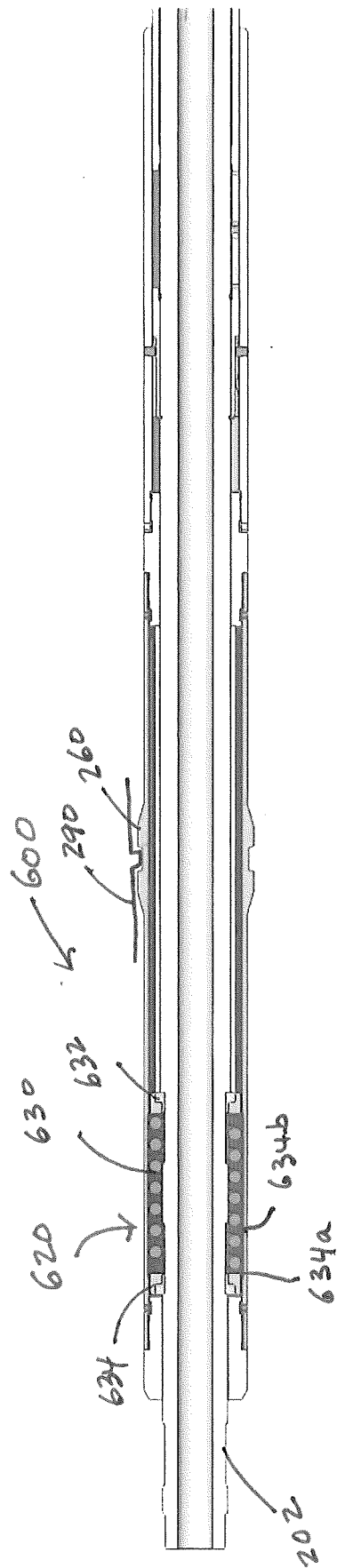


FIG. 6

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2014/055887**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER****E21B 17/00(2006.01)i, E21B 23/02(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 17/00; E21B 43/04; E21B 7/12; E21B 17/06; E21B 33/13; E21B 23/00; E21B 33/16; E21B 23/02

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: wellbore, outer string, inner string, set down tool, locating profile, alignment, locking, collet, service assembly

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 2011-0048706 A1 (CLEM et al.) 03 March 2011 See abstract, paragraphs [0024], [0029], [0050], claim 1, and figures 1,5.	1-20
A	US 2002-0092653 A1 (SCOTT et al.) 18 July 2002 See abstract, paragraphs [0033], [0037], claim 1, and figure 2A.	1-20
A	US 8220555 B1 (WINTILL et al.) 17 July 2012 See abstract, column 3, line 25 - column 4, line 37, and figures 1-3.	1-20
A	US 2003-0188894 A1 (SUNDE et al.) 09 October 2003 See abstract, paragraph [0015], claims 1-7, and figures 1-3.	1-20
A	US 4176717 A (HIX, HAROLD A.) 04 December 1979 See abstract, column 5, line 1 - column 6, line 60, and figures 2-2B.	1-20



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"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

Date of the actual completion of the international search

18 December 2014 (18.12.2014)

Date of mailing of the international search report

18 December 2014 (18.12.2014)

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/US2014/055887

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