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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

— of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv))

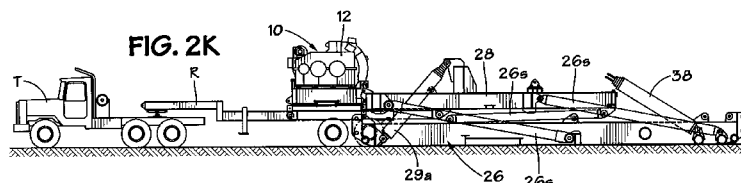
Published:

— with international search report (Art. 21(3))

— before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
29 October 2009

(54) Title: A METHOD FOR FACILITATING CONSTRUCTION OF A DRILING RIG



(57) Abstract: A method for facilitating construction of a drilling rig, the method comprising the steps of moving a drawworks (10) on movement apparatus (T,R) along ground (G) adjacent a drill floor (28) of a drilling rig structure (20), the drilling rig structure (20) having a substructure (26) and raising apparatus (29a) on said substructure (26) for raising said drill floor (28), raising said drill floor (28) with said drawworks (10) using said raising apparatus (39) of said substructure (26).



WO 2009/106863 A3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/GB2009/050093

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER INV. E21B7/02				
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				
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 practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal				
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.		
X	US 2004/211598 A1 (PALIDIS ANASTASIOS [US]) 28 October 2004 (2004-10-28) paragraph [0051]; figures 1, 3A, 4A, 9 sentences 1, 2, 5-7, paragraph 57 paragraph [0058] sentences 7-9, paragraph 66 paragraphs [0067], [0086] sentences 11-13, paragraph 88	1-3, 7-9, 12, 22		
A	US 2005/193645 A1 (BARNES R M [US] BARNES R MICHAEL [US]) 8 September 2005 (2005-09-08) sentences 9-11, paragraph 64; figures 1, 8, 9 ----- -/--	1-9, 12, 22		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.				
* Special categories of cited documents :				
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none; vertical-align: top;"> *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) *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 </td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none; vertical-align: top;"> *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. *Z* document member of the same patent family </td> </tr> </table>			*A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) *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. *Z* document member of the same patent family
A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) *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. *Z* document member of the same patent family			
Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report			
1 September 2009	09/09/2009			
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Georgescu, Mihnea			

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/GB2009/050093

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 3 201 091 A (WOOLSLAYER HOMER J ET AL) 17 August 1965 (1965-08-17) cited in the application figure 3	1-9, 12, 22
A	----- US 3 749 183 A (BRANHAM D ET AL) 31 July 1973 (1973-07-31) cited in the application figure 1 -----	1-9, 12, 22

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/GB2009/050093

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple Inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers allsearchable claims.

2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.

3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1-9, 12, 22

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-9, 12, 22

Method of constructing a drilling rig comprising the steps of moving a drawworks on a movement apparatus adjacent a drill floor of a drilling rig having a substructure and a raising apparatus for raising said drill floor, raising said drill floor with said drawworks using said raising apparatus of the structure, wherein (potential special technical feature of claim 4) said drawworks is rotatably mounted on the movement apparatus, the method comprising the step of rotating the drawworks with respect to the movement apparatus prior to connecting the drawworks to the drill floor

Technical problem: to reduce the number of manoeuvres of the movement apparatus needed for reaching the correct positioning of the drawworks with regard to the drill floor in order to connect the two elements

2. claims: 10-11, 15-21

Method of constructing a drilling rig comprising the steps of moving a drawworks on a movement apparatus adjacent a drill floor of a drilling rig having a substructure and a raising apparatus for raising said drill floor, raising said drill floor with said drawworks using said raising apparatus of the structure, wherein (potential special technical feature of claim 10) the drill floor has an interior open space in which the movement apparatus can be introduced to move the drawworks prior to connecting the drawworks to the drill floor

Technical problem: how to provide an improved mass center of the drill floor having the drawworks connected to it, in order to allow an easier raising of the assembly

3. claims: 13-14

Method of constructing a drilling rig comprising the steps of moving a drawworks on a movement apparatus adjacent a drill floor of a drilling rig having a substructure and a raising apparatus for raising said drill floor, raising said drill floor with said drawworks using said raising apparatus of the structure, wherein (potential special technical feature of claim 13) the drill floor comprises an extension apparatus extendable to engage the drawworks, the method comprising the step of extending the extension apparatus from the drill floor to engage the drawworks

Technical problem: how attach the drawworks to the drill floor

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/GB2009/050093

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date	
US 2004211598	A1	28-10-2004	BR PI0409719 A	02-05-2006
			CA 2523505 A1	11-11-2004
			EP 1627127 A2	22-02-2006
			MX PA05011502 A	03-07-2006
			WO 2004097158 A2	11-11-2004
US 2005193645	A1	08-09-2005	NONE	
US 3201091	A	17-08-1965	NONE	
US 3749183	A	31-07-1973	NONE	