Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MOVING FLUID

Abstract: A method of supplying water from a well is provided. First, a supply apparatus is provided that includes a container and a first chamber. The apparatus has a fluid conduit for transporting the water from the first chamber. Next, at least a portion of the second end of the container is submerged in the well such that the first chamber contains a quantity of air. Then, at least a portion of the quantity of air from the first chamber is removed by an air compressor thereby drawing a vacuum within the first chamber. The vacuum in turn draws a quantity of water from the well into the first chamber through the first opening. Next, the removal of air is stopped when the water has obtained a first predetermined level within the first chamber. The first opening is then closed. Compressed air is supplied to the first chamber from the air compressor thereby forcing at least a portion of the quantity of water out of the first chamber. Finally, the supply of compressed air is stopped when the water has obtained a second predetermined level within the first chamber.
Published:  with international search report

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
17 January 2002

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.
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 E03B 3/10

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 7 E03B 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>DE 195 30 060 A (KAISERGEOCONSULT GMBH) 20 February 1997 (1997-02-20) column 1, line 62 - column 2, line 50 figure</td>
<td>1,5-9, 14-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>DE 12 42 516 B (DEGEN, DIPLO-ING. WILHELM) 15 June 1967 (1967-06-15) column 2, line 20 - line 32 column 3, line 28 - column 4, line 5 figure</td>
<td>1,5,6, 14-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>GB 1 586 630 A (ELMER S) 25 March 1981 (1981-03-25) page 2, line 123 - page 3, line 29 page 1, line 73 - line 80 figure 1</td>
<td>2-4, 11-13, 17-19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. 

Patent family members are listed in 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 document 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

** 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

*** 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

**** 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

20 July 2001

Date of mailing of the international search report

31/07/2001

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P. B. 5018 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx 31 651 epo nl, Fax (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Urbahn, S
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patent document cited in search report</th>
<th>Publication date</th>
<th>Patent family member(s)</th>
<th>Publication date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DE 19530060 A</td>
<td>20-02-1997</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DE 1242516 B</td>
<td></td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GB 1586630 A</td>
<td>25-03-1981</td>
<td>DE 2714261 A</td>
<td>05-10-1978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BE 865602 A</td>
<td>17-07-1978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>FR 2385850 A</td>
<td>27-10-1978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>NL 7801147 A</td>
<td>03-10-1978</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>