

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
19 August 2004 (19.08.2004)

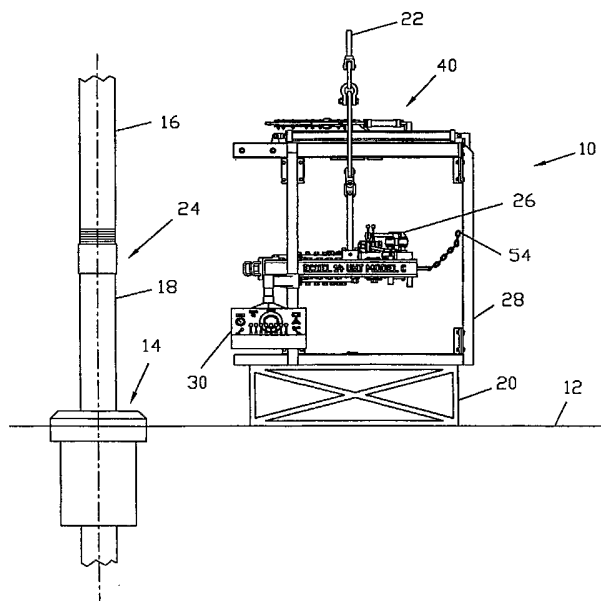
PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/069480 A3

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **E21B 19/16**
- (21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2004/002737
- (22) International Filing Date: 30 January 2004 (30.01.2004)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
60/444,518 3 February 2003 (03.02.2003) US
10/428,577 2 May 2003 (02.05.2003) US
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- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: TONG POSITIONING SYSTEM AND METHOD



(57) Abstract: A tong positioning system positions a power tong about an oilfield tubular connection to make up or break out a threaded connection. An extendable arm and a retainer device on the extendable arm. In a preferred embodiment, the retainer device comprises opposing laterally-movable retainer arms defining an adjustable opening for at least partially enclosing one of the upper tubular and the lower tubular. The extendable arm is retractable for thereafter moving the power tong laterally toward the tubular connection.



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*

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.

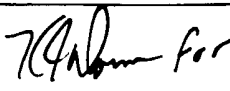
(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

30 September 2004

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/02737

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER																						
IPC(7) : E21B 19/16 US CL : 166/380																						
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. : 166/380, 377, 378, 77.51, 85.1, 85.5																						
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) USPAT, US-PGPUB, EPO, JPO, DERWENT, IBM_TDB																						
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT																						
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.																				
X	US 4,843,945 A (DINSDALE) 04 July 1989 (04.07.1989), see entire document	1,2,4,10,11,14,16,17, 19-21,23-25																				
A,P	US 5,591,471 B1 (HOLLINGSWORTH et al.) 15 July 2003 (15.07.2003)																					
☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.																						
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Date of the actual completion of the international search 15 July 2004 (15.07.2004)		Date of mailing of the international search report 04 AUG 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 Randolph Reese  Telephone No. 703-308-1113																				