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(30) Priority: **21.08.1997 US 56201 P**

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(54) Tractor pipelaying unit

(57) Improvements are made to prior tractors supported and driven by a rubber track (62) having bogie wheels (61) to increase the boom lifting capacity. The improvements include a main subframe having a loop-like structure which has a center section (74) extending under the tractor frame (70,72) midway between the

front idler wheels (63) and rear drive wheels (65), two end sections (76,80) extending outwardly, one end section (76) supporting the drawworks (78) and the other end (80) supporting the fairlead (82). A rigid cross member extends from the fairlead (82) to the drawworks (78) and is positioned above the tractor frame (70,72) beneath the cab (106).

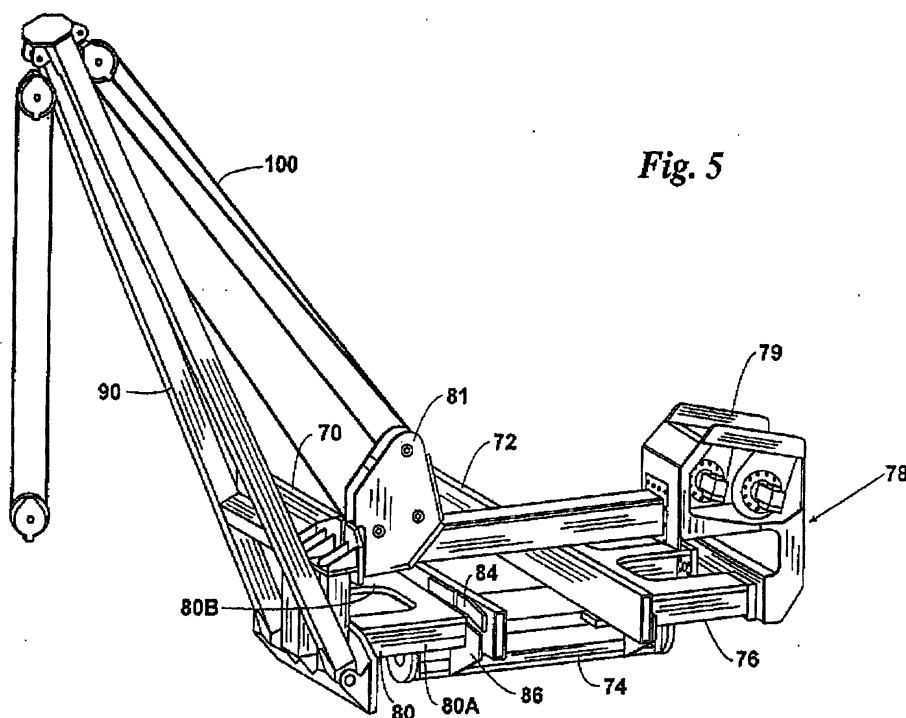


Fig. 5

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 98 30 6735

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			B66C
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 27 December 1999	Examiner Van den Berghe, E
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82