Title (en)
Method for detecting drillstring washouts.

Title (de)
Verfahren zur Feststellung von Lecks in Bohrgestängen.

Title (fr)
Procédé de détection de fuites dans une colonne de forage.

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Application
EP 93201208 A 19930427

Priority
GB 9211048 A 19920523

Abstract (en)
A method of detecting a drillstring washout during an operation involving the addition or removal of pipes from the drillstring such as back reaming, comprising: a) performing at least one such operation and determining by hydraulic coefficient k from the relationship $P = kQ^{a}$, where Q is the flow rate, P is the standpipe pressure and a is the flow exponent, from each pipe added or removed, so as to derive a series of values indicating the development of k for said operations, and b) on subsequent operations, determining k and comparing the determined values with the series obtained previously, a drillstring washout being detected when the determined value of k falls substantially below the corresponding value of k in the series. The trend in the development of k can be calculated and used to determine if an anomaly exists in the determined value of k. <IMAGE>

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CPC (source: EP US)
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