

Title (en)

Air drilling system and method for containing and separating cuttings

Title (de)

Luftbohrenrichtung und Verfahren zur Lagerung und Abscheidung des Bohrkleins

Title (fr)

Système de forage à l'air et procédé pour contenir et séparer les débris de forage

Publication

EP 1120542 A2 20010801 (EN)

Application

EP 01100898 A 20010116

Priority

US 49251500 A 20000127

Abstract (en)

Cuttings are removed from air drilling fluid used in an air drilling system by delivering the cuttings and air drilling fluid into an air-tight enclosure (22), decreasing the flow rate of the air through the enclosure (22) to allow the cuttings to settle and separate from the airflow and be contained within the enclosure (22). The air, substantially devoid of the cuttings, is discharged. The enclosure (22) is positioned at an angle to facilitate the discharge of the contained cuttings. Preferably, the enclosure (22) is of a size which will allow it to be transported on public highways without special movement permits, and the exhalating equipment used may be contained within the enclosure (22) during transportation. <IMAGE>

IPC 1-7

E21B 21/07; **E21B 21/16**

IPC 8 full level

E21B 21/07 (2006.01); **E21B 21/14** (2006.01)

CPC (source: EP)

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