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(54) **Method and system for attaching and removing equipment from a wellhead.**

(57) A system and method for attaching and removing equipment (25) from a subsea wellhead (26) in which equipment is lowered and raised on a flexible riser pipe (22), cables (34) extend from the equipment (25) to the wellhead (26) and are winched in and out to control movement of the equipment (25) adjacent the wellhead (26). While the cables (34) are being winched in or out, the cables (34) are maintained in tension by the reel (33) and a motion compensator (36) between the equipment (25) and riser pipe (22) which can reciprocate vertically with the vessel (20) in response to wave action, while the equipment (25) is insulated from this action during engagement and disengagement with the wellhead (26). The cable winch system may be used to reconnect the riser pipe lower connector (29, 31) to the remainder of the equipment (28) after disconnection.

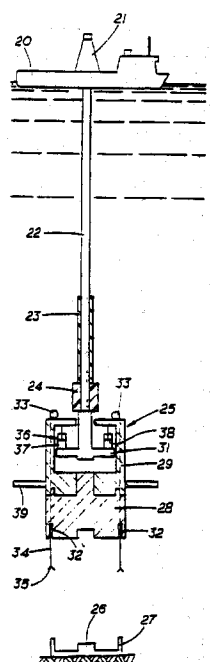


FIG.1

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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EP 91 20 3095

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.4)
A	US-A-3 532 162 (FISCHER) * abstract; figures * ---	1, 3, 6, 7, 8, 10	E21B33/038 E21B19/00
A	US-A-4 046 192 (DARNBOROUGH) * abstract; figures * ---	1-10	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4) E21B
A	GB-A-2 097 449 (COFLEXIP) * abstract; figures * ---	1-10	
A	US-A-4 191 256 (CROY) * abstract; figures * ---	1-10	
A	US-A-3 675 713 (WATKINS) * abstract; figures * ---	1-10	
A	US-A-3 021 909 (POSTLEWAITE) * abstract; figures * ---	1-10	
A	US-A-4 175 620 (NOLAN) * abstract; figures * ---	1-10	
A	US-A-4 176 986 (TAFT) * abstract; figures * ---	1-10	
A	US-A-4 544 036 (SALIGER) * abstract; figures * ---	1-10	
A	US-A-4 570 716 (GENINI) * abstract; figures * ---	1-10	
P,A	US-A-4 620 818 (LANGER) * abstract; figures * ---	1-10	
A	US-A-4 077 472 (GAND) * abstract; figures * -----	1-10	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 18 MARCH 1992	Examiner WEIAND T.
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