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(54) Seal head for tube expansion apparatus

(57) An apparatus is provided for the filling and pressurisation of a tube (20) with fluid the apparatus having a high pressure connection including a shaft (1), and sealing means (11) for sealing the tube (20) when the shaft (1) is advanced into engagement with the tube (20), the shaft (1) being formed by a rod (2), a sleeve (3) located outwards of the rod (2), a rod ring (9) being

connected at a forward end of the rod (2) and a sleeve ring (10) being connected at a forward end of the sleeve (3), an elastomeric sealing ring (11) is located between the rod ring (9) and sleeve ring (10). Means is provided for moving the sleeve (3) axially with respect to the rod (2) to compress the elastomeric ring (11) so that it expands into engagement with the tube (2).

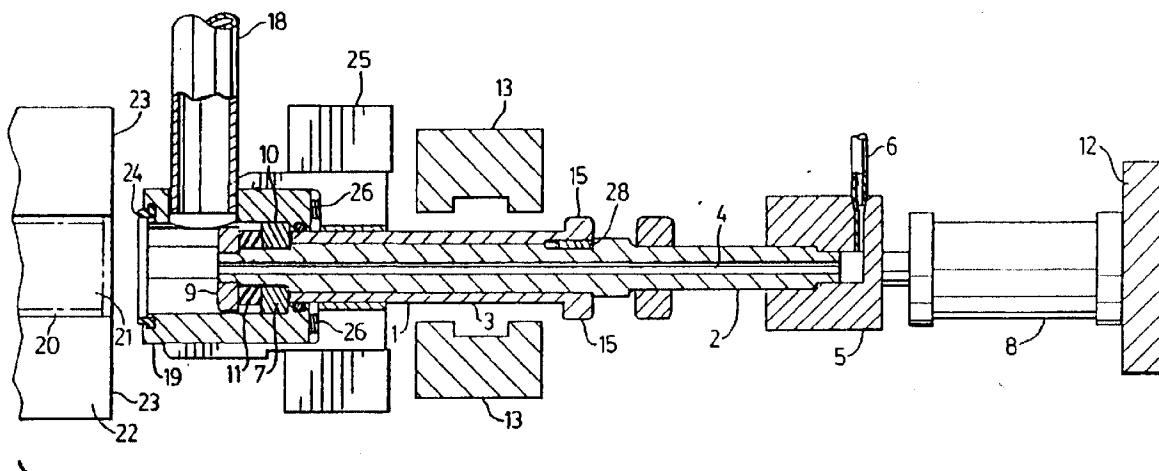


FIG. 1

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 96 20 2318

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.6)
A	US 2 837 810 A (EKHOLM) * column 4, line 5 - column 5, line 24; figures *	1-3,9	B21D26/02
A	US 3 359 624 A (COURS) * column 3, line 34 - column 4, line 52; figure *	1	
A	US 3 998 245 A (MARTIN CARLYLE J)	1-3,9	
A	US 3 963 054 A (MARTIN CARLYLE J)	11,16	
A	US 2 299 434 A (SVIRSKY)		
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			B21D F16J
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		20 November 1997	Barrow, J
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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