

(88) Date of publication A3: **14.03.2001 Bulletin 2001/11**

(43) Date of publication A2: **23.08.2000 Bulletin 2000/34**

(21) Application number: **00200487.7**

(22) Date of filing: **14.02.2000**

(51) Int. Cl.⁷: **E02D 25/00**, E02D 29/07

(84) Designated Contracting States:
**AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU
MC NL PT SE**
Designated Extension States:
AL LT LV MK RO SI

(30) Priority: **12.02.1999 NL 1011291**
17.02.1999 NL 1011327
06.04.1999 NL 1011741
26.04.1999 NL 1011886

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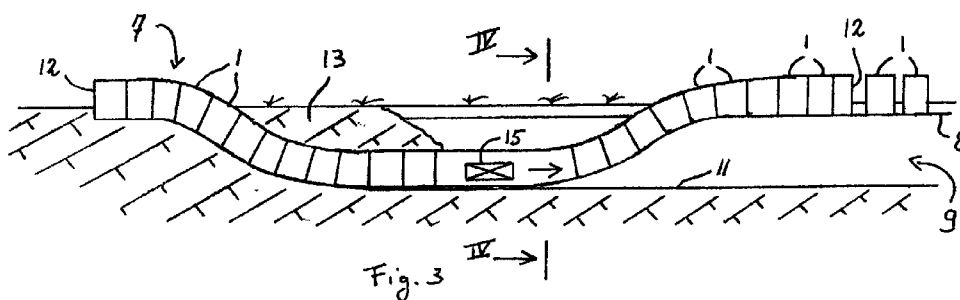
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(57) The invention is concerned with a method for laying a tunnel, wherein prefabricated tunnel segments (1) are placed in a liquid filled channel (9) in the ground such that they float, said floating tunnel segments (1) are mutually coupled and subsequently lowered onto the bottom (11) of said channel (9). According to a pre-

ferred embodiment, the lowering is carried out such that at least one of the mutually coupled tunnel segments (1) is already lowered, while at least another of said mutually coupled tunnel segments (1) still floats.





European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 00 20 0487

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
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Y	* page 1, line 32 - page 2, line 120; figure 12 *	3	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7) E02D
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 15 January 2001	Examiner De Neef, K
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			

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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EP 00 20 0487

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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