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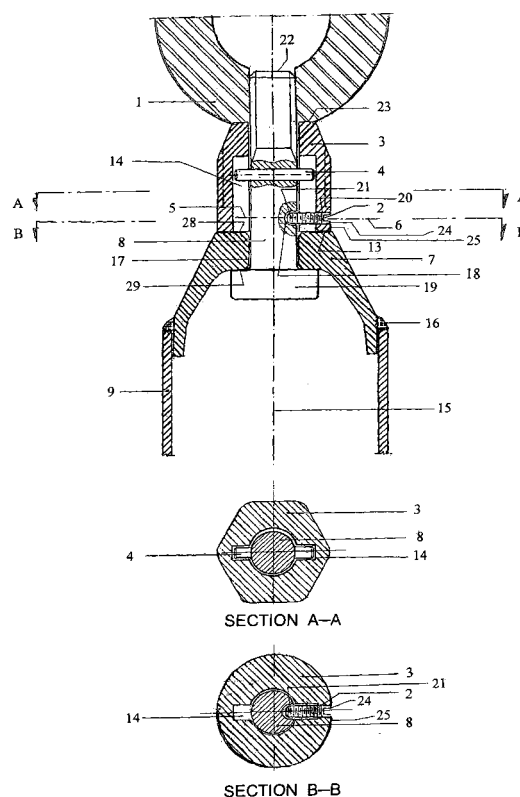
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(54) **An improved mechanism for the connection of a pipe to a node of a three-dimensional structure**

(57) An improved mechanism (12) for the connection of a pipe (9) to a node connector (1) of a three-dimensional structure includes: a bolt (8) with a pin (4); a sleeve (3) with a radial threaded hole (20) and two longitudinal grooves (14); a socket set screw (2) screwed through the radial threaded hole (20); a conical end (7) fixed to the pipe (9). The bolt (8) has a radial groove (18) between the pin (4) and the bolt head (19). The radial groove (18) and the radial threaded hole (20) have the same circumferential position; and the same longitudinal position exactly when the sleeve (3) and the bolt head (19) are in contact with the corresponding bearing surfaces (28,29) of the conical end (7). The problem of the confirmation, that the bolt (8) is completely screwed into the node connector (1), is solved; and the probability of encountering environmentally induced cracking in the bolt (8) is eliminated.



**FIGURE 3**



## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 08 38 6009

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			E04B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 8 June 2010	Examiner Porwoll, Hubert
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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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
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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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