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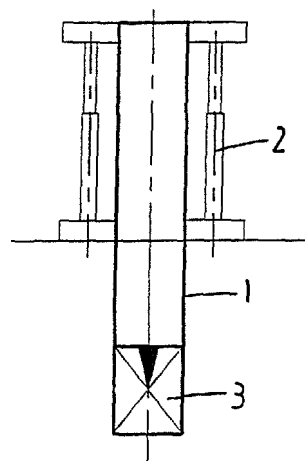
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(54) **Method and system for placing at least one foundation element in the ground**

(57) Method for forming at least one foundation pile or deep wall in the ground, comprising the step of sinking one or more hollow foundation elements (1) into the ground with a substantially vertical orientation. The sinking of the foundation element (1) into the ground takes place during driving of a removable drilling head (3), which drilling head (3), during the sinking of the foundation element (1), extends at least partially below a bottom part of the foundation element (1), by means of excavating members, which can rotate with respect to the foundation element (1) and have radial dimensions which in particular are greater than or equal to external dimensions of the foundation element (1), in which the excavation members, at the same time as the foundation element (1) is being sunk, drills out earth beneath the said bottom part of the foundation element (1), and in which at least the drilling head (3), after the foundation element (1) has been sunk, is removed again from the ground.

Fig. 2





EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 11 15 5947

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
Y	GB 938 191 A (BADE & CO GMBH) 2 October 1963 (1963-10-02) * page 2, line 105 - page 3, line 69; figures 1-2 *	1-14	INV. E02D7/26 E02D7/28 E02D7/20
Y	EP 0 217 995 A2 (PACCAGNELLA & CO CELSO [IT]) 15 April 1987 (1987-04-15) * pages 5-6; claim 1; figures 2a-2f *	1-14	
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A	BE 1 002 952 A3 (SMET HUGO) 24 September 1991 (1991-09-24) * the whole document *	1-14	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			E02D E21B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 18 July 2012	Examiner Leroux, Corentine
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
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

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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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