

What is claimed is:

1. A system, comprising:
a processing device configured to:
determine a tripping operation to be undertaken;
calculate a variable tripping speed for the tripping operation to vary a speed of the tripping operation; and
generate an output to control operation of a portion of a continuous tripping system to implement the tripping operation at the variable tripping speed.
2. The system of claim 1, wherein the processing device is configured to calculate the variable tripping speed based on a pressure value of a well as a pipe is moving relative to the well during the tripping operation.
3. The system of claim 1, wherein the processing device is configured to calculate the variable tripping speed based on a depth of a well into which a portion of a pipe is moving during the tripping operation.
4. The system of claim 1, wherein the processing device is configured to calculate the variable tripping speed as an upper threshold speed of the tripping operation.
5. The system of claim 1, wherein the processing device is configured to determine the tripping operation as comprising running pipe into a well.
6. The system of claim 1, wherein the processing device is configured to determine the tripping operation as comprising pulling pipe out of a well.
7. The system of claim 1, wherein the processing device is configured to generate a tripping schedule to limit the speed of the tripping operation to predetermined levels at predetermined times.

8. The system of claim 7, wherein the processing device is configured generate the output based upon the tripping schedule.
9. The system of claim 1, wherein the processing device is configured to generate a tripping schedule to limiting the speed of the tripping operation to predetermined levels at predetermined well depths.
10. The system of claim 9, wherein the processing device is configured generate the output based upon the tripping schedule.
11. The system of claim 1, wherein the processing device is configured to calculate the variable tripping speed dynamically during the tripping operation.
12. A device, comprising:
 - an input configured to receive a signal indicative of a threshold pressure value of a well;
 - and
 - a processor configured to:
 - calculate a variable tripping speed at which to continuously trip drill pipe into the well, wherein the variable tripping speed is calculated so as to maintain a pressure in the well above the threshold pressure value of the well; and
 - generate an output to automatically control a continuous tripping system so as not to exceed the variable tripping speed.
13. The device of claim 12, wherein the processor is configured to calculate the variable tripping speed based on a depth of the well into which a portion of the drill pipe is moving.
14. The device of claim 12, wherein the processor is configured to calculate the variable tripping speed based on the threshold pressure value of the well.

15. The device of claim 12, wherein the processor is configured to generate a tripping schedule to limit the speed at which the continuous tripping system continuously trips drill pipe into the well to predetermined levels at predetermined times.

16. The device of claim 15, wherein the processor is configured generate the output to automatically control operation of the continuous tripping system based upon the tripping schedule.

17. The device of claim 12, wherein the processor is configured to:
calculate a second variable tripping speed at which to continuously trip drill pipe out of the well, wherein the second variable tripping speed is calculated so as to maintain the pressure in the well above the threshold pressure value of the well; and
generate an second output to automatically control the continuous tripping system so as not to exceed the second variable tripping speed.

18. A tangible, non-transitory computer-readable medium having computer executable code stored thereon, the computer executable code comprising instructions to cause a processor to:
determine a tripping operation to be undertaken;
calculate a variable tripping speed for the tripping operation to vary a speed of the tripping operation; and
generate an output to control operation of a portion of a continuous tripping system to implement the tripping operation at the variable tripping speed.

19. The tangible, non-transitory computer-readable medium of claim 18, wherein the computer executable code comprises instructions to cause the processor to calculate the variable tripping speed based on a pressure value of a well as a pipe is moving relative to the well during the tripping operation and a depth of the well into which a portion of the pipe is moving during the tripping operation.

20. The tangible, non-transitory computer-readable medium of claim 18, wherein the computer executable code comprises instructions to cause the processor to generate a tripping

schedule to limiting the speed of the tripping operation to predetermined levels at predetermined times and predetermined well depths.