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(54) Title: SINGLE ACTING SNAP RING GUIDE

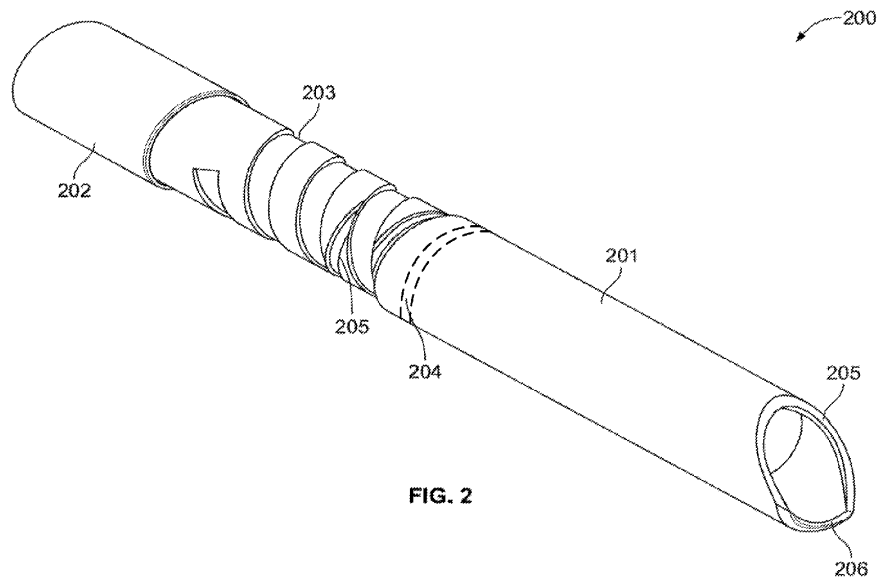


FIG. 2

(57) Abstract: A string guide comprising an upper mandrel, a lower muleshoe guide concentric to a lower portion of the upper mandrel, and an annular fastener internal to the lower muleshoe guide that fastens the lower muleshoe guide to the upper mandrel. When the guide encounters an obstruction (e.g., a packer bore or liner top), the weight of equipment above the lower muleshoe guide elastically deforms the annular fastener which drives the lower muleshoe guide up the upper mandrel. As the lower muleshoe guide travels up the upper mandrel, internal lugs of the muleshoe guide ride a spiral groove on the upper mandrel to rotate the lower muleshoe guide around the upper mandrel.

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