CLAIMS

1. A tool for installing and removing a valve removal plug from wellhead components, the tool comprising:

an axially curved pressure containing housing having a first and a second end~~, the housing having~~ and a bore extending from the first end to the second end, wherein the axially curved pressure containing housing is substantially rigid and has a predefined axially curved shape;

a flexible drive member within the bore; and

~~drive means~~ an actuator connected to the drive member for causing rotational movement of the drive member within the pressure containing housing;

wherein the actuator comprises a hydraulic cylinder which includes a first part slidable relative to a second part, the first part is connected to the drive member, and the first part is operable to move relative to the second part under hydraulic pressure.

2. A tool according to claim 1, wherein the ~~drive means~~ actuator is configured to additionally cause axial movement of the drive member within the pressure containing housing.

~~3. A tool according to claim 1, wherein the curved pressure containing housing is substantially rigid and has a predefined curved shape.~~

~~4~~3. A tool according to claim 1, wherein the drive member includes a plurality of articulated joints.

~~5~~4. A tool according to claim ~~4~~3, wherein adjacent articulated joints are at angles of no more than 15° with respect to each other.

~~6~~5. A tool according to claim 1, wherein the pressure containing housing includes a swivel flange at the first end and the ~~drive means~~ actuator is connected to the pressure containing housing at the second end.

~~7~~6. A tool according to claim 1, wherein the ~~drive means includes a hydraulically operated piston for causing axial~~ actuator further causes axial movement of the drive member.

~~8. A tool according to claim 7, wherein the piston is part of a hydraulic cylinder which includes a first part slidable relative to a second part, the first part is connected to the drive member, and the first part is operable to move relative to the second part under hydraulic pressure.~~

~~9~~7. A tool according to claim ~~8~~1, wherein the hydraulic cylinder includes a rotatable element and enables rotation of the rotatable element to cause rotation of the second part, the rotation of the second part to cause rotation of the first part, and the rotation of the first part to cause rotation of the drive member with respect to the pressure containing housing. ~~is connected to means for causing rotation of the first part of the hydraulic cylinder that enable rotation of the drive member.~~

~~10~~8. A tool according to claim 1, further comprising double barrier packings to separate a first pressure zone in the pressure containing housing from a second pressure zone in the hydraulic cylinder.