

**ABSTRACT****Towing device with a hinged fairlead**

The invention relates to a towing device intended to be fitted to the deck of a ship. The device comprises a winch, a cable (14) and a fairlead (20), the cable (14) running through the fairlead (20) under the action of the winch. According to the invention, the fairlead (20) comprises at least a first  
5 and a second sector (21, 22), the sectors allowing the cable (14) to be guided in a groove made in each of the sectors (21, 22), a first articulation (27) with a degree of freedom to rotate about an axis (28), the articulation (27) connecting the two sectors (21, 22), the axis (28) being substantially perpendicular to a direction in which the cable (14) runs substantially through  
10 the fairlead (20) at the articulation (27), and limiting means that limit the angular travel of the articulation (27). The sectors (21, 22) and the limiting means are dimensioned so as to prevent the cable (14) from exceeding a lower limit of radius of curvature.

15                      Figure 2