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(54) Title: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR HINGE COUPLINGS

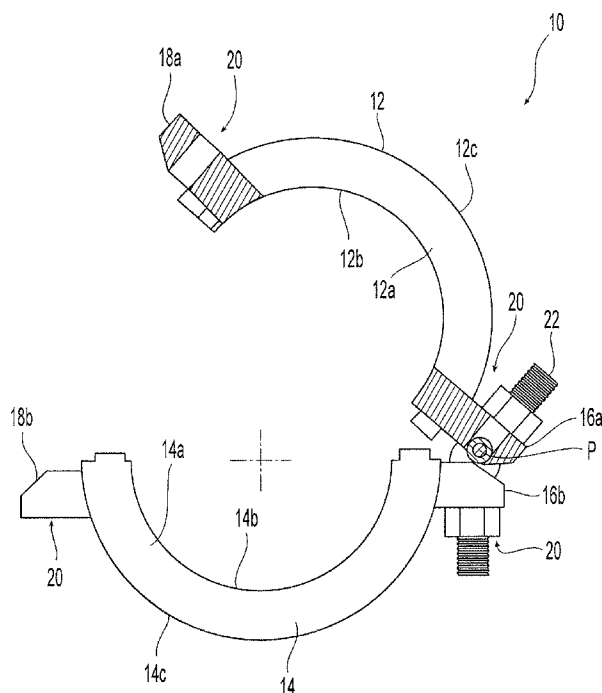


Fig. 2

(57) Abstract: A coupling for coupling pipe seg-
ments (2,4). The coupling includes a first housing
component (12), a second housing component (14),
and a fastener coupling the first and second com-
ponents together. The fastener (22) has an aligned
configuration defining an axis of alignment such that
first and second housing components are in a closed
configuration to define a central axis of the cou-
pling. The fastener has a skewed configuration to
define a pivot axis of the fastener such that the first
and second housing components are in an open con-
figuration. The pivot axis is substantially parallel to
the central axis and substantially perpendicular to
the axis of alignment.



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