## CLAIMS

1. An energy absorption device comprising

a plurality of pillars mountable to a ceiling of a hull, each pillar having a fixed portion and a movable portion, the movable portion housed within the fixed portion and slidable relative to the fixed portion;

a deformable material housed within each pillar, the deformable material disposed between the fixed portion and movable portion such that the deformable material resist the sliding movement of the movable portion in one direction when no blast energy is present; the deformable material further adapted to permanently deform when a blast energy directed towards the ceiling is present; and

a seat assembly attached to the movable portion of each pillar.

2. The energy absorption device according to claim 1, wherein the seat assembly comprises a light weight fabric forming a seat for accommodating an occupant.

3. The energy absorption device according to claim 2, wherein the seat assembly comprises a seat frame and the light weight fabric is in the form of a canvas cover stretchable over the seat frame to form the seat.

4. The energy absorption device according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the deformable material is shaped in the form of a tube.

5. The energy absorption device according to claim 4, wherein the tube is replaceable after permanent deformation.

6. The energy absorption device according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the movable portion comprises a flange operable to crush and permanently deform the deformable material when a blast energy is present.

7. The energy absorption device according to claim 3, wherein there comprises an elastic strap for attaching the seat frame to the movable portion.

8. The energy absorption device according to claim 7 wherein the elastic strap comprises an energy attenuation means.

9. The energy absorption device according to claim 1, wherein there comprises a side attachment attached to the fixed portions, the side attachment mountable onto a sponson or side of the hull.

10. The energy absorption device according to claim 9 wherein the side attachment is arch-shaped and arranged to constrain the seat assembly to the sponson in operation.

11. The energy absorption device according to claim 10, wherein the side attachment comprises deformable material, the deformable material operable to plastically deform under a local blast (shock).

12. The energy absorption device according to claim 11, wherein the deformable material comprises aluminium alloy.

13. The energy absorption device according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the fixed portion is detachable from the ceiling via a quick-release mechanism.

14. The energy absorption device according to claim 13 wherein the quick release mechanism requires at least a dual action movement for release.

15. The energy absorption device according to claim 13 or 14, wherein the detachable fixed portion is foldable towards the seat and vice-versa via a pivoting mechanism.

16. The energy absorption device according to claim 9 and 13, wherein the energy absorption device is pivotable about the side attachment.

17. The energy absorption device according to claim 1, wherein the fixed portion is a hollow tubular housing, the fixed portion further comprises at least one slot exposing a part of the movable portion housed within the fixed portion.

18. The energy absorption device according to claim 17, wherein the slidable movement of the movable portion within the fixed portion is constrained by a length of the slot.

19. An arrangement in a vehicle comprising

an energy absorption device of claim 1; the energy absorption device capable of moving between a first position suitable for accommodating an occupant and a second position which is compact relative to the first position;

a storage area not accessible when the energy absorption device is in the first position; the storage area accessible when the energy absorption device is in the second position.

20. An arrangement according to claim 19, wherein the first position comprises the energy absorption device mounted to the ceiling of the vehicle and the second position comprises the energy absorption device detached from the ceiling in a folded position.