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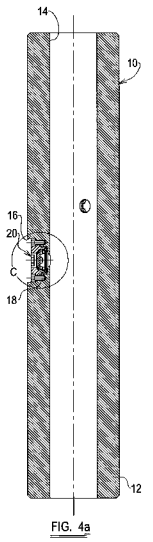


FIG. 4a

(57) Abstract: A drill pipe having a tubular body through which is provided a main bore, a side port provided in an exterior surface of the body, a side bore extending through the body from the main bore to the side port, and a valve member which is movable between a closed position in which fluid flow through the side bore is substantially prevented and an open position in which fluid flow through the side bore is permitted, wherein the movement of the valve member between the closed position and the open position comprises translational movement, and the valve member is located at least predominantly within the side bore.

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