CLAIMS

1. A vortex suppression device for a fluid flowing along a pathway, including: an elongate body with an outer surface having an elongate leading section and an elongate trailing section along the length of the elongate body, in relation to a direction of fluid flow when the device is located in the pathway, the elongate body having at least one channel which extends through the elongate body from the leading section to the trailing section of the elongate body, the channel being configured so that in use, when the device is in the pathway, the channel allows fluid flow towards the trailing section that disrupts the formation of vortices.

2. The vortex suppression device of claim 1, wherein the elongate body has a circular or oval cross-section.

3. The vortex suppression device of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the at least one channel comprises a groove in the outer surface the elongate body.

4. The vortex suppression device of claim 3, wherein the groove follows a sinusoidal path around the elongate body.

5. The vortex suppression device of claim 1, wherein the at least one channel has a rectangular cross-section having a width and a height, the width extending parallel to the longitudinal axis of the elongate body.

6. The vortex suppression device of claim 5, wherein the height of the channel is greater than 1mm.

7. The vortex suppression device of any one of claims 5 to 6, wherein the channel is offset from a centreline of the cross-sectional area of the elongate body.

8. The vortex suppression device of claim 7, wherein the channel is offset by a distance greater than 4.5mm.

9. The vortex suppression device of any one of the preceding claims, having at least one opening in the outer surface of the elongate body.

10. The vortex suppression device of claim 9, wherein at least one of the channels intersects with the at least one opening.

11. The vortex suppression device of any one of the preceding claims, having at least two diametrically opposed openings in the outer surface of the elongate body.

12. The vortex suppression device of claim 11, wherein the elongate body includes at least two channels, two of the channels each intersecting with openings in the outer surface of the elongate body.

13. The vortex suppression device of claim 11, wherein the elongate body includes at least four channels, two of the channels each intersecting with openings in the outer surface of the elongate body.

14. The vortex suppression device of any one of claims 11 to 13, wherein the openings have a rectangular cross-section having a width and a height, the width extending parallel to the longitudinal axis of the elongate body.

15. The vortex suppression device of claim 14, wherein the height of each opening is greater than 1mm.

16. The vortex suppression device of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the elongate body is a sample probe having a first end, a second end and an internal passage extending between the first end and the second end for collecting fluid samples.

17. The vortex suppression device of claim 16, wherein the sample probe includes a threaded connection located at the second end for connecting the sample probe to an auxiliary piece of equipment.

18. The vortex suppression device of either of claims 16 or 17, wherein the sample probe includes a flow regulating arrangement located at the first end for regulating the flow of fluid into or out of the internal passage.

19. The vortex suppression device of claim 18, wherein the flow regulating arrangement includes a valve.

20. The vortex suppression device of claims 18 or 19, wherein the flow regulating arrangement includes a filter.

21. The vortex suppression device of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the elongate body includes any one, or combination, of the following:

a) a sample probe;

b) an injection nozzle for the dispersion of liquids;

c) a measurement device for determining fluid properties; or

d) a corrosion coupon for monitoring pipeline corrosion.

22. A vortex suppression device for a fluid flowing along a pathway, including: an elongate body with an outer surface having an elongate leading section and a elongate trailing section along the length of the elongate body, in relation to a direction of fluid flow when the device is located in the pathway, the elongate body having at least one channel which extends transversely to the longitudinal axis of the elongate body from the leading section to the trailing section of the elongate body, the channel being configured so that in use, when the device is in

the pathway, the channel allows fluid flow towards the trailing section that disrupts the formation of vortices.