

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
4 June 2009 (04.06.2009)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2009/068412 A1

(51) International Patent Classification:
E02F 3/92 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/EP2008/064787

(22) International Filing Date: 31 October 2008 (31.10.2008)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
2007/0572 29 November 2007 (29.11.2007) BE

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **DREDGING INTERNATIONAL** [BE/BE]; Scheldedijk 30, B-2070 Zwijndrecht (BE).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **TACK, Bruno** [BE/BE]; Vrijestraat 10, B-9960 Assenede (BE).

(74) Agent: **BROUWER, Hendrik, Rogier**; Patentwerk B.V., P.O. Box 1514, NL-5200 BN 's-hertogenbosch (NL).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declaration under Rule 4.17:

— as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))

Published:

— with international search report

(54) Title: DRAG HEAD OF A TRAILING SUCTION HOPPER DREDGER AND METHOD FOR DREDGING USING THIS DRAG HEAD

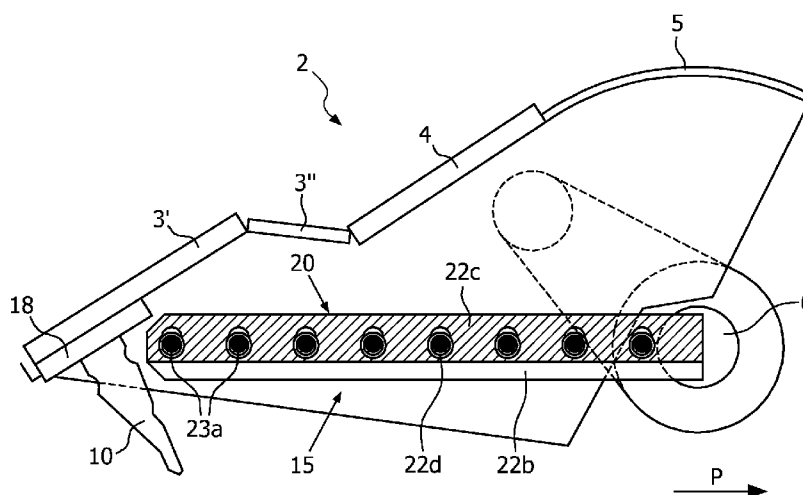


FIG. 2

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a drag head of a trailing suction hopper dredger. The drag head comprises a rotatable visor (2) connected to a suction pipe (1) for discharging soil via the suction opening (15) of the visor, wherein the visor is provided with a catching construction (20) for undesirable objects. The catching construction closes the suction opening except for passage openings (21), wherein at least a number of passage openings have a variable passage area. The invention also relates to a method for breaking up and/or dredging at least partially hard grounds under water using a trailing suction hopper dredger equipped with a drag head.

WO 2009/068412 A1