

ABSTRACT

BRANCH LINE DEPLOYMENT MECHANISM

This invention relates to the deployment of branch lines used in longline fishing. A branch line deployment mechanism is provided which comprises deployment means for casting a baited branch line and drive means associated therewith. The deployment means comprises an arm connected at one end to the drive means, having at its other end means associated therewith to accommodate a baited line, such that the arm is capable of rotation about said connected end. The rotation is imparted to the arm intermittently by the drive means so as to provide a first or loading period in which the arm may be loaded with a baited line and a second or throwing period which the arm casts the baited line.

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