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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An apparatus comprising:
a wheel assembly configured to detachably connect to a downhole tool to thereby reduce
5 friction between the downhole tool and a sidewall of a wellbore through which the
downhole tool is conveyed, wherein the wheel assembly comprises:
an axle configured to contact a sidewall of the downhole tool;
a wheel rotatably connected with the axle; and
a fastener configured to extend into the sidewall of the downhole tool to
10 detachably connect the axle to the downhole tool.
2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the fastener is or comprises a threaded fastener
extending through at least a portion of the axle and out of the axle, and wherein the
fastener is configured to threadedly engage a threaded bore extending into the
15 sidewall of the downhole tool to detachably connect the axle to the downhole tool.
3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein:
the axle comprises a first bore extending therethrough;
the fastener is disposed within and extends out of the first bore;
20 the wheel comprises a second bore configured to accommodate the fastener therethrough;
and
rotating the wheel with respect to the axle moves the second bore into and out of
alignment with the first bore.
- 25 4. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein:
the first bore is one of a plurality of first bores;
the fastener is one of a plurality of fasteners; and
rotating the wheel with respect to the axle moves the second bore one at a time into
alignment with each of the first bores.
- 30 5. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein each of the first bore and the second bore is offset
from an axis of rotation of the wheel.

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6. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising the downhole tool, wherein:
the fastener is one of a plurality of fasteners;
the downhole tool comprises a plurality of threaded bores extending into the sidewall of
5 the downhole tool; and
each fastener threadedly engages a corresponding threaded bore to detachably connect the
axle to the downhole tool.
7. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein:
10 the wheel assembly is one of a plurality of wheel assemblies; and
when the wheel assemblies are detachably connected with the downhole tool:
the wheel assemblies collectively define an axial profile having an axis of
rotation; and
the axis of rotation is offset from a central axis of the downhole tool.
- 15 8. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein:
the wheel assembly is one of a plurality of wheel assemblies;
each wheel rotates about an axis of rotation; and
when the wheel assemblies are detachably connected with the downhole tool, the axes of
20 rotation are offset from a central axis of the downhole tool.
9. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising the downhole tool, wherein:
the fastener is one of a plurality of fasteners;
the downhole tool comprises a plurality of mounting bores extending into the sidewall of
25 the downhole tool;
the mounting bores are located asymmetrically with respect to a central axis of the
downhole tool; and
each fastener engages a corresponding mounting bore to detachably connect the wheel
30 assembly to the downhole tool.

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10. A method comprising:
connecting a wheel assembly to a downhole tool to reduce friction between the downhole
tool and a sidewall of a wellbore through which the downhole tool is conveyed,
wherein the wheel assembly comprises an axle and a wheel rotatably connected with
5 the axle, and wherein connecting the wheel assembly to the downhole tool comprises
inserting a fastener at least partially into a sidewall of the downhole tool to connect
the axle to the downhole tool.
11. The method of claim 10 wherein the fastener is a threaded fastener, and wherein
10 inserting the fastener at least partially into the sidewall of the downhole tool
comprises threadedly engaging the fastener within a threaded bore extending into the
sidewall of the downhole tool to connect the axle to the downhole tool.
12. The method of claim 10 wherein:
15 the fastener is a threaded fastener;
the downhole tool comprises a threaded bore extending into the sidewall of the downhole
tool;
the axle comprises a bore extending therethrough;
the wheel comprises a bore extending therethrough;
20 wherein the bore of the axle and the bore of the wheel are offset from an axis of rotation
of the wheel; and
connecting the wheel assembly to the downhole tool further comprises:
disposing the axle against the sidewall of the downhole tool such that the bore of
the axle is aligned with the threaded bore;
25 rotating the wheel with respect to the axle to align the bore of the wheel with the
bore of the axle;
inserting the fastener into the threaded bore through the bore of the axle and the
bore of the wheel; and
threadedly engaging the fastener within the threaded bore to connect the axle to
30 the downhole tool.

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13. An apparatus comprising:
a wheel assembly for a downhole tool, wherein the wheel assembly is operable to reduce friction between the downhole tool and a sidewall of a wellbore through which the downhole tool is conveyed, and wherein the wheel assembly comprises:
- 5 an axle comprising an outer circumferential groove and a passage extending
 though the axle;
 a wheel disposed around the axle and comprising an inner circumferential groove,
 wherein the outer circumferential groove and the inner circumferential groove
 collectively define a circumferential space between the axle and the wheel,
10 and wherein the passage intersects the circumferential space;
 a plurality of ball bearings disposed within the circumferential space and
 configured to reduce friction between the axle and the wheel; and
 a blocking member disposed within the passage, wherein the blocking member is
 movable within the passage between a first position in which the ball bearings
15 can be inserted into the circumferential space via the passage and a second
 position in which the blocking member prevents the ball bearings from exiting
 the circumferential space via the passage.
14. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the passage extends laterally through the axle.
- 20 15. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the passage intersects with the outer
 circumferential groove at an angle ranging between about 60 and 120 degrees.
16. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the first position is a radially inward position of
25 the blocking member with respect to the axle, and wherein the second position is a
 radially outward position of the blocking member with respect to the axle.
17. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the blocking member comprises a groove forming
a portion of the outer circumferential groove of the axle when the blocking member is
30 in the second position.

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18. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein:
the axle further comprises a first retaining feature extending along the passage;
the blocking member comprises a second retaining feature; and
the first retaining feature and the second retaining feature engage to retain the blocking
5 member within the passage while permitting the blocking member to move along the
passage between the first position and second position.
19. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the wheel assembly further comprises a fastener
engaging both the blocking member and the axle when the blocking member is in the
10 second position to prevent the blocking member from moving along the passage from
the second position to the first position.
20. The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the fastener is a threaded fastener comprising a
head and a threaded shank, and wherein the threaded shank threadedly engages the
15 blocking member and the head contacts the axle to prevent the blocking member from
moving along the passage from the second position to the first position.