

1. A telescoping device for inclusion in a riser system, the telescoping device comprising:-

an inner member telescopingly provided in an outer member;

the inner member being moveable between three configurations in which:-

5 i) the inner member is locked to the outer member in a substantially closed configuration such that a substantial proportion of the inner member is located within the outer member such that the telescoping device is relatively short;

10 ii) the inner member is locked to the outer member in a substantially open configuration such that a substantial proportion of the inner member is located outwith of the outer member such that the telescoping device is relatively long; and

iii) the inner member is substantially free to move with respect to the outer member such that the inner member can telescope in and out of the outer member;

15 wherein the inner member is adapted to be sealed to the outer member when in at least one of configurations i) and ii) by a seal member but the seal member is arranged to be clear of at least a portion of one of the outer and inner members when in configuration iii); and

20 wherein one of the inner and outer members is provided with a varied inner or outer circumference such that the seal member is prevented from acting against said at least a portion of one of the inner and outer members when the inner member is at a location in between the two configurations i) and ii) such that the seal member does not act when the telescoping device is in configuration iii).

2. A telescoping device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the seal member is
25 provided on one of the inner and outer members wherein the seal member acts against the other of the inner and outer members to thereby provide a seal there between when the telescoping device is in at least one of the configurations i) and ii).

3. A telescoping device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the seal member is
30 provided on one of the inner and outer members in such a manner that the seal member is clear of the at least a portion of the other of the inner and outer members to thereby not make contact with and thereby not provide a seal with the other of the inner and outer members when the telescoping device is in configuration iii).

4. A telescoping device as claimed in claim 2 or claim 3, wherein the telescoping device comprises a selective locking system to selectively lock the inner member to the said outer member.

5 5. A telescoping device as claimed in claim 4, wherein the locking system comprises a dog member provided on one of the inner and outer members, the dog member being moveable toward and away from the other of the inner and outer members to make contact with the other of the inner and outer members to prevent relative movement occurring therebetween.

10

6. A telescoping device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the dog member is provided on the outer member and is selectively moveable toward and away from the inner member to make contact with an outer portion of the inner member to prevent relative movement occurring therebetween.

15

7. A telescoping device as claimed in claim 5 or claim 6, wherein the outer portion of the inner member comprises a formation formed at least part way around the outer circumference of the inner member.

20

8. A telescoping device as claimed in claim 7, wherein the inner member comprises two said formations at or toward each end of the inner member.

9. A telescoping device as claimed in claim 7 or claim 8, wherein the dog member is moved radially towards or away from the respective formation by an actuating mechanism.

25

10. A telescoping device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the actuating mechanism comprises at least one angled or tapered surface provided on the dog member and against which the actuating mechanism acts upon in a direction substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of the riser system and which results in movement of the dog member in a direction substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the riser system.

30

11. A telescoping device as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein the seal member is mounted on a portion secured to the outer member and acts against an inner bore of the inner member.

5 12. A telescoping device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the seal member is located within the bore of the inner member and acts against the inner surface of the bore of the inner member.

10 13. A telescoping device as claimed in claim 12, wherein the seal member is secured within a recess provided on an outer surface of the said portion secured to the outer member and acts against the inner surface of the bore of the inner member to provide a seal therebetween when the telescoping device is in one of configurations i) or ii).

15