This Sheet Has Been Replaced

CENTRALIZING LINER HANGER METHOD AND SYSTEM
FOR SUBTERRANEAN MULTILATERAL WELL DRILLING

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A liner hanger and a method of hanging a liner. The liner hanger comprises: (1) a slip having a gripping surface thereon and adapted to slide axially with respect to the liner between a retracted position and a deployed position, (2) a slip housing located radially outwardly of the slip and covering the slip when the slip is in the retracted position, (3) a slip carrier slidably mounted to the liner and adapted to move axially with respect to the liner and (4) a slip arm extending from the slip carrier and coupling the slip carrier and a slip having a gripping surface thereon and adapted to slide axially with respect to the liner between a retracted position and a deployed position, the slip carrier capable of transmitting a deploying force to the slip via the slip arm to move the slip from the retracted position to the deployed position, the slip arm partially collapsing when the deploying force exceeds a predetermined limit, a nose extension of the slip carrier moving toward and directly engaging the slip as the slip arm partially collapses allowing further transmission of the deploying force exceeding the predetermined limit from the slip carrier to the slip via the nose extension to centralize the liner hanger(s). In a related embodiment of the present invention, spaced-apart first and second liner hangers may cooperate to allow the liner to be employed as a drill guide.

Fig. 2