ABSTRACT

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTROLLING DIRECTION OF EXCAVATING MACHINE

There is disclosed a method and an apparatus for easily controlling the advancing direction of an excavating machine (10) without causing the excavating machine to largely trace in a zigzag way. The direction control is done by the steps of mounting a reflector (46) on a head portion (14) of a shield body (12) so as to receive a light beam (40) directed along an imaginary reference line (70), mounting a target (50) on a tail portion (16) of the shield body (12) so as to receive the reflected light beam (48) from the reflector (46), controlling means (22) for correcting the direction so that the reflected light beam (48) may be irradiated at an objective position (72) within the target (50), and thereby controlling the advancing direction of the excavating machine (10) so that a subjective portion (58) at the top end of the head portion (14) may follow along the reference line (70).

This Sheet Has Been Replaced