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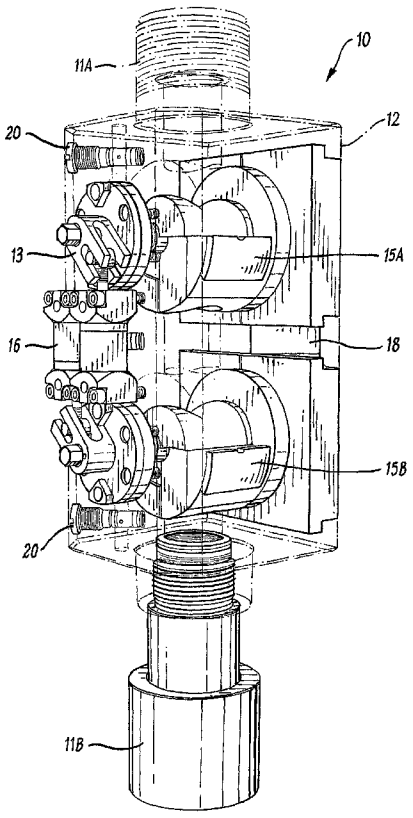
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(54) Title: IMPROVED VALVE



(57) Abstract: An improved valve for sealing a wellbore and method of use, in particular for prevention of well blow outs. In one embodiment, the apparatus is designed to seal a well (11) through rotation of rams (15A, 15B). The rams may be actuated to seal the well (11) without having to work against full well pressure as fluid volumes in the apparatus housing (12), which also contains the rams (15A, 15B), are preserved. This functionality allows the apparatus to be constructed with smaller dimensions than existing prior art blow out prevention valves aiding handling and manoeuvrability. The improved valve according to one embodiment also has a mechanism that guides a wireline or a pipe being run in the wellbore to the centre of the bore and allows a seal to be formed around the wireline or pipe.

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