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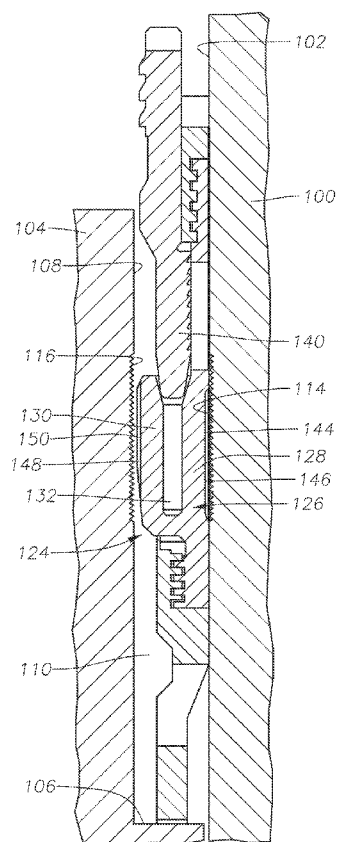


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: A seal for sealing an annulus between an outer tubular wellhead member (100) and an inner tubular wellhead member (104) is described. In embodiments, the seal is an annular sealing ring (126) that has a plurality of circumferentially spaced apart sealing ring grooves (144, 148) extending at least from a first end to a second end of the sealing surface (114, 116) of at least one of the wellhead members. When the seal is energized, fouling on the sealing surface is urged toward and then through the slot, axially away from the sealing surface.



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