

Abstract of the Disclosure

A self-contained hydrodynamic bearing unit includes a shaft having a threaded axial opening at one end thereof and a shaft shoulder adjacent the opening and perpendicular with a longitudinal axis of the shaft, a sleeve defining an opening for receiving the shaft for relative rotation, a pair of longitudinally spaced-apart radial hydrodynamic journal bearings defined between the shaft and the sleeve, a shaft-bolt including a threaded end region for mating with the threaded axial opening of the shaft and defining a bolt shoulder, an annular thrust plate having two parallel radial faces and adapted to fit upon the shaft-bolt for mounting between the shaft shoulder and the shaft bolt shoulder when the shaft-bolt is mated with the threaded axial opening of the shaft, the sleeve defining a radial thrust bearing surface portion extending radially outwardly at one end and positioned to confront one radial face of the thrust plate, an annular thrust bushing mounted to the sleeve and defining a radial thrust bearing surface portion confronting the other radial face of the thrust plate, the annular thrust plate defining two axial hydrodynamic thrust bearings respectively with the radial thrust bearing surface portion of the sleeve and the radial thrust bearing surface portion of the annular thrust bushing and a hydrodynamic thrust bearing lubricant reservoir between the two axial hydrodynamic thrust bearings and between a cylindrical face of the thrust plate and a facing cylindrical wall of the sleeve, and a hydrodynamic bearing lubricant in the bearing unit and at the pair of hydrodynamic journal bearings and at the two axial hydrodynamic thrust bearings and in the hydrodynamic bearing lubricant reservoir

FIGURE 2