What is claimed is:

~~1. A blowout preventer comprising:~~

~~a main body forming intersecting horizontal and vertical passageways extending through the main body wherein the horizontal passageway forms a ram location, the main body comprising a seal seating profile disposed on an outside surface of the main body around the ram location, one or more bonnet guideways disposed on the surface of the main body, and one or more slide guideways disposed on the surface of the main body;~~

~~a bonnet attached to the main body, wherein the bonnet comprises one or more guide rods that engage the one or more bonnet guideways of the main body, a ram unit capable of seating in the ram location of the main body, and a seal seating profile disposed on a surface of the bonnet;~~

~~two retention units attached to opposite sides of the main body and attached to opposite sides of the bonnet, wherein each retention unit comprise a clamp block in engagement with the bonnet, one or more guide rods in engagement with the one or more slide guideways of the main body, and a bonnet guideway in engagement with the one or more guide rods of the bonnet; and~~

~~a metal seal, wherein the metal seal is seated in the seal seating profile of the main body and the seal seating profile of the bonnet.~~

12. A blowout preventer comprising:

a main body forming intersecting horizontal and vertical passageways extending through the main body;

a first bonnet attached to a first side of the main body by means of one or more high load capacity fasteners, wherein the one or more high load capacity fasteners comprise a series of tappings; and

a second bonnet attached to a second side of the main body by means of one or more high load capacity fasteners, wherein the one or more high load capacity fasteners comprise a series of tappings;

wherein the first and second bonnets comprise through guide bars, wherein the through guide bars of the first bonnet are ~~simple diameter bars~~ capable of engaging the second bonnet ~~and capable of supporting the first bonnet as the first bonnet is slid out of the main body,~~ and wherein the through guide bars of the second bonnet are ~~simple diameter bars~~ capable of engaging the first bonnet ~~and capable of supporting the second bonnet as the second bonnet is slid out of the main body~~.

2~~3~~. The blowout preventer of claim 1~~2~~, wherein each of the first and second bonnets comprises a thick flange.

3~~4~~. The blowout preventer of claim 1~~2~~, wherein each of the first and second bonnets comprises a bonnet lid.

~~5. The blowout preventer of claim 2, wherein:~~

~~the horizontal passageway forms a ram location, the main body comprises a seal seating profile disposed on an outside surface of the main body around the ram location;~~

~~the first bonnet comprises a seal seating profile disposed on a surface of the first bonnet and a ram unit that is capable of seating in the ram location of the main body; and~~

~~the blowout prevent further comprises a metal seal, wherein the metal seal is seated in the seal seating profile of the main body and the seal seating profile of the first bonnet.~~

4~~6~~. The blowout preventer of claim 1~~2~~, wherein the horizontal passageway is non-circular.

5~~7~~. The blowout preventer of claim 1~~2~~ further comprising a replaceable seal facing disposed within the vertical passageway of the main body.

6. The blowout preventer of claim 1, wherein:

the horizontal passageway forms a ram location, the main body comprises a seal seating profile disposed on an outside surface of the main body around the ram location;

the first bonnet comprises a seal seating profile disposed on a surface of the first bonnet and a ram unit that is capable of seating in the ram location of the main body; and

the blowout prevent further comprises a metal seal, wherein the metal seal is seated in the seal seating profile of the main body and the seal seating profile of the first bonnet.

78. A blowout preventer comprising:

a main body forming intersecting horizontal and vertical passageways extending through the main body wherein the horizontal passageway forms a ram location and

a bonnet attached to the main body, wherein the bonnet comprises a ram unit comprising a serrated shear blade, wherein the ram unit is capable of seating in the ram location of the main body and wherein the serrated shear blade comprises at least one set of serrations and a final profile, wherein each set of serrations are positioned such that they engage and shear different sections of a drill pipe, and wherein the final profile comprises an inwardly extending projection extending toward a central axis of the vertical passageways extending through the main body, the inwardly extending projection being capable of closing off a drill pipe disposed in the vertical passageways prior to shearing a remaining section of the drill pipe via outwardly extending portions of the final profile.

89. The blowout preventer of claim 78 further comprising a metal seal, wherein the metal seal is seated in a seal seating profile disposed around the ram location of the main body and a seal seating profile disposed on a surface of the bonnet.

910. The blowout preventer of claim 78 further comprising a replaceable seal facing disposed within the vertical passageway of the main body, wherein the replaceable seal facing provides a sealing interface for the shear blade.

1011. A blowout preventer comprising:

a main body forming intersecting horizontal and vertical passageways extending through the main body wherein the horizontal passageway forms a ram location and

a bonnet attached to the main body, wherein the bonnet comprises a ram unit and a variable ram locking device comprising:

a central lock spindle having a tapered feature;

a locking wedge; and

a tapered feature formed in a center core of the ram unit;

wherein the ram unit is capable of seating in the ram location of the main body and wherein the locking wedge of the variable ram locking device is capable of engaging the tapered feature of the central spindle and ~~the tapered feature in~~ the center core of the ram unit to lock the ram unit in a ~~fully~~ closed position, an open position, or a partially closed position.