Claims

1. A spud system (1) for a dredging vessel with a longitudinal direction, which spud system comprises;

–a spud carrier (2) for mounting a spud (3) therein in a vertical stance and which spud carrier is mounted for limited rotation around a horizontal transverse axis and is moveable with respect to the dredging vessel in a longitudinal direction for advancing the dredging vessel,

–a spud carrier drive system (4) coupled with the dredging vessel and the spud carrier for driving the spud carrier with respect to the dredging vessel,

–a wire suspension system (5) coupled with the spud carrier for resiliently forcing said spud in a vertical stance, the wire suspension system comprising at least a first (6) and second (7) wire, each of the first and second wire extending on both sides of the spud carrier and having an aft end (6a, 7a) and a fore end (6f, 7f) coupled with the dredging vessel,

–a spud centring system (8) operationally coupled with the spud carrier through the wire suspension system for maintaining a vertical stance of said spud which is mounted in the spud carrier,

wherein the spud centring system comprises a centring cylinder (9) having a central rod (10) which is forced towards a central position by prestressing means exerting a centring force on the central rod, and wherein the first wire and the second wire are coupled with the central rod (10) in such a way that the central rod is driven by a difference in tension between the first and second wire, and the spud is allowed to cant when the difference in tension exceeds the centring force.

2. A spud system according to claim 1, wherein the first wire is in fluid connection with the one end of the central rod.

3. A spud system according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the second wire is in fluid connection with the opposite end of the central rod.