

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
12 December 2002 (12.12.2002)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 02/099241 A2

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **E21B**
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US02/03386
(22) International Filing Date: 20 February 2002 (20.02.2002)
(25) Filing Language: English
(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
09/866,814 30 May 2001 (30.05.2001) US

(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): **THE VALIDUS INTERNATIONAL COMPANY, LLC** [US/US]; 5430 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1550, Dallas, TX 75240 (US).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (*for US only*): **SCHUH, Frank, J.** [US/US]; 5808 Wavertree Lane, Plano, TX 75093-4513 (US).

(74) Agents: **HANNON, Brian, W.** et al.; Sughrue Mion, PLLC, 2100 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Suite 800, Washington, DC 20037-3213 (US).

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— *without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report*

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETERMINING DRILLING PATHS TO DIRECTIONAL TARGETS

(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus for recomputing an optimum path between a present location of a drill bit and a direction or horizontal target uses linear approximations of circular arc paths. The technique does not attempt to return to a preplanned drilling profile when there actual drilling results deviate from the replanned profile. By recomputing an optimum path, the borehole to the target has a reduced tortuosity.



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