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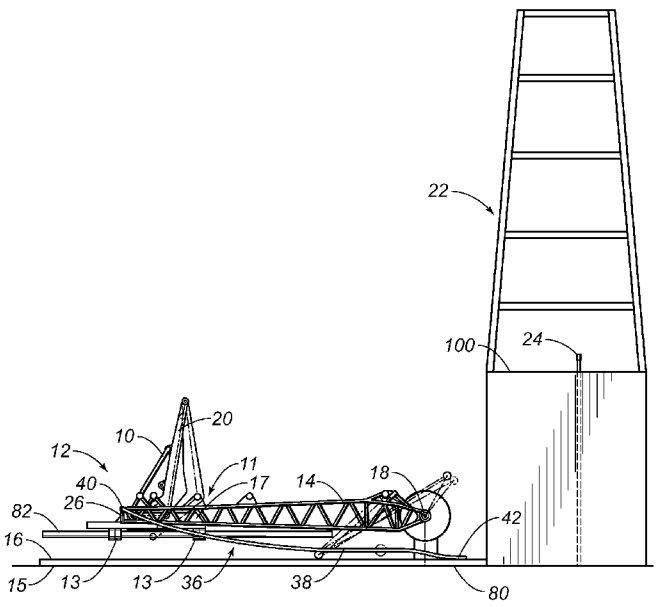


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: A apparatus for a pipe handling apparatus (36) has a main rotating structural member (14) rotating about a pivot axis relative to a skid (16) and moving from a first position to a second position. A tensioning mechanism (36) is affixed to the main rotating structural member. The tensioning mechanism (36) applies a tension to the main rotating structural member when the main rotating structural member is in the second position. The tensioning mechanism has a first cable (38) having an end attached adjacent a top of the main rotating structural member, and a second cable having an end attached adjacent the top of the main rotating structural member. The first and second cables have opposite ends attached to a fixed surface. The first and second cables extend angularly outwardly from a front of the main rotating structural member(14). The first and second cable extend angularly outwardly from the sides of the main rotating structural member.

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