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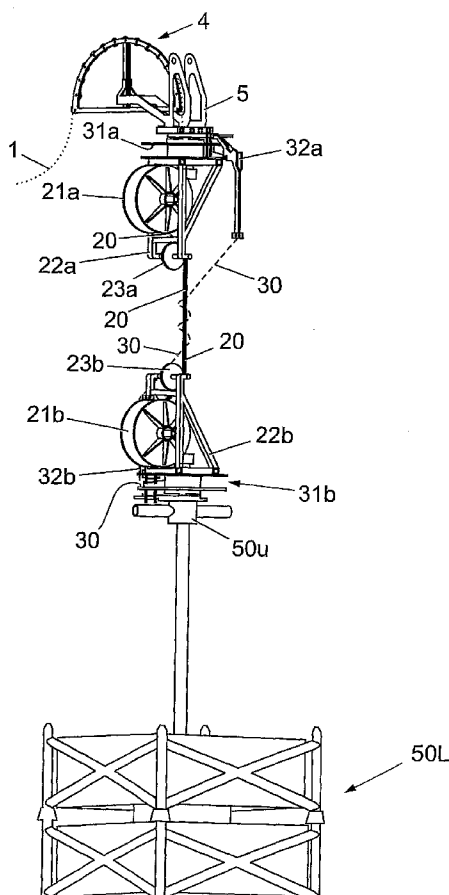
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(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR USE IN HANDLING AN ELONGATE MEMBER



(57) Abstract: Apparatus and a method for handling an elongate member such as a cable (1) between two points has a support line (20) extending between the points, and winch mechanisms (21a) and wrapping devices (32a) at each of the points, to permit the elongate member (1) to transit between the two points in a wrapped bundle that is supported mechanically against damage and deviation from a controlled path between the points, and to permit the bundle to be unwrapped at the second point for further manipulation of the elongate member. The invention is particularly useful in raising and lowering a load, towing, and also handling service cables, tubes, pipes, hoses or other elongate lines that are connected between two points. A preferred embodiment is described for the subsea deployment of wireline and the deployment of signal and power cables to subsea wells.

WO 2008/040976 A1



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