

COMPOSITE DRIVE SHAFT

ABSTRACT

A composite drive shaft assembly which includes an elongate shaft of a fiber reinforced plastics material. The shaft has at at least a first distal end thereof a connection region of a hollow section. The exterior surface and interior surface of the connection region is tapered inwardly. A coupling member of a metallic material is engaged with the elongate shaft at the first distal end of the shaft. The coupling member includes a longitudinally extending shank coaxial with the elongate shaft. The shank includes an annular slot extending in the longitudinal direction and presenting radially inward and radially outward facing mating surfaces with which the corresponding exterior and interior surfaces of the connection region of the elongate shaft are adhered in a mating relationship.

Figure 1