

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Unloading System For Sand And The Method Thereof

An unloading system for flat top barge (FTB) for efficient unloading of sand, comprising:

- 5 (i) a compartmentalized structure which partitions the platform of the FTB into a plurality of compartments for holding sand for off-loading to a specific area;
- (ii) jetwater line for fluidization of sand or granular like material at each of the compartments, pressurized water being introduced into any selected compartment via the jetwater line having a plurality of nozzles to produce slurrified sand for unloading by suction; and a make-up water line to
- 10 provide additional water to the jetwater line; (iii) suction line having a suction branch with suction inlets, the suction line being formed at each of the compartments, allowing slurrified sand to be sucked out via the suction lines for unload;(iv) a Jacuzzi sump formed within the compartments, a plurality of Jacuzzi nozzles formed around the Jacuzzi sump for localized agitation to keep the sand in suspension; and (v) a pump barge comprising pumping means including a plurality of jetwater
- 15 pumps, slurry pumps, and make-up water pumps mounted thereon, wherein the jetwater line is connected to the jetwater pumps, the suction line is connected to the slurry pumps, and the make-up water line is connected to the make-up water pumps. The present invention also relates to a method of unloading sand from flat top barge.

(FIG. 3)