Claims:

1. A system for opening a window in a casing string (42) positioned in a wellbore (32), the system comprising:

a hydraulic pressure intensifier (116) having a housing and a piston assembly with a differential piston area, the piston assembly longitudinally shiftable relative to the housing, the piston assembly initially secured relative to the housing to prevent longitudinal movement therebetween;

an anchor assembly (114) operably associated with the hydraulic pressure intensifier (116), the anchor assembly operable to longitudinally secure the hydraulic pressure intensifier within the casing string (42); and

a window opening tool (118) operably associated with the hydraulic pressure intensifier (116) and operably engagable with the casing string (42) such that when the anchor assembly (114) is longitudinally secured within the casing string (42) and the piston assembly is unsecured relative to the housing under hydrostatic pressure in the wellbore, longitudinal movement of the piston assembly transmits a force to the window opening tool (118), thereby opening the window in the casing string (42).

2. The system as recited in claim 1 wherein the casing string further comprises a main wellbore casing string or a lateral wellbore casing string.

3. The system as recited in any of the preceding claims, wherein the piston assembly is initially secured relative to the housing via a plurality of lugs extending through openings of the piston assembly and radially propped in a groove of the housing, and preferably wherein the piston assembly is unsecured relative to the housing by longitudinally shifting a running tool to unprop the plurality of lugs.

4. The system as recited in any of the preceding claims, wherein the piston assembly further comprises a first piston having a first cross sectional area and a second piston operably associate with the first piston and having a second cross sectional area, first cross sectional area being greater than the second cross sectional area.

5. The system as recited in any of the preceding claims, wherein the piston assembly further comprises a dampening assembly operable to control the velocity of the longitudinal movement of the piston assembly, and preferably wherein the dampening assembly is operable to control the rate of hydraulic fluid transfer therethrough.

6. The system as recited in any of the preceding claims, wherein the anchor assembly further comprises a latch assembly.

7. The system as recited in any of the preceding claims, wherein the window opening tool is selected from the group consisting of a cutting tool, a retrieval tool and a penetration tool.

8. A method for opening a window in a casing string (42) positioned in a wellbore (32), the method comprising:

running a hydraulic pressure intensifier (116) having a housing and a piston assembly with a differential piston area in the casing string, the piston assembly initially secured relative to the housing to prevent longitudinal movement therebetween;

positioning a window opening tool (118) operably associated with the hydraulic pressure intensifier (116) at a target location in the casing string (42);

longitudinally securing the hydraulic pressure intensifier within (116) the casing string with an anchor assembly (114);

unsecuring the piston assembly relative to the housing under hydrostatic pressure in the wellbore; and

longitudinally moving the piston assembly to transmit a force to the window opening tool (118), thereby opening the window in the casing string (42).

9. The method as recited in claim 8, wherein running a hydraulic pressure intensifier having a housing and a piston assembly with a differential piston area in the casing string further comprises running the hydraulic pressure intensifier into a main wellbore casing string or into a lateral wellbore casing string.

10. The method as recited in claim 8, further comprising radially propping a plurality of lugs extending through openings of the piston assembly in a groove of the housing to initially secure the piston assembly relative to the housing, and preferably wherein unsecuring the piston assembly relative to the housing under hydrostatic pressure in the wellbore further comprises longitudinally shifting a running tool to unprop the plurality of lugs.

11. The method as recited in claim 8, wherein the piston assembly further comprises a first piston having a first cross sectional area and a second piston operably associate with the first piston and having a second cross sectional area, first cross sectional area being greater than the second cross sectional area.

12. The method as recited in claim 8, further comprising controlling the velocity of the longitudinal movement of the piston assembly with a dampening assembly of the piston assembly, and preferably wherein controlling the velocity of the longitudinal movement of the piston assembly with a dampening assembly further comprises controlling the rate of hydraulic fluid transfer through the damping assembly.

13. The method as recited in claim 8, wherein longitudinally securing the hydraulic pressure intensifier within the casing string with anchor assembly further comprises engaging a latch assembly with a latch coupling of the casing string.

14. The method as recited in claim 8, wherein opening the window in the casing string further comprises cutting the window in the casing string or removing a window insert from the casing string.

15. The method as recited in claim 8 wherein opening the window in the casing string further comprises penetrating the casing string to open a pre-cut window in the casing string.

What is claimed is:

1. A system for opening a window in a casing string positioned in a wellbore, the system comprising: a hydraulic pressure intensifier having a housing and a piston assembly with a differential piston area, the piston assembly longitudinally shiftable relative to the housing, the piston assembly initially secured relative to the housing to prevent longitudinal movement therebetween; an anchor assembly operably associated with the hydraulic pressure intensifier, the anchor assembly operable to longitudinally secure the hydraulic pressure intensifier within the casing string; and a window opening tool operably associated with the hydraulic pressure intensifier and operably engagable with the casing string such that when the anchor assembly is longitudinally secured within the casing string and the piston assembly is unsecured relative to the housing under hydrostatic pressure in the wellbore, longitudinal movement of the piston assembly transmits a force to the window opening tool, thereby opening the window in the casing string.

2. The system as recited in claim 1 wherein the casing string further comprises a main wellbore casing string.

3. The system as recited in claim 1 wherein the casing string further comprises a lateral wellbore casing string.

4. The system as recited in claim 1 wherein the piston assembly is initially secured relative to the housing via a plurality of lugs extending through openings of the piston assembly and radially propped in a groove of the housing.

5. The system as recited in claim 4 wherein the piston assembly is unsecured relative to the housing by longitudinally shifting a running tool to unprop the plurality of lugs.

6. The system as recited in claim 1 wherein the piston assembly further comprises a first piston having a first cross sectional area and a second piston operably associate with the first piston and having a second cross sectional area, the first cross sectional area being greater than the second cross sectional area.

7. The system as recited in claim 1 wherein the piston assembly further comprises a dampening assembly operable to control the velocity of the longitudinal movement of the piston assembly.

8. The system as recited in claim 7 wherein the dampening assembly is operable to control the rate of hydraulic fluid transfer therethrough.

9. The system as recited in claim 1 wherein the anchor assembly further comprises a latch assembly.

10. The system as recited in claim 1 wherein the window opening tool is selected from the group consisting of a cutting tool, a retrieval tool and a penetration tool.

11. A method for opening a window in a casing string positioned in a wellbore, the method comprising: running a hydraulic pressure intensifier having a housing and a piston assembly with a differential piston area in the casing string, the piston assembly initially secured relative to the housing to prevent longitudinal movement therebetween; positioning a window opening tool operably associated with the hydraulic pressure intensifier at a target location in the casing string; longitudinally securing the hydraulic pressure intensifier within the casing string with an anchor assembly; unsecuring the piston assembly relative to the housing under hydrostatic pressure in the wellbore; and longitudinally moving the piston assembly to transmit a force to the window opening tool, thereby opening the window in the casing string.

12. The method as recited in claim 11 wherein running a hydraulic pressure intensifier having a housing and a piston assembly with a differential piston area in the casing string further comprises running the hydraulic pressure intensifier into a main wellbore casing string.

13. The method as recited in claim 11 wherein running a hydraulic pressure intensifier having a housing and a piston assembly with a differential piston area in the casing string further comprises running the hydraulic pressure intensifier into a lateral wellbore casing string.

14. The method as recited in claim 11 further comprising radially propping a plurality of lugs extending through openings of the piston assembly in a groove of the housing to initially secure the piston assembly relative to the housing.

15. The method as recited in claim 14 wherein unsecuring the piston assembly relative to the housing under hydrostatic pressure in the wellbore further comprises longitudinally shifting a running tool to unprop the plurality of lugs.

16. The method as recited in claim 11 wherein the piston assembly further comprises a first piston having a first cross sectional area and a second piston operably associate with the first piston and having a second cross sectional area, the first cross sectional area being greater than the second cross sectional area.

17. The method as recited in claim 11 further comprising controlling the velocity of the longitudinal movement of the piston assembly with a dampening assembly of the piston assembly.

18. The method as recited in claim 17 wherein controlling the velocity of the longitudinal movement of the piston assembly with a dampening assembly further comprises controlling the rate of hydraulic fluid transfer through the damping assembly.

19. The method as recited in claim 11 wherein longitudinally securing the hydraulic pressure intensifier within the casing string with anchor assembly further comprises engaging a latch assembly with a latch coupling of the casing string.

20. The method as recited in claim 11 wherein opening the window in the casing string further comprises cutting the window in the casing string.

21. The method as recited in claim 11 wherein opening the window in the casing string further comprises removing a window insert from the casing string.

22. The method as recited in claim 11 wherein opening the window in the casing string further comprises penetrating the casing string to open a pre-cut window in the casing string.