

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
18 October 2007 (18.10.2007)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2007/115375 A1

(51) International Patent Classification:

E21B 19/20 (2006.01) **E21B 19/16** (2006.01)
E21B 19/15 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/AU2007/000476

(22) International Filing Date: 11 April 2007 (11.04.2007)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:

2006901901 11 April 2006 (11.04.2006) AU
2006903908 20 July 2006 (20.07.2006) AU

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **BOART
LONGYEAR INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS, INC.**
[US/US]; 2640 West 1700, Salt Lake City, Utah 84127034
(US).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **LITTLELY, Keith**
[AU/AU]; 14 Gibberd Road, Balcatta, Western Australia
6021 (AU).

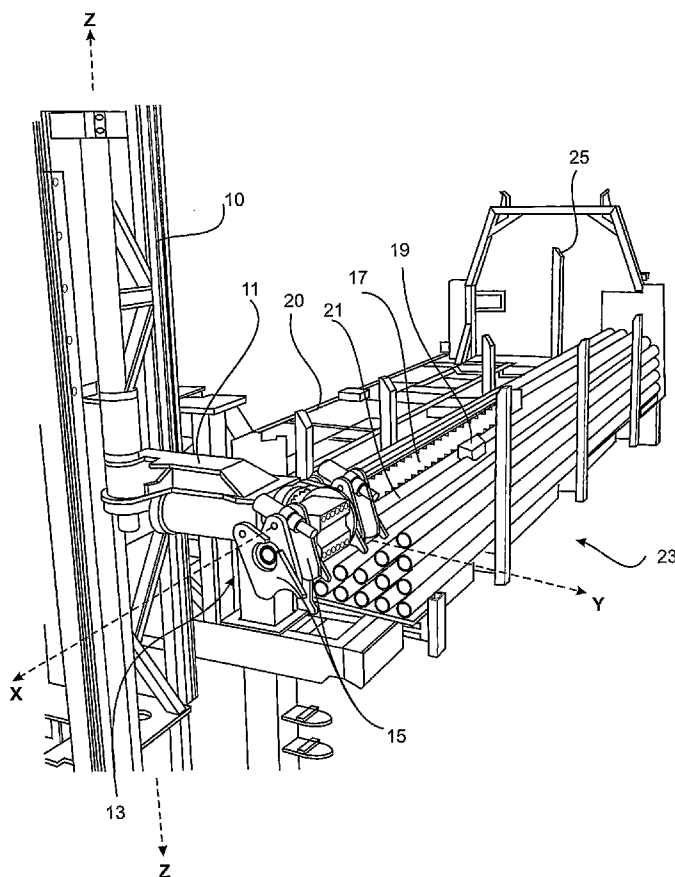
(74) Agent: **BLAKE DAWSON WALDRON PATENT SER-
VICES**; Level 35, Grosvenor Place, 225 George Street,
Sydney, NSW 2000 (AU).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH,
CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES,
FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN,
IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR,
LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY,
MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS,
RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN,
TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM,
ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),
European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI,
FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, PL,
PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM,
GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: DRILL ROD HANDLER



(57) Abstract: An elongate item handling means comprising a base (11) adapted to be fixed to a fixture, an elongate member support (13) having a first axis, the elongate member support comprising an engagement means (19) adapted to engage an elongate item and support the elongate item such that it is parallel to the first axis and to move the elongate item into engagement with the elongate member support, wherein the elongate member support is supported from the base to be rotatable about a second axis which is transverse to the first axis whereby the elongate item when supported from the elongate member support can be moved between an upright position and a substantially horizontal position, the base being movable on the fixture between a first position located at a desired erect position of the elongate item and one or more positions clear of the first position, said elongate member support.

**Published:**

— *with international search report*

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.