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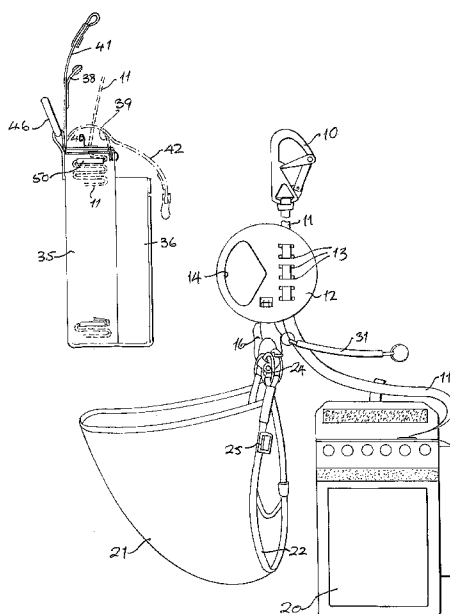
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(54) Title: A DESCENDING DEVICE



(57) Abstract: A device to enable a person to descend from an elevated position at a controlled and variable speed comprising a restraining member (12) having a series of slots (13). A tape (11) stored in a container (20) passes through the slots (13) to a hook (10) for attachment of the device to a fixed point. A user wearing a harness (21) removably attached to the restraining member (12) may descend at a controlled rate determined by the frictional engagement of the tape (11) with the surfaces of the restraining member (12). An apertured retarding device (50) is placed on the tape (11) within the container (20) to retard the passage of the tape through the restraining member (12) thus controlling the rate of descent.

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