

DEVICE AND METHOD FOR LATERALLY STEERING STREAMER CABLES

Abstract of the Disclosure

A device and a method for laterally steering a streamer cable towed underwater
5 behind a seismic survey vessel. The device includes a cable-steering assembly rotatably
attached to a streamer cable. The assembly includes a body to which one or more wings are
mounted. The wings are arranged to pivot about pivot axes. The assembly is ballasted so that
the pivot axes of the wings are largely in a vertical plane. A conventional cable-leveling bird
is converted to one version of a cable-steering device by ballasting to maintain the pivot axes
10 of the bird's wings largely vertical. With an orientation sensor for sensing the orientation of
the wings, the cable-steering device adjusts the angle of the wings to provide a sideward
component of force to steer the streamer.

FIG. 1