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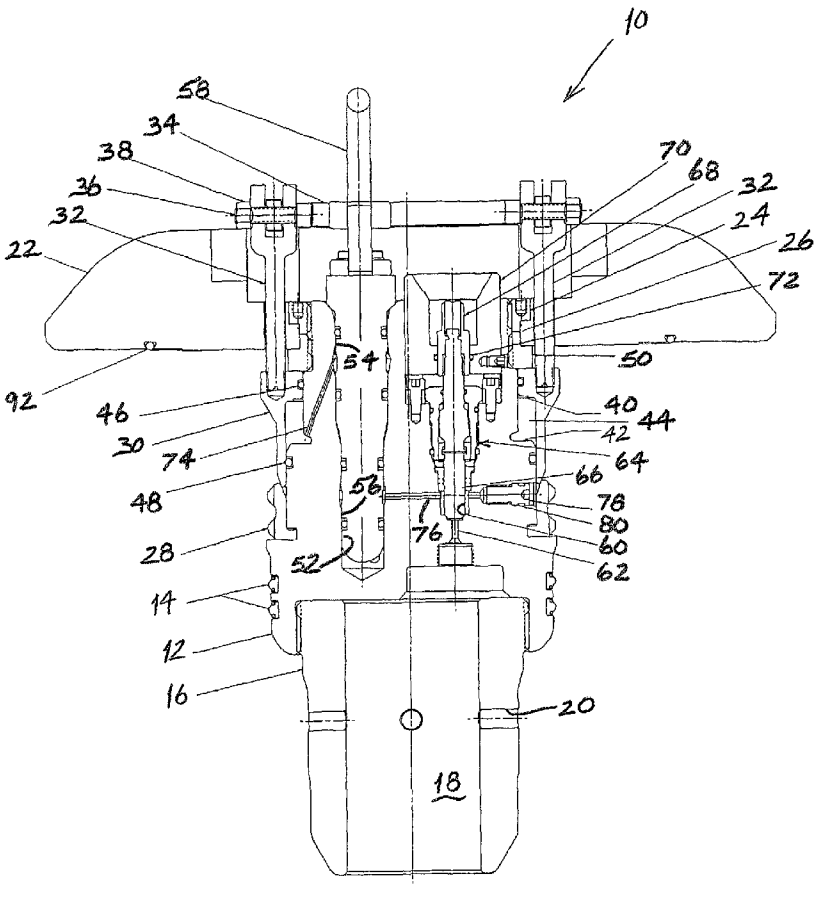
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— *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for all designations*

*[Continued on next page]*

(54) Title: VACUUM ASSISTED SEAL ENGAGEMENT FOR ROV DEPLOYED EQUIPMENT




(57) Abstract: A method for attaching a first component which comprises a depending portion to a second component which comprises a bore that is sized and configured to receive the depending portion, wherein the first and second components are exposed to a fluid which is at an ambient pressure, comprises the steps of inserting the depending portion at least partially into the bore and then creating a bore pressure within the bore which is less than the ambient pressure. In this manner a pressure difference between the ambient pressure and the bore pressure will force the depending portion into the bore to thereby attach the first component to the second component.

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— *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations*

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