

A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR A REPLENISHMENT AT SEA SYSTEM**ABSTRACT**

The present invention relates to a method and apparatus for a replenishment at sea system for the transportation of fluid between a first vessel and a second vessel. The apparatus includes a flexible and collapsible hose with a plurality of means to support the hose vertically and a floatation means that allows the hose to be held at least in part above water level. The method comprises firing a pig through the hose to purge fluid from the hose, follow by applying a suction to the hose, thereby collapsing the hose, and then retracting the hose to one of the first or second vessels.

Figure 1



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