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(54) Title: AN APPARATUS FOR VERIFYING THE INNER DIAMETER OF TUBULARS FORMING A TUBULAR STRING

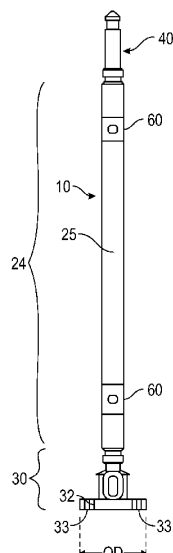


FIG. 13

(57) Abstract: A floating drift apparatus for verifying the inner diameter of tubulars as the tubulars are made up into a tubular string being run into a wellbore. A float section provides buoyancy to float the apparatus in fluid within the bore of a tubular, and a drift section has a drift element with a diameter substantially equal to the tubular inner diameter being verified, which may be the drift diameter. When running a tubular string, the apparatus is inserted into the bore of the tubular string, floating in the fluid. As joints of tubular are made up and run into the wellbore, the tubulars move downhole around the apparatus. Preferably, the floating drift apparatus can be visually detected. If an undersize ID is encountered, the floating drift apparatus will be pushed downhole and no longer visible; the operator can remove the undersize ID tubular from the string.

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