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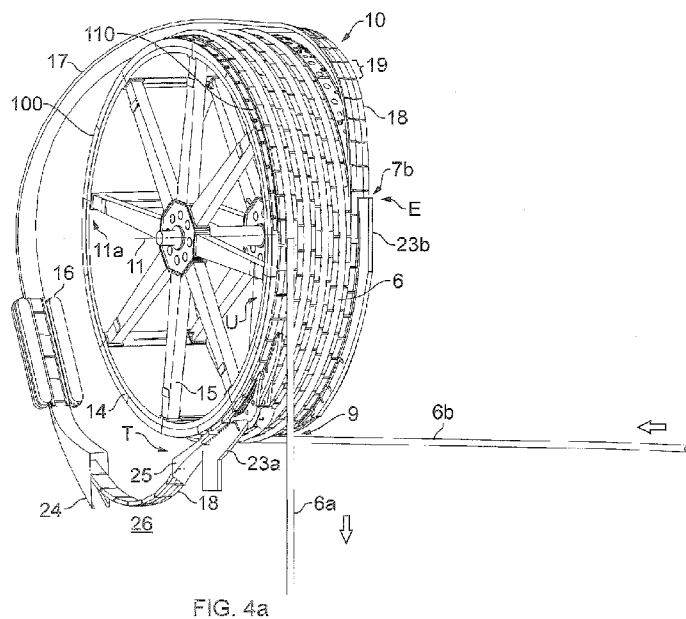
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(54) Title: A SUPPORT DEVICE FOR AN ELONGATE ARTICLE



(57) Abstract: The invention concerns a capstan reel (10) and a method for transporting an elongated article (6, 6a, 6b, 39, 42, 43, 45a, 47) between a floating vessel (2) and a body of water situated below the vessel, and a vessel applying such a capstan reel. The capstan reel comprises a rotatable cylindrical body (100) for spooling the elongated article around the body's axial axis (11), said body comprising a cylindrical contacting surface (35) for indirectly supporting at least a portion of the elongated article. Furthermore, the capstan reel comprises an endless chain (18) spooled at least partly around the cylindrical body in a helical direction relative to the axial axis of the body, acting as an intermediate layer between the cylindrical contacting surface and the intended elongated article, and a chain transfer guide (17) extending across the axial length of the cylindrical body for guiding the endless chain between a chain exit region (T) in a first axial end region (7a) of the cylindrical body and a chain entry region (E) in a second axial end region (7b), the second axial end region being situated at the opposite axial end of the cylindrical body.