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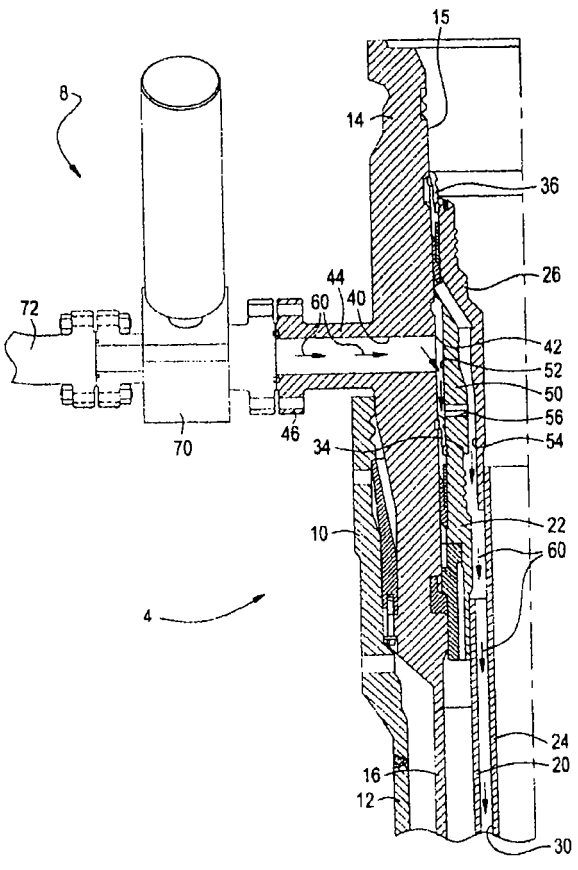
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(54) Title: WELLHEAD ASSEMBLY FOR ACCESSING AN ANNULUS IN A WELL AND A METHOD FOR ITS USE



(57) Abstract: A wellhead assembly comprises a central bore through the wellhead assembly having an opening in the central bore in the pressure boundary region of the wellhead assembly. The port preferably extends through the high pressure housing into the bore of the wellhead assembly. A first casing string is secured at a first end within the wellhead assembly below the opening of the port in the central bore of the wellhead assembly. A second casing string is secured at a first end within the wellhead assembly above the opening of the port in the central bore of the wellhead assembly. A fluid flowpath is thereby formed comprising the port in the wellhead assembly and an annulus between the first and second casing strings. In this way, access is provided to an annulus within the well. A method for passing a fluid through an annulus in a well is also provided, the well having a wellhead assembly comprising a central bore therethrough, the annulus being formed between a first casing string and a second casing secured within the wellhead assembly and extending into the well.

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ACTION

— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

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