5. A drill pipe according to any preceding claim wherein the first connection portion is provided with a first threaded portion.

6. A drill pipe according to any preceding claim wherein there is a second connection portion at the second end of the tubular body, the second connection portion also comprising a thickened portion of the tubular body in which the separation of the interior surface and the exterior surface is substantially greater than the adjacent portion of the tubular body.

7. A drill pipe according to claim 6 wherein the second connection portion is provided with a second threaded portion which is a mate for the first threaded portion.

8. A drill pipe according to claim 5 and 7 wherein the first threaded portion is provided in the interior surface of the drill pipe, and the second threaded portion is provided in the exterior surface of the drill pipe.

~~9. A drill pipe substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to and / or as shown in the accompanying drawings.~~