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- (71) Applicant: OIL STATES INDUSTRIES (UK) LTD.
[GB/GB]; Blackness Road, Altens Industrial Estates, Aberdeen, Scotland AB12 3LH (GB).
- (72) Inventor: GALLAGHER, John; 17h Polmuir Road, Aberdeen AB11 7RS (GB).
- (74) Agent: FORRESTERS; Rutland House, 148 Edmund Street, Birmingham B3 2JA (GB).

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(54) Title: MERLIN DRILLING RISER ASSEMBLY

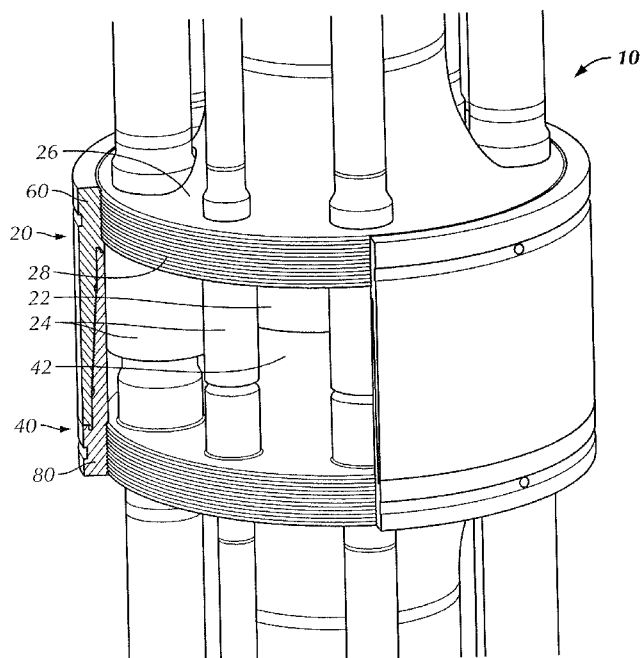


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: An improved drilling riser assembly (10) including a male drilling riser assembly (20) section and a female drilling riser assembly section (40) that form a connection joint when mated. The drilling riser assembly sections having an internal stab type main drilling riser connector (22, 42). The drilling riser assembly sections each have main drilling riser flanges (26, 46) that have helically threaded rings (28, 48) on an outer edge of the flange. A box and pin connector (60, 80) each have an inner helically threaded ring (62, 82) that mates with the outer helical flange ring of a drilling riser assembly section. The box and pin connectors extend towards each other and make up an enclosed compression joined mating section around the stab type connectors of the drilling riser assembly.

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