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(54) Title: COUPLING PERMITTING LONGITUDINAL AXIS ROTATION OF PIPE ELEMENTS

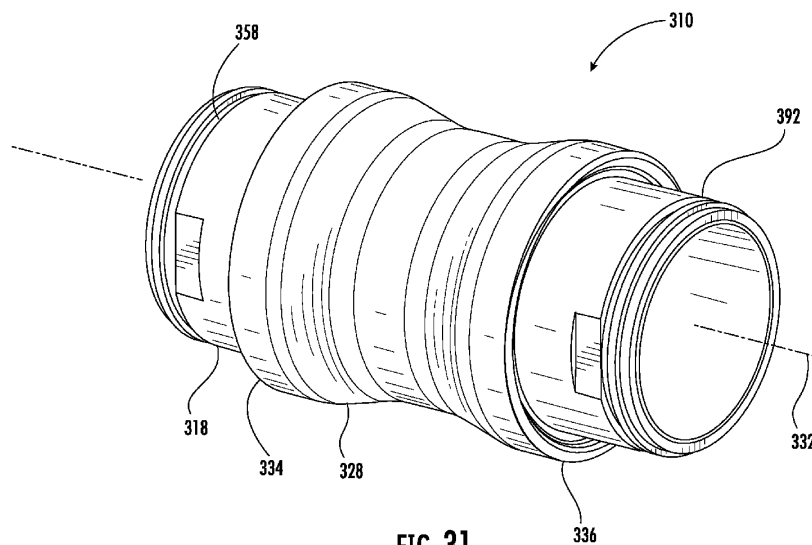


FIG. 31

(57) Abstract: A coupling permitting rotation of pipe elements about their longitudinal axes includes a first ring attachable to a first of the pipe elements. The first ring has a first collar projecting outwardly therefrom and defining a low friction bearing surface. A housing defines a bore therethrough surrounding a longitudinal axis arranged coaxially with the bore. The housing has a first end and a second end oppositely disposed from one another. The first end is adapted to receive the first ring coaxially within the bore. The housing comprises a first shoulder and a first channel. When the first ring is received within the bore at the first end, the first collar is positionable between the first shoulder and the first channel. The bearing surface is engageable with the first shoulder. Engagement between the bearing surface and the first shoulder allows rotation of the first ring with respect to the housing.

[Continued on next page]

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