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(54) **Title:** APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR SEALING A PIPE INCLUDING INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL GRIPPING MEANS

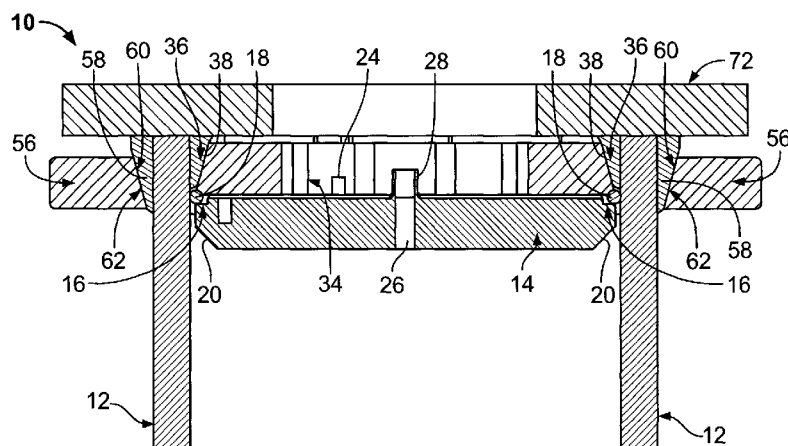


FIG. 1

(57) **Abstract:** An apparatus for sealing an open end of a pipe includes a sealing means for forming a circumferential seal between the apparatus and the inner surface of the pipe and first and second "gripping" means for frictionally engaging the inner and outer surfaces of the pipe, respectively, to prevent relative axial movement between the apparatus and the pipe. The invention also provides a method of sealing an open end of a pipe. The apparatus and method are also adapted to pressurize the interior of the pipe for conducting an integrity test of the pipe or welds on the pipe.