

ABSTRACT

APPARATUS FOR NEAR VERTICAL LAYING OF PIPELINE

5 A support base (12) and framework (14) on a lay vessel
(22) support an alignment tower (16) that extends upwardly
from the base (12) and is designed to support the pipe
joint to be added to the pipeline (20). A support tower
(18) that supports the weight of the pipeline (20) is
10 attached to the support base (12) such that the support
tower (18) extends downwardly therefrom into the water. A
travel block (26) can move along the length of the tower
(18) for raising or lowering the pipe and pipeline (20).
A pedestal (28) that is movable between open and closed
15 positions for receiving a pipe section from the travel
block (26) and supporting the weight of the pipeline (20)
is positioned near the bottom of the tower (18). A
strongback or boom (38) may be used to grasp a pipe joint
from a ready rack and transfer the pipe joint into the
20 alignment tower (16) for addition to the pipeline (20).
The attachment position and extension of the support tower
(18) into the water lowers the centre of gravity of the
apparatus.

25 Fig. 1

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



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REPLACED