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(54) Title: THEFT-DETERRENCE DEVICE

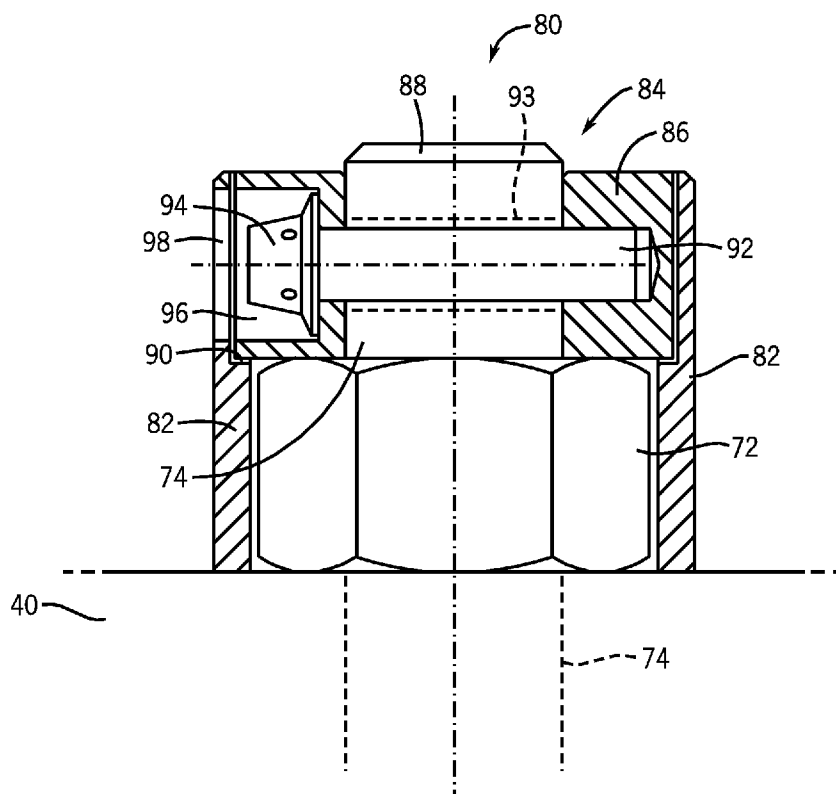


FIG. 2

(57) Abstract: In accordance with certain embodiments, the present invention provides a theft-deterrence device, which can be used to deter theft of oil-and-gas equipment. For example, one such embodiment provides a nut-and-bolt assembly that includes an extended bolt and a standard the hexagonal nut. To deter theft, the exemplary assembly includes an outer sleeve that is disposed about the nut and extended bolt and that is free to rotate. Resultantly, the sleeve prevents the application of torque to the nut and also protects against shearing of the extended stud. The exemplary assembly also includes a tamper-resistant screw extending through the stud and cooperating with a retaining ring disposed above the nut, to prevent removal of the outer sleeve.

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