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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **BAKER HUGHES INCORPORATED** [US/US]; PO Box 4740, Houston, Texas 77210-4740 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **LAKE, Gary** [US/US]; 1355 Studer Street, Houston, Texas 77007 (US). **RANJAN, Priyesh** [IN/US]; 7903 Glenn Cliff Drive, Houston, Texas 77064 (US). **WILSON, Kenneth** [US/US]; 2630 Bissonet Apt. 128, Houston, Texas 77005 (US). **RAINONE, Michael** [US/US]; 410 Private Road 8315, Palestine, Texas 75803 (US). **GRISHAM, Phillip** [US/US]; 493 Zambezi Lane, Bullard, Texas 75757 (US). **SACKETT, Samuel** [US/US]; 812 Acr 3194, Frankston, Texas 75763 (US).

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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))
- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: HOLD OPEN CONFIGURATION FOR SAFETY VALVE AND METHOD

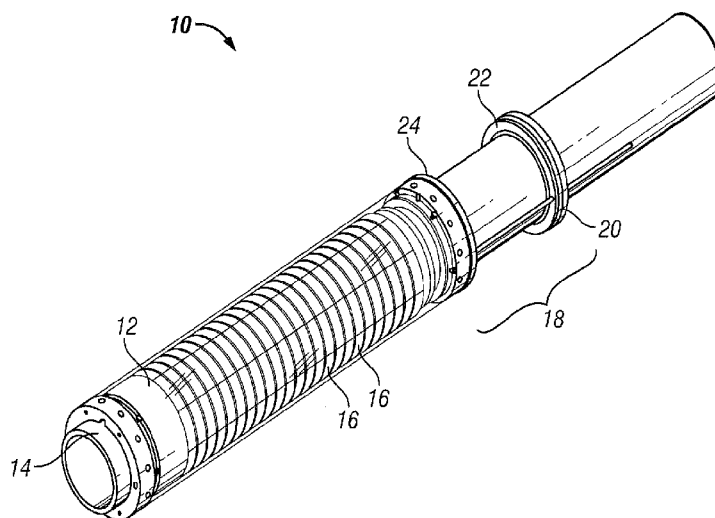


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: An actuator and counterbalance system including a nonmobile carrier; a mobile carrier, mobile relative to the non mobile carrier; and a counterbalance system in operable communication with the mobile carrier and configured to counterbalance less than 100 percent of a return force of a tool actuated by the actuator and method.





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