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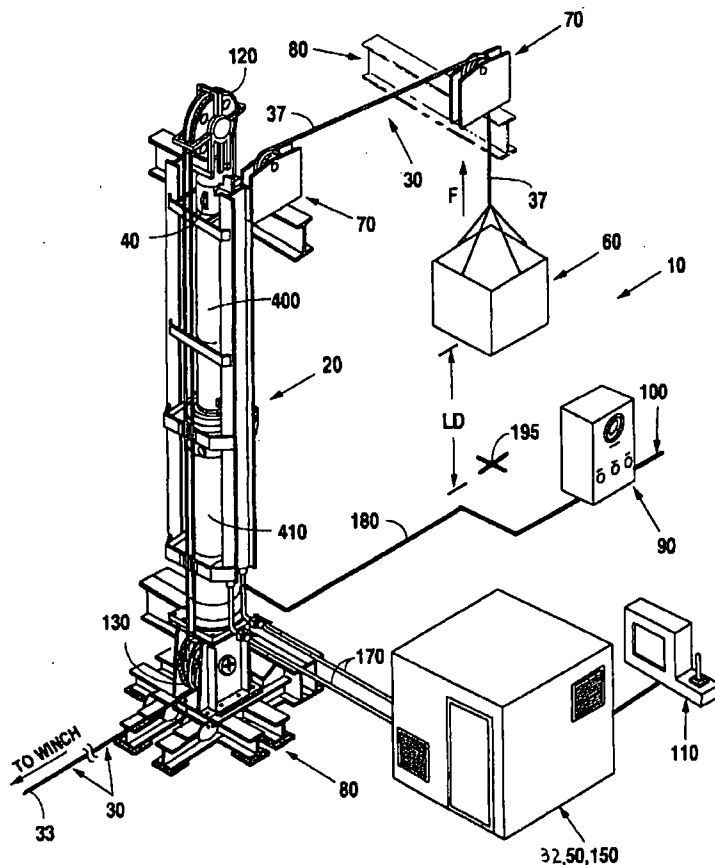
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(54) Title: ACTIVE DEPLOYMENT SYSTEM AND METHOD



(57) Abstract: The active deployment system (10, 10') comprises a passive cylinder system (410) coupled with an active cylinder system (400). The passive cylinder system (410) including a pre-charged accumulator (440), provides load balance for the equipment or other mass/load being deployed. Pressure provided to the blind end of the passive cylinder supports the load (60), such that the passive cylinder is balanced mid-stroke with the load hanging from a cable (30). A sheave arrangement (120, 130), placed at opposite ends of the passive cylinder-active cylinder combination, is used to introduce a line travel multiplier for cylinder displacement. The active cylinder is controlled hydraulically to add or remove load to/from the passive cylinder system in order to provide a compensating balance. The method comprises the steps of measuring a heave movement (velocity and direction), and adjusting the tension force applied to the cable (30) upon determining that the heave velocity exceeds a pre-selected critical velocity.

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ACTION

- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*