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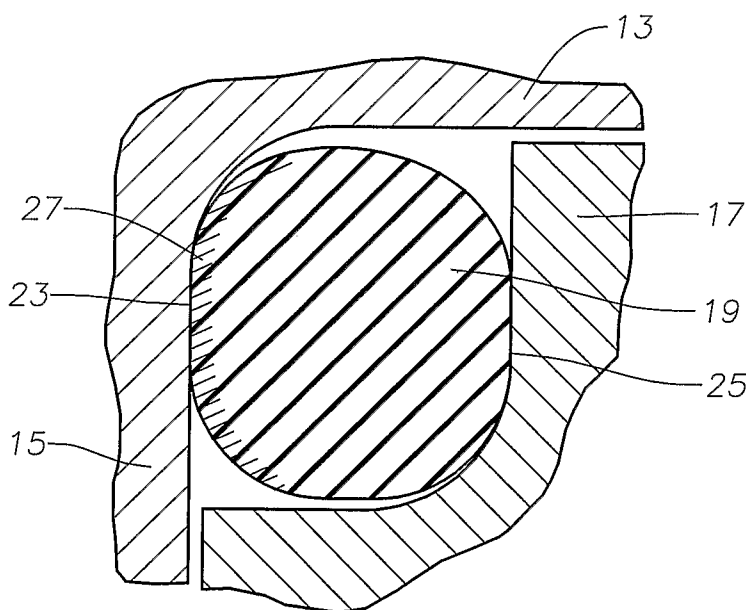
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(54) Title: DRILLING TOOL WITH ELASTOMER SEAL HAVING GRADED PROPERTIES



(57) Abstract: A subterranean drill tool (11) has a seal gland formed between a rotating (17) and a static (15) surface. An annular elastomeric seal (19) is located in the gland in engagement with each of the surfaces. A property gradient (27) is formed in at least part of the elastomeric material. The property gradient defines a property that changes from a first level at the surface to a second level in the interior of the seal. The elastomeric material within the property gradient has the same chemical composition as the rest of the seal.

WO 2006/017170 A1