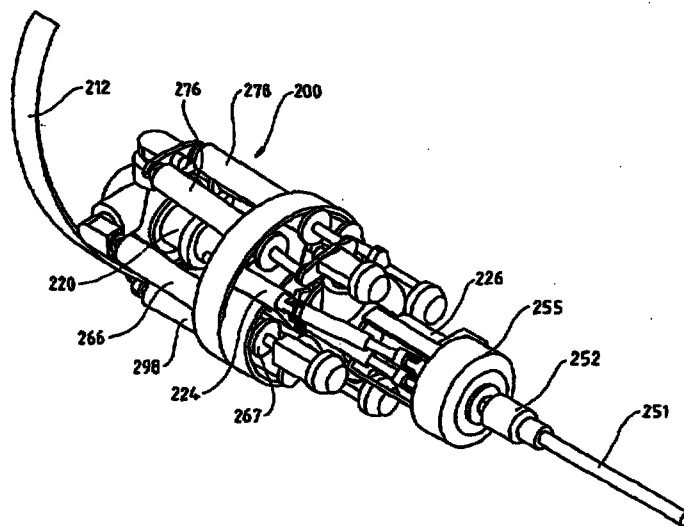




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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR WINDING A HELICAL PIPE FROM ITS INSIDE

**(57) Abstract**

A machine (200) for winding a strip of material (212) into a helical pipe wherein adjacent convolutions of the strip (212) are interlocked. The machine comprises: a frame (220) having circumferentially spaced supports in the form of rollers (266, 276, 278, 286, 296 and 298) adapted to bear against the inner periphery of the pipe being wound, the outer peripheral surfaces of the rollers forming a helical path for the strip (212) and along which the strip (212) is directed when the machine (200) is in use; driving rollers (224) mounted to the frame (220) for driving the strip (212) around the outside of the rollers so as to follow the helical path and cause the adjacent edges of the strip (212) to interlock; and drive means (226) mounted to the frame for driving the driving rollers (224). The driving rollers (224) and the drive means are located wholly inside of the path formed by the rollers and no part of the machine (200) engages the outer periphery of the pipe being wound.