

wildcat Re-Exam



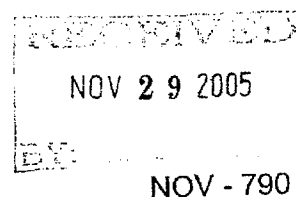
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
90/006,919	01/26/2004	5474142	101644-11	5103
21897	7590	11/23/2005	EXAMINER	
THE MATTHEWS FIRM 2000 BERING DRIVE SUITE 700 HOUSTON, TX 77057			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 11/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.





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CANADA

EX PARTE REEXAMINATION COMMUNICATION TRANSMITTAL FORM

REEXAMINATION CONTROL NO. 90/006.919.

PATENT NO. 5474142.

3993
ART UNIT 9669.

Enclosed is a copy of the latest communication from the United States Patent and Trademark Office in the above identified *ex parte* reexamination proceeding (37 CFR 1.550(f)).

Where this copy is supplied after the reply by requester, 37 CFR 1.535, or the time for filing a reply has passed, no submission on behalf of the *ex parte* reexamination requester will be acknowledged or considered (37 CFR 1.550(g)).

NOV - 791

PTOL-465 (Rev.07-04)

National Oilwell Varco, LP
Exhibit 2030
Page 2 of 9

**Notice of Intent to Issue
Ex Parte Reexamination Certificate**

Control No.

90/006,919

Patent Under Reexamination

5474142

Examiner

Matthew C. Graham

Art Unit

3993
~~5008~~

C1

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

1. ☒ Prosecution on the merits is (or remains) closed in this *ex parte* reexamination proceeding. This proceeding is subject to reopening at the initiative of the Office or upon petition. Cf. 37 CFR 1.313(a). A Certificate will be issued in view of
 - (a) ☐ Patent owner's communication(s) filed: _____.
 - (b) ☐ Patent owner's late response filed: _____.
 - (c) ☐ Patent owner's failure to file an appropriate response to the Office action mailed: _____.
 - (d) ☐ Patent owner's failure to timely file an Appeal Brief (37 CFR 41.31).
 - (e) ☒ Other: See attached Reasons for Patentability/Confirmation.

Status of *Ex Parte* Reexamination:

 - (f) Change in the Specification: ☐ Yes ☒ No
 - (g) Change in the Drawing(s): ☐ Yes ☒ No
 - (h) Status of the Claim(s):
 - (1) Patent claim(s) confirmed: 1-15.
 - (2) Patent claim(s) amended (including dependent on amended claim(s)): _____
 - (3) Patent claim(s) cancelled: _____.
 - (4) Newly presented claim(s) patentable: _____.
 - (5) Newly presented cancelled claims: _____.
2. ☒ Note the attached statement of reasons for patentability and/or confirmation. Any comments considered necessary by patent owner regarding reasons for patentability and/or confirmation must be submitted promptly to avoid processing delays. Such submission(s) should be labeled: "Comments On Statement of Reasons for Patentability and/or Confirmation."
3. ☐ Note attached NOTICE OF REFERENCES CITED (PTO-892).
4. ☒ Note attached LIST OF REFERENCES CITED (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08).
5. ☐ The drawing correction request filed on _____ is: ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of the priority claim under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the certified copies have
 - ☐ been received.
 - ☐ not been received.
 - ☐ been filed in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ been filed in reexamination Control No. _____.
 - ☐ been received by the International Bureau in PCT Application No. _____.

* Certified copies not received: _____.
7. ☐ Note attached Examiner's Amendment.
8. ☐ Note attached Interview Summary (PTO-474).
9. ☐ Other: _____

NOV - 792

cc: Requester (if third party requester)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
PTOL-469 (Rev.9-04)

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Part of Paper No 08312005

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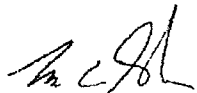
REEXAMINATION
REASONS FOR PATENTABILITY / CONFIRMATION

Reexamination Control No. 90/006,919

Attachment to Paper No. 08312005.

³⁹⁹³
Art Unit 9608.

See attachment

 8/31/2005
MATTHEW C. GRAHAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER

GROUP 210
(Examiner's Signature)

PTOL-476 (Rev. 03-98)

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National Oilwell Varco, LP
Exhibit 2030
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Application/Control Number: 90/006,919

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Art Unit: ~~3886~~ 3993

STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR PATENTABILITY AND/OR CONFIRMATION

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for patentability and/or confirmation of the claims found patentable in this reexamination proceeding: the prior art of record, including Varney, US Patent 3,223,183, fail to show or suggest an automatic drilling system having drill string wherein a decrease in drilling fluid pressure results in a relay supplying a drill string control signal that operates a drill string controller to effect an "increase in the rate of release" of said drill string and an increase in drilling fluid pressure results in said relay supplying a drill string control signal that operates said drill string controller to effect a "decrease in the rate of release" of said drill string. While Varney shows drill string control based upon drilling fluid pressure that relaxes and tightens the drill string. Varney does not teach or suggest effecting an "increase in the rate of release" and a "decrease in the rate of release" as it pertains to independent claims 1, 9 and 11. Claims 2-8, 10 and 12-15 are patentable due to their dependency on claims 1, 9 and 11.

Any comments considered necessary by PATENT OWNER regarding the above statement must be submitted promptly to avoid processing delays. Such submission by the patent owner should be labeled: "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Patentability and/or Confirmation" and will be placed in the reexamination file.

All correspondence relating to this *Ex Parte* reexamination proceeding should be directed:

By Mail to: Mail Stop *Ex Parte* Reexam
Central Reexamination Unit
Office of Patent Legal Administration
United States Patent & Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

By FAX to: (571) 273-9900
Central Reexamination Unit

By hand: Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany St.
Alexandria, VA 22314

NOV - 794

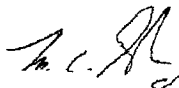
Application/Control Number: 90/006,919

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Art Unit: ~~3689~~ 3993

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner, or as to the status of this proceeding, should be directed to the Central Reexamination Unit at telephone number (571) 272-7705.

CONFEREES: PE
AK


8/31/2005
MATTHEW C. GRAHAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 310

NOV - 795

Approved for use through 07/31/2008. OMB 0651-0031

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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.501. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9193 and select option 2.

National Oilwell Varco, LP
Exhibit 2030
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US005474142C1

(12) **EX PARTE REEXAMINATION CERTIFICATE** (5436th)

United States Patent
Bowden

(10) Number: **US 5,474,142 C1**
(45) Certificate Issued: **Jul. 4, 2006**

(54) **AUTOMATIC DRILLING SYSTEM**

Primary Examiner—Matthew C. Graham

(75) Inventor: **Bobbie J. Bowden, Gonzales, TX (US)**

(57) **ABSTRACT**

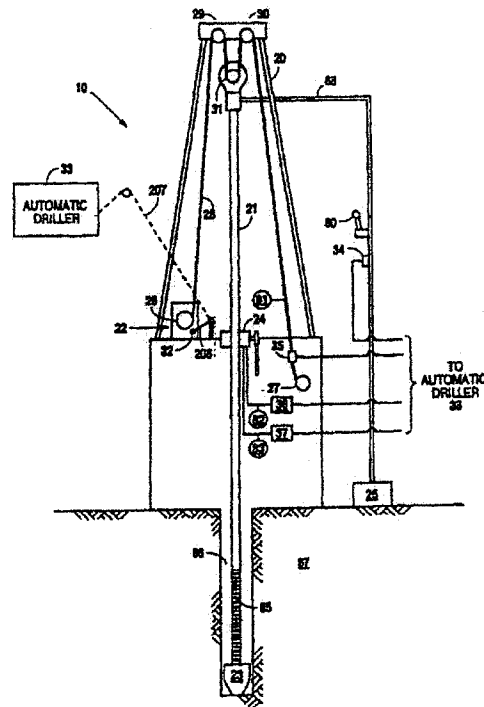
(73) Assignee: **Wildcat Services, L.P., Cypress, TX (US)**

Reexamination Request:
No. 90/006,919, Jan. 26, 2004

Reexamination Certificate for:
Patent No.: **5,474,142**
Issued: **Dec. 12, 1995**
Appl. No.: **08/050,527**
Filed: **Apr. 19, 1993**

An automatic drilling system regulates the drill string of a drilling rig in response to any one of, any combination of, or all of drilling fluid pressure, bit weight, drill string torque, and drill string RPM to achieve an optimal rate of bit penetration. The automatic drilling system includes a drilling fluid pressure sensor, a bit weight sensor, a drill string torque sensor, and a drill string RPM sensor which deliver a drilling fluid pressure signal, a bit weight signal, a drill string torque signal, and a drill string RPM signal to a drilling fluid pressure regulator, a bit weight regulator, a drill string torque regulator, and a drill string RPM regulator. The regulators control a drill string controller in response to the above signals so that it manipulates the drilling rig to release the drill string at a rate which maintains the maximum rate of bit penetration.

- (51) Int. Cl. **E21B 19/08** (2006.01)
- (52) U.S. Cl. **175/27; 175/162; 175/57**
- (58) Field of Classification Search None
See application file for complete search history.
- (56) **References Cited**
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS
3,223,183 A 12/1965 Varney 175/27



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US 5,474,142 C1

¹
EX PARTE
REEXAMINATION CERTIFICATE
ISSUED UNDER 35 U.S.C. 307
NO AMENDMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO
THE PATENT

²
AS A RESULT OF REEXAMINATION, IT HAS BEEN
DETERMINED THAT:

⁵ The patentability of claims 1-15 is confirmed.

* * * * *

NOV - 1185