

(21) Application No: **0406969.6**
(22) Date of Filing: **26.09.2002**
(30) Priority Data:
(31) **09969089** (32) **02.10.2001** (33) **US**
(86) International Application Data:
PCT/GB2002/004368 En 26.09.2002
(87) International Publication Data:
WO2003/029608 En 10.04.2003

(51) INT CL⁷:
E21B 43/10
(52) UK CL (Edition W):
E1F FJR FLA
(56) Documents Cited by ISA:
GB 2345308 A US 6012523 A
US 4483399 A US 3191680 A
(58) Field of Search by ISA:
INT CL⁷ **B21C, E21B**
Other: **Online: EPO-Internal**

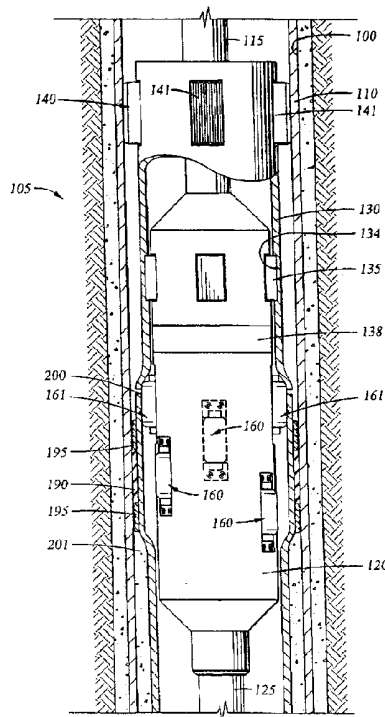
(71) Applicant(s):
Weatherford/Lamb Inc.
(Incorporated in USA - Delaware)
515 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 600,
Houston, Texas 77027,
United States of America

(72) Inventor(s):
Patrick Maguire
Robert Joe Coon
Neil Andrew Abercrombie Simpson

(continued on next page)

(54) Abstract Title: **Method and apparatus for expanding and separating tubulars in a wellbore**

(57) An apparatus and method for expanding a lower string of casing into frictional contact with an upper string of casing, and thereby hanging the lower string of casing onto the upper string of casing is provided. The apparatus essentially defines a lower string of casing (130) having a scribe (200) placed into the top end thereof. The lower string of casing (130) is run into the wellbore, and positioned so that the top end overlaps with the bottom end of an upper string of casing (110) already cemented into the wellbore. The top end of the lower casing string (130) is expanded below the depth of the scribe into frictional contact with the upper string of casing. At the same time, or shortly thereafter, the top end of the upper string of casing is expanded. As the portion of the lower casing string having the scribe is expanded, the casing severs into upper and lower portions. The upper portion can then be removed from the wellbore, leaving a lower string of casing expanded into frictional engagement with an upper string of casing.



GB 2397601 A continuation

(74) Agent and/or Address for Service:
Marks & Clerk
4220 Nash Court,
Oxford Business Park South, OXFORD,
OX4 2RU, United Kingdom