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(54) **AUTOMATIC METHOD FOR INSTALLING MOBILE DRILLING RIG AT A DRILLING SITE**

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This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method for installing a mobile drilling rig at a drilling site entails transporting the mobile drilling rig to the drilling site, wherein the mobile drilling rig is made three sections: two substructures and a mast section. The substructures are placed parallel to one another at the drilling site. The mast section is connected to the mast starting sections located on each substructure. Raising cylinders on the substructures engage the mast and raise the mast into a substantially vertical orientation, wherein the mast is locked in place. The raising cylinders are retraced and then re-extended into a drillfloor raising position. The method ends by extending the raising cylinders to raise the driller's floor side box and the off-driller's floor side box into an operating elevation.

18 Claims, 18 Drawing Sheets

