

- [54] FIRE RESISTANT CONNECTIONS AND T-LIKE SEALING MEANS THEREFOR
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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A fire resistant connection (12) that embodies a T-like sealing means (44) and that is operable for purposes of effectuating the establishment of a fire resistant seal between mating surfaces (18, 26), and in particular mating surfaces (18, 26) of the type that commonly are found to be present in wellhead and valve equipment (10). The subject fire resistant connection (12) includes mating seal surfaces (18, 26) and the aforementioned T-like sealing means (44). The T-like sealing means (44) comprises a T-shaped seal ring (44), which includes a plurality of seal lips (46, 48) and a rib (50), the latter (50) being formed on the seal ring (44) so as to be located in interposed relation between a pair of adjacent seal lips (46, 48). Each of the plurality of seal lips (46, 48) is suitably configured so as to be positionable in sealing engagement with a corresponding one of the mating sealing surfaces (18, 26), the latter (18, 26) embodying a configuration that is complementary in nature to that of the seal lip (46, 48) engaged thereby. Likewise, the rib (50) is suitably configured such that when the seal lips (46, 48) are in sealing engagement with the mating sealing surfaces (18, 26), the rib (50) is also engaged by the mating sealing surfaces (18, 26) and is locked in position thereby.

6 Claims, 2 Drawing Figures

