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(54) **Underwater pipelaying**

(57) The invention is concerned with methods and techniques related to the control of pipelaying operations from a self-propelled reel pipelaying vessel. The methods involve monitoring the

angle of entry of the pipe into the water relative to a nominal horizontal plane representing the water surface, and monitoring the angle of excursion which the pipe makes relative to a nominal pipe centerline substantially parallel to the nominal preset angle of entry into the water.

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