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STANDOFF FOR WIRELINE

Abstract

A wireline standoff can include a base comprising a base body having a base channel that traverses a thickness of the base body along its length, where the base channel has a width and a depth that are large enough to receive the wireline. The wireline standoff can also include an end piece having an end piece body having an end piece channel that traverses a thickness of the end piece body along the end piece length, where the end piece channel has a width and a depth that are large enough to receive the wireline. The base and the end piece are in a default position when the base channel and the end piece channel are aligned and in a secured position when the end piece is moved relative to the base so that the base channel and the end piece channel are misaligned with each other.

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Background/Summary

TECHNICAL FIELD

[0001] The present disclosure relates generally to wireline systems, and more particularly to systems, methods, and devices for standoffs for wirelines used in subterranean wellbores.

BACKGROUND

[0002] A wireline operation within a subterranean wellbore can involve placing a wireline tool at the end of a long wireline cable and dropping the wireline tool thousands of feet into the wellbore to collect information (e.g., measure parameters, capture images) within the wellbore. Once the information is collected, the wireline cable is pulled up to remove the wireline tool. In alternative cases, a wireline operation can involve using the wireline cable to retrieve ("fish") a tool or component from the wellbore or place a tool or component in the wellbore. The wireline cable is often made of a semi-flexible metal material.

[0003] Since wellbores are not completely straight and vertical along their length, there are sections of the wellbore that can impose high degrees of friction on the wireline during a wireline operation as the wireline is being lowered into and/or raised out of a wellbore. When too much friction results, the wireline can degrade. In extreme cases, the wireline breaks, resulting in tremendous costs (e.g., rig time, non-use of personnel, modification of wellbore, shutting in wellbore). Within a wellbore, a wireline can get damaged against non-smooth portions of a subterranean formation, a non-smooth wall of casing, and/or a step feature in the casing. Similarly, the casing and/or subterranean formation that forms the wellbore can be damaged by a wireline during a wireline operation.

SUMMARY

[0004] In general, in one aspect, the disclosure relates to a wireline standoff, which may include a base having a base body having a base length between a first end and a second end, where the first end has a first coupling feature, where the base body includes a base channel formed therein that extends along the base length of the base body, and where the base channel has a width and a depth that are configured to be large enough to receive a first lengthwise portion of the wireline. The wireline standoff may also include an end piece movably coupled to the first end of the base, where the end piece includes an end piece body and a second coupling feature that is configured to couple to the first coupling feature of the base, where the end piece body has formed therein an end piece channel that extends along an end piece length of the end piece body, and where an end piece channel has a width and a depth that are configured to be large enough to receive a second lengthwise portion of the wireline. The base and the end piece may be configured to be in a default position when the base channel and the end piece channel are aligned with each other so that the base channel is configured to receive the first lengthwise portion of the wireline simultaneously with when the end piece channel is configured to receive the second lengthwise portion of the wireline. The base and the end piece may be configured to be in a secured position when the end piece is moved relative to the base using the first coupling feature and the second coupling feature so that the base channel and the end piece channel are misaligned with each other while the first lengthwise portion of the wireline is positioned in the base channel and while the second lengthwise portion of the wireline is positioned in the end piece channel.

[0005] In other aspects, the disclosure relates to a wireline standoff assembly, which may include a wireline having a wireline thickness. The wireline standoff assembly may also include a wireline standoff encasing a portion of the wireline. The wireline standoff of the wireline standoff assembly may include a base having a base body with a base length between a first end and a second end, where the first end has a first coupling feature, where the base body includes a base channel formed therein that extends along the base length of the base body, and where the base channel has a width and a depth that are configured to be large enough to receive a first part of the portion of the wireline. The wireline standoff of the wireline standoff assembly may also include an end piece movably coupled to the first end of the base, where the end piece includes an end piece body and a second coupling feature that is coupled to the first coupling feature of the base, where the end piece body has formed therein an end piece channel that extends along an end piece length of the end piece body, and where the end piece channel has a width and a depth that are configured to be large enough to receive a second part of the portion of the wireline. The base and the end piece may be configured to be in a default position when the base channel and the end piece channel are aligned with each other so that the base channel is configured to receive the first part of the portion of the wireline simultaneously with when the end piece channel is configured to receive the second part of the portion of the wireline. The base and the end piece may be configured to be in a secured position when the end piece is moved relative to the base using the first coupling feature and the second coupling feature so that the base channel and the end piece channel are misaligned with each other while the first lengthwise portion of the wireline is positioned in the base channel and while the second lengthwise portion of the wireline is positioned in the end piece channel.

[0006] In yet other aspects, the disclosure relates to a wellbore system, which may include a wellbore disposed in a subterranean formation. The wellbore system may also include field equipment located at a surface adjacent to the wellbore. The wellbore system may further include a wireline having a wireline thickness, where the field equipment is configured to lower the wireline into and extract the wireline from the wellbore. The wellbore system may also include a wireline standoff encasing a portion of the wireline. The wireline standoff of the wellbore system may include a base having a base body having a base length between a first end and a second end, where the first end has a first coupling feature, where the base body includes a base channel formed therein that extends along the base length of the base body, and where the base channel has a width and a depth that are configured to be large enough to receive a first part of the portion of the wireline. The wireline standoff of the wellbore system may also include an end piece movably coupled to the first end of the base, where the end piece includes an end piece body and a second coupling feature that is coupled to the first coupling feature of the base, where the end piece body has formed therein an end piece channel that extends along an end piece length of the end piece body, and where the end piece channel has a width and a depth that are configured to be large enough to receive a second part of the portion of the wireline. The base and the end piece may be configured to be in a default position when the base channel and the end piece channel are aligned with each other so that the base channel is configured to receive the first part of the portion of the wireline at the surface simultaneously with when the end piece channel is configured to receive the second part of the portion of the wireline. The base and the end piece may be configured to be in a secured position when the end piece is moved relative to the base at the surface using the first coupling feature and the second coupling feature so that the base channel and the end piece channel are misaligned with each other while the first lengthwise portion of the wireline is positioned in the base channel and while the second lengthwise portion of the wireline is positioned in the end piece channel.

[0007] These and other aspects, objects, features, and embodiments will be apparent from the following description and the appended claims.

Description

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0008] The drawings illustrate only example embodiments and are therefore not to be considered limiting in scope, as the example embodiments may admit to other equally effective embodiments. The elements and features shown in the drawings are not necessarily to scale, emphasis instead being placed upon clearly illustrating the principles of the example embodiments. Additionally, certain dimensions or positions may be exaggerated to help visually convey such principles. In the drawings, the same reference numerals used in different figures may designate like or corresponding but not necessarily identical elements.

[0009] FIG. **1** shows a wireline system according to certain example embodiments.

[0010] FIG. **2** shows a block diagram of a wireline standoff according to certain example embodiments.

[0011] FIGS. **3**A through **3**C show various views of a wireline standoff in a default position according to certain example embodiments.

[0012] FIGS. **4**A through **4**H show various views of the wireline standoff of FIGS. **3**A through **3**C in a secured position according to certain example embodiments.

[0013] FIGS. **5**A through **5**E show various views of the base of the wireline standoff of FIGS. **3**A through **4**H according to certain example embodiments.

[0014] FIGS. **6**A through **6**D show various views of one end piece of the wireline standoff of FIGS. **3**A through **4**H according to certain example embodiments.

[0015] FIGS. **7**A through **7**D show various views of the other end piece of the wireline standoff of FIGS. **3**A through **4**H according to certain example embodiments.

[0016] FIGS. **8**A and **8**B show an end piece and a base, respectively, of a wireline standoff according to certain example embodiments.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0017] In general, example embodiments provide systems, methods, and devices for standoffs for wirelines. Example embodiments can provide a number of benefits. Such benefits can include, but are not limited to, minimal interruption time of a wireline operation, targeted protection of a wireline within a wellbore, ease of position changes, ease of installation and uninstallation with respect to a wireline, and compliance with industry standards that apply to wireline operations. While example embodiments described herein are directed for use with wirelines, in alternative embodiments, an example standoff may be used additionally or alternatively with other types of cables and/or wires (e.g., electrical cables). Also, while example embodiments described herein are directed for use in a wellbore environment, in alternative embodiments, an example standoff may be used in any of a number of other environments (whether hazardous or otherwise) in which a cable or wire can use targeted protection from damage caused by portions of such other environments.

[0018] In addition, or in the alternative, example embodiments may be used to help protect parts of the casing and/or formation wall of a wellbore from friction generated by a wireline. As defined herein, a user may be any person that interacts with a wireline or associated wireline operation. Examples of a user may include, but are not limited to, a drilling engineer, a wireline engineer, a roughneck, a company representative, a mechanic, an operator, an employee, a consultant, a contractor, and a manufacturer's representative.

[0019] Example standoffs for wirelines can be made of one or more of a number of suitable materials to allow the standoffs to meet certain standards and/or regulations while also maintaining durability in light of the one or more conditions under which the standoffs, including components thereof, may be exposed. Examples of such materials can include, but are not limited to, aluminum, stainless steel, fiberglass, glass, plastic (e.g., polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE), nylon), a polymer (e.g., an acetal homopolymer, a copolymer of terephthalic acid (1,4) and ethylene glycol), ceramic, and rubber.

[0020] Example standoffs, or portions or components thereof, described herein can be made from a single piece (e.g., from a mold, using injection molding, using a die cast process, using a milling and/or lathing process, using an extrusion process, 3D printing). In addition, or in the alternative, example standoffs (including portions or components thereof) can be made from multiple pieces that are mechanically coupled to each other. In such a case, the multiple pieces can be mechanically coupled to each other using one or more of a number of coupling methods, including but not limited to epoxy, welding, fastening devices, compression fittings, mating threads, snap fittings, and slotted fittings. One or more pieces that are mechanically coupled to each other can be coupled to each other in one or more of a number of ways, including but not limited to fixedly, hingedly, removeably, slidably, rotatably, and threadably.

[0021] Components and/or features described herein can include elements that are described as coupling, fastening, securing, abutting against, in communication with, or other similar terms. Such terms are merely meant to distinguish various elements and/or features within a component or device and are not meant to limit the capability or function of that particular element and/or feature. For example, a feature described as a “coupling feature” can couple, secure, fasten, abut against, and/or perform other functions aside from merely coupling.

[0022] A coupling feature (including a complementary coupling feature) as described herein can allow one or more components and/or portions of an example standoff to become coupled, directly or indirectly, to one or more other components of the standoff and/or to a wireline. A coupling feature can include, but is not limited to, a clamp, a portion of a hinge, a channel, an aperture, a recessed area, a protrusion, a hole or other type of aperture, a slot, a tab, a detent, and mating threads. One portion of an example standoff can be coupled to another component or feature of the standoff and/or to a wireline by the direct use of one or more coupling features.

[0023] In addition, or in the alternative, a portion of an example standoff can be coupled to another component or feature of the standoff and/or to a wireline using one or more independent devices that interact with one or more coupling features disposed on a component or feature of the standoff. Examples of such devices can include, but are not limited to, a pin, a hinge, a fastening device (e.g., a bolt, a screw, a rivet), epoxy, glue, adhesive, and a spring. One coupling feature described herein can be the same as, or different than, one or more other coupling features described herein. A complementary coupling feature as described herein can be a coupling feature that mechanically couples, directly or indirectly, with another coupling feature.

[0024] The use of the terms “substantially”, “about”, “approximately”, and similar terms applies to all numeric values, whether or not explicitly indicated. These terms generally refer to a range of numbers that one of ordinary skill in the art would consider as a reasonable amount of deviation to the recited numeric values (i.e., having the equivalent function or result). For example, this term may be construed as including a deviation of +10 percent of the given numeric value provided such a deviation does not alter the end function or result of the value. Therefore, an angle that is substantially perpendicular may be construed to be within a range from 81° to 99°. Furthermore, a range may be construed to include the start and the end of the range. For example, a range of 10% to 20% (i.e., range of 10%-20%) includes 10% and also includes 20%, and includes percentages in between 10% and 20%, unless explicitly stated otherwise herein. Similarly, a range of between 10% and 20% (i.e., range between 10%-20%) includes 10% and also includes 20%, and includes percentages in between 10% and 20%, unless explicitly stated otherwise herein.

[0025] A “subterranean formation” refers to practically any volume under a surface. For example, it may be practically any volume under a terrestrial surface (e.g., a land surface), practically any volume under a seafloor, etc. Each subsurface volume of interest may have a variety of characteristics, such as petrophysical rock properties, reservoir fluid properties, reservoir conditions, hydrocarbon properties, or any combination thereof. For example, each subsurface volume of interest may be associated with one or more of: temperature, porosity, salinity, permeability, water composition, mineralogy, hydrocarbon type, hydrocarbon quantity, reservoir location, pressure, etc. Those of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that the characteristics are many, including, but not limited to: shale gas, shale oil, tight gas, tight oil, tight carbonate, carbonate, vuggy carbonate, unconventional (e.g., a permeability of less than 25 millidarcy (mD) such as a permeability of from 0.000001 mD to 25 mD)), diatomite, geothermal, mineral, etc. The terms “formation”, “subsurface formation”, “hydrocarbon-bearing formation”, “reservoir”, “subsurface reservoir”, “subsurface area of interest”, “subsurface region of interest”, “subsurface volume of interest”, and the like may be used synonymously. The term “subterranean formation” is not limited to any description or configuration described herein.

[0026] A “well” or a “wellbore” refers to a single hole, usually cylindrical, that is drilled into a subsurface volume of interest. A well or a wellbore may be drilled in one or more directions. For example, a well or a wellbore may include a vertical well, a horizontal well, a deviated well, and/or other type of well. A well or a wellbore may be drilled in the subterranean formation for exploration and/or recovery of resources. A plurality of wells (e.g., tens to hundreds of wells) or a plurality of wellbores are often used in a field depending on the desired outcome.

[0027] A well or a wellbore may be drilled into a subsurface volume of interest using practically any drilling technique and equipment known in the art, such as geosteering, directional drilling, etc. Drilling the well may include using a tool, such as a drilling tool that includes a drill bit and a drill string. Drilling fluid, such as drilling mud, may be used while drilling in order to cool the drill tool and remove cuttings. Other tools may also be used while drilling or after drilling, such as measurement-while-drilling (MWD) tools, seismic-while-drilling tools, wireline tools, logging-while-drilling (LWD) tools, or other downhole tools. After drilling to a predetermined depth, the drill string and the drill bit may be removed, and then the casing, the tubing, and/or other equipment may be installed according to the design of the well. The equipment to be used in drilling the well may be dependent on the design of the well, the subterranean formation, the hydrocarbons, and/or other factors.

[0028] A well may include a plurality of components, such as, but not limited to, a casing, a liner, a tubing string, a sensor, a packer, a screen, a gravel pack, artificial lift equipment (e.g., an electric submersible pump (ESP)), and/or other components. If a well is drilled offshore, the well may include one or more of the previous components plus other offshore components, such as a riser. A well may also include equipment to control fluid flow into the well, control fluid flow out of the well, or any combination thereof. For example, a well may include a wellhead, a choke, a valve, and/or other control devices. These control devices may be located on the surface, in the subsurface (e.g., downhole in the well), or any combination thereof. In some embodiments, the same control devices may be used to control fluid flow into and out of the well. In some embodiments, different control devices may be used to control fluid flow into and out of a well. In some embodiments, the rate of flow of fluids through the well may depend on the fluid handling capacities of the surface facility that is in fluidic communication with the well. The equipment to be used in controlling fluid flow into and out of a well may be dependent on the well, the subsurface region, the surface facility, and/or other factors. Moreover, sand control equipment and/or sand monitoring equipment may also be installed (e.g., downhole and/or on the surface). A well can on occasion use wireline services for wellbore evaluation (“logging”), equipment retrieval (“fishing”), conveyance of downhole tools, and the like. A well may also include any completion hardware that is not discussed separately. The term “well” may be used synonymously with the terms “borehole,” “wellbore,” or “well bore.” The term “well” is not limited to any description or configuration described herein.

[0029] It is understood that when combinations, subsets, groups, etc. of elements are disclosed (e.g., combinations of components in a composition, or combinations of steps in a method), that while specific reference of each of the various individual and collective combinations and permutations of these elements may not be explicitly disclosed, each is specifically contemplated and described herein. By way of example, if an item is described herein as including a component of type A, a component of type B, a component of type C, or any combination thereof, it is understood that this phrase describes all of the various individual and collective combinations and permutations of these components. For example, in some embodiments, the item described by this phrase could include only a component of type A. In some embodiments, the item described by this phrase could include only a component of type B. In some embodiments, the item described by this phrase could include only a component of type C. In some embodiments, the item described by this phrase could include a component of type A and a component of type B. In some embodiments, the item described by this phrase could include a component of type A and a component of type C. In some embodiments, the item described by this phrase could include a component of type B and a component of type C. In some embodiments, the item described by this phrase could include a component of type A, a component of type B, and a component of type C. In some embodiments, the item described by this phrase could include two or more components of type A (e.g., A1 and A2). In some embodiments, the item described by this phrase could include two or more components of type B (e.g., B1 and B2). In some embodiments, the item described by this phrase could include two or more components of type C (e.g., C1 and C2). In some embodiments, the item described by this phrase could include two or more of a first component (e.g., two or more components of type A (A1 and A2)), optionally one or more of a second component (e.g., optionally one or more components of type B), and optionally one or more of a third component (e.g., optionally one or more components of type C). In some embodiments, the item described by this phrase could include two or more of a first component (e.g., two or more components of type B (B1 and B2)), optionally one or more of a second component (e.g., optionally one or more components of type A), and optionally one or more of a third component (e.g., optionally one or more components of type C). In some embodiments, the item described by this phrase could include two or more of a first component (e.g., two or more components of type C (C1 and C2)), optionally one or more of a second component (e.g., optionally one or more components of type A), and optionally one or more of a third component (e.g., optionally one or more components of type B).

[0030] In the foregoing figures showing example embodiments of standoffs for wirelines, one or more of the components shown may be omitted, repeated, and/or substituted. Accordingly, example embodiments of standoffs for wirelines should not be considered limited to the specific arrangements of components shown in any of the figures. For example, features shown in one or more figures or described with respect to one embodiment can be applied to another embodiment associated with a different figure or description.

[0031] In certain example embodiments, wireline systems having example standoffs are subject to meeting certain standards and/or requirements. Examples of entities that set such standards and/or requirements can include, but are not limited to, the Society of Petroleum Engineers, the American Petroleum Institute (API), the International Standards Organization (ISO), and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). Use of example embodiments described herein meet (and/or allow the wireline systems to meet) such standards and/or requirements when applicable.

[0032] If a component of a figure is described but not expressly shown or labeled in that figure, the label used for a corresponding component in another figure can be inferred to that component. Conversely, if a component in a figure is labeled but not described with respect to that figure, the description for such component can be substantially the same as the description for a corresponding component in another figure. The numbering scheme for the various components in the figures herein is such that each component is a three-digit number, and corresponding components in other figures have the identical last two digits.

[0033] In addition, a statement that a particular embodiment (e.g., as shown in a figure herein) does not have a particular feature or component does not mean, unless expressly stated, that such embodiment is not capable of having such feature or component. For example, for purposes of present or future claims herein, a feature or component that is described as not being included in an example embodiment shown in one or more particular drawings is capable of being included in one or more claims that correspond to such one or more particular drawings herein.

[0034] Example embodiments of standoffs for wirelines will be described more fully hereinafter with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which example embodiments of standoffs for wirelines are shown. Standoffs for wirelines may, however, be embodied in many different forms and should not be construed as limited to the example embodiments set forth herein. Rather, these example embodiments are provided so that this disclosure will be thorough and complete, and will fully convey the scope of standoffs for wirelines to those of ordinary skill in the art. Like, but not necessarily the same, elements (also sometimes called components) in the various figures are denoted by like reference numerals for consistency.

[0035] Terms such as “first”, “second”, “above”, “below”, “inner”, “outer”, “distal”, “proximal”, “end”, “top”, “bottom”, “upper”, “lower”, “side”, “left”, “right”, “front”, “rear”, and “within”, when present, are used merely to distinguish one component (or part of a component or state of a component) from another. Such terms are not meant to denote a preference or a particular orientation. Such terms are not meant to limit embodiments of standoffs for wirelines. In the following detailed description of the example embodiments, numerous specific details are set forth in order to provide a more thorough understanding of the invention. However, it will be apparent to one of ordinary skill in the art that the invention may be practiced without these specific details. In other instances, well-known features have not been described in detail to avoid unnecessarily complicating the description.

[0036] FIG. **1** shows a wireline system **199** according to certain example embodiments. Specifically, FIG. **1** shows a diagram of a land-based system in which a wellbore **120** has been drilled or is being drilled in a subterranean formation **110** and in which example embodiments can be used. The wireline system **199** of FIG. **1** includes a wellbore **120** disposed in a subterranean formation **110** that was drilled using field equipment that includes, but is not limited to, a derrick, a tool pusher, a clamp, a tong, drill pipe, casing pipe, a drill bit, a wireline tool, a fluid pumping system, a motor, a variable frequency drive, and a compressor.

[0037] As the depth of the wellbore **120** increases, one or more casing strings **121** may be inserted into the wellbore **120** from the surface **122** and subsequently cemented to the wellbore **120** to stabilize the wellbore **120** and allow for the extraction of subterranean resources (e.g., oil, natural gas) from the subterranean formation **110**. The casing string may be a number of pipes that are connected end-to-end using coupling features (e.g., mating threads) and/or another coupling component (e.g., a sub, a collar). A wellbore **120** may undergo multiple casing and cementing operations, where each casing and cementing operation covers part or all of a segment of the wellbore **120** or multiple segments of the wellbore **120**. In such a case, the wellbore **120** can have a casing program using multiple casing strings **121** at different depths within the wellbore **120**.

[0038] Each casing pipe of the casing string **121** can have a length and a width (e.g., outer diameter). The length of a casing pipe can vary. For example, a common length of a casing pipe is approximately 40 feet. The length of a casing pipe can be longer (e.g., 60 feet) or shorter (e.g., 10 feet) than 40 feet. The width of a casing pipe can also vary and can depend on the cross-sectional shape of the casing pipe. For example, when the cross-sectional shape of a casing pipe is circular, which is commonly the case, the width can refer to an outer diameter, an inner diameter, or some other form of measurement of the casing pipe. Examples of a width in terms of an outer diameter of a casing pipe can include, but are not limited to, 4½ inches, 7 inches, 7⅝ inches, 8⅝ inches, 10¾ inches, 13⅜ inches, 14 inches, and 30 inches. Under a casing program, the larger widths of the casing pipe are closer to the entry point at the surface **122**, and the width gradually decreases by segment moving toward the distal end of the wellbore **120**.

[0039] The size (e.g., width, length) of the casing string **121** can be based on the information gathered using some of the field equipment with respect to the subterranean wellbore **120**. The walls of the casing string **121** have an inner surface that forms a cavity that traverses the length of the casing string **121**. Each casing pipe of the casing string **121** can be made of one or more of a number of suitable materials, including but not limited to stainless steel. As discussed above, there is a gap, also called an annulus, between the outer surface of the casing string **121** and the wall of the wellbore **120**. This gap is filled with cement at times. In some cases, stabilizers (not shown) or similar devices can be inserted along with the casing pipes and/or integrated with the casing pipe. These stabilizers help to keep the casing string **121** relatively centered within the wellbore **120**.

[0040] The surface **122** can be ground level for an on-shore (also called land-based) application (as in this case) and the sea floor or seabed for an off-shore application. The point where the wellbore **120** begins at the surface **122** can be called the entry point. While not shown in FIG. **1**, there can be multiple wellbores **120**, each with its own entry point but that is located close to the other entry points, drilled into the subterranean formation **110**. In such a case, the multiple wellbores **120** can be drilled at the same pad location.

[0041] The subterranean formation **110** can include one or more of a number of formation types, including but not limited to shale, limestone, sandstone, clay, sand, and salt. In certain embodiments, a subterranean formation **110** can include one or more reservoirs in which one or more subterranean resources (e.g., oil, gas, water, steam) can be located. One or more of a number of field operations (e.g., wireline, fracturing, coring, tripping, drilling, setting casing, extracting downhole resources) can be performed to reach an objective of a user with respect to the subterranean formation **110**.

[0042] The wellbore **120** can have one or more of a number of segments, where each segment can have one or more of a number of dimensions. Examples of such dimensions can include, but are not limited to, size (e.g., diameter) of the wellbore **120**, a curvature of the wellbore **120**, a true vertical depth of the wellbore **120**, a measured depth of the wellbore **120**, and a horizontal displacement of the wellbore **120**. A wellbore **120** can have one or more vertical (or substantially vertical) sections and/or one or more horizontal (or substantially horizontal) sections.

[0043] At the point in time captured in FIG. **1**, a wireline operation is being performed on the wellbore **120**. Specifically, wireline equipment **109** located at the surface **122** near the entry point is used to lower and subsequently raise a wireline **115** into the wellbore **120**. The wireline **115** may be a flexible metal cable (e.g., a slickline cable, an electrical cable, a braided metal cable) used for well completion and/or intervention operations (e.g., fishing, conveyance of downhole tools, logging). The wireline **115** may have a thickness (e.g., a diameter) that is substantially constant or variable along its length. At the distal end of the wireline **115** may be one or more wireline tools **129**. Examples of such wireline tools **129** may include, but are not limited to, natural gamma ray tools, nuclear tools, resistivity tools, sonic tools, ultrasonic tools, nuclear magnetic resonance tools, borehole seismic tools, and cased hole electric line tools.

[0044] As the wireline **115** is lowered into the wellbore **120** and subsequently removed from the wellbore **120** by the wireline equipment **109**, the wireline **115** may be exposed to sharp edges and/or rough surfaces within the wellbore **120**, whether from the casing string **121** or the subterranean formation **110**. As a result of such interactions, the wireline **115** may become damaged or, in the worst case, severed or inoperable. Aside from the high cost of replacing and/or repairing the wireline **115**, further retrieval from the wellbore **120** resulting from a severed wireline **115** and/or damage to the wireline tool **129** can add significant time and expense to a project.

[0045] In addition, or in the alternative, as the wireline **115** is lowered into the wellbore **120** and subsequently removed from the wellbore **120** by the wireline equipment **109**, the wireline **115** may cause damage (e.g., generating rough surfaces, causing pitting, causing erosion) to the casing string **121** and/or to the wall of the wellbore **120** formed by the subterranean formation **110**. Such damage to the casing string **121** and/or the subterranean formation **110** at the wellbore **120** may lead to damage of the wireline **115**, to damage of other equipment used in the wellbore **120**, and/or to delays and/or prohibition of subsequent subterranean field operations with respect to the wellbore **120**.

[0046] In order to avoid or minimize the risk of the wireline **115**, the casing string **121**, and/or the wall of the subterranean formation **110** forming the wellbore **120** being damaged from interactions within the wellbore **120** during a wireline operation, example standoffs **100** may be used. Any number (e.g., one, 5, 40, 100, 250) of standoffs **100** may be used in a wireline operation. In this case, there are 2 standoffs **100** in use as of the point in time during the wireline operation of the wireline system **199** captured in FIG. **1**. Standoff **100-1** encompasses a lengthwise portion of the wireline **115** approximately halfway between the bottom of the casing string **121** and the bottom of the wellbore **120**, and standoff **100-2** encompasses a lengthwise portion of the wireline **115** approximately at the bottom of the casing string **121**.

[0047] As the wireline **115** is lowered into the wellbore **120** by the wireline equipment **109**, the process may be momentarily paused from time to time in order to install an example standoff **100** on a lengthwise section of the wireline **115**. In some cases, a standoff **100** may be installed on the wireline **115** with little or no delay or slowing in lowering the wireline **115** into the wellbore **120**. Similarly, as the wireline **115** is removed from the wellbore **120** by the wireline equipment **109**, the process may be momentarily paused from time to time in order to remove an example standoff **100** from a lengthwise section of the wireline **115**. In some cases, a standoff **100** may be removed from the wireline **115** with little or no delay or slowing in extracting the wireline **115** from the wellbore **120**.

[0048] In certain example embodiments, each example standoff **100** is configured to be engaged with the wireline **115** in a relatively minimal amount of time. For example, an example standoff **100** may be engaged with the wireline **115** without the use of tools. As a result, there are minimal disruptions to the wireline operations as the wireline **115** is lowered into the wellbore **120**. Similarly, each example standoff **100** may be configured to be disengaged (e.g., without the use of tools) from the wireline **115** in a relatively minimal amount of time. When a wireline system (e.g., wireline system **199**) includes multiple example standoffs **100**, as in this case, the configuration (e.g., number of parts, shape of each part, size of each part, configuration of coupling features) of one standoff **100** can be the same as, or different than, the configuration of one or more of the other standoffs **100**. Each example standoff **100** is configured to absorb impacts of the wellbore **120** (e.g., the casing string **121**, the subterranean formation **110**) to protect the portion of the wireline **115** encased by the standoff **100** from wear.

[0049] FIG. **2** shows a block diagram of a wireline standoff **200** according to certain example embodiments. The standoff **200** can be substantially similar to the standoffs **100** of FIG. **1**. The example standoff **200** includes multiple parts. For example, the standoff **200** of FIG. **2** includes a base **250**, a first end piece **230-1**, and an optional second end piece **230-2**. The various adjacent parts of the standoff **200** may be permanently (but movably) coupled to each other. Alternatively, two or more adjacent parts of the standoff **200** may be detachable from each other.

[0050] The base **250** of the standoff **200** includes a body **251** (also sometimes called a base body **251** herein) having a width **261** (e.g., a diameter). The base **250** can have a length **259** (also sometimes called a base length **259**) defined between one end **262-1** and an opposite end **262-2** of the base **250**. The body **251** of the base **250** can have any of a number of three-dimensional shapes. For example, the body **251** of the base **250** may be cylindrically shaped. As another example, the body **251** of the base **250** may have the shape of a three-dimensional rectangle. In this case, the base **250** is a single piece. In alternative embodiments, the base **250** may have multiple pieces that are movable (e.g., rotatable) with respect to each other. In such cases, each piece of the base **250** may include one or more coupling features (similar to coupling features **255**) that allow adjacent pieces of the body **251** of the base **250** to move relative to each other.

[0051] In certain example embodiments, the base **250** includes at least one coupling feature **255**. In this case, the base **250** includes a coupling feature **255-1** at or adjacent to end **262-1** and an optional coupling feature **255-2** at or adjacent to end **262-2**. Each coupling feature **255** is configured to couple to a coupling feature **235** of an end piece **230**. Each coupling feature **255** may be configured to allow the base **250** and an adjacent end piece **230** to be movable (e.g., rotatably movable, slidably movable) with respect to each other.

[0052] The body **251** of the base **250** may have formed therein a channel **252** (also sometimes called a base channel **252** herein) that extends along the length **259** (e.g., 2 inches, 3 inches, 4 inches) of the body **251**. In some cases, the channel **252** is continuous along the length **259** of the body **251**. In some cases, the channel **252** has a width **253** and a depth **254** that are configured to be large enough (e.g., 0.5 inches, 1 inch, 2 inches, 3 inches) to receive a lengthwise portion of a wireline (e.g., wireline **115**) of up to a particular size or within a range of particular sizes (e.g., 0.486 inches to 0.567 inches). The width **253** of the channel **252** may be defined by side walls **257**, and the depth **254** may be partially defined by a bottom wall **258**. The side walls **257** of the channel **252** may be parallel with each other or antiparallel with each other at any point along the length **259** of the body **251**. The width **253** of the channel **252** may be substantially constant or variable along the length **259** of the body **251**. In some cases, the bottom wall **258** has a curvature **256**. In such cases, the curvature **256** of the channel **252** may be substantially constant or variable along the length **259** of the body **251**.

[0053] The end piece **230-1** of the standoff **200** includes a body **231-1** (also sometimes called an end piece body **231-1** herein) having a diameter **241-1** (or other form of width). The end piece **230-1** can have a length **239-1** (also sometimes called an end piece length **239-1**) defined between one end **242-1** and an opposite end **243-1** of the end piece **230-1**. The body **231-1** of the end piece **230-1** can have any of a number of three-dimensional shapes. For example, the body **231-1** of the end piece **230-1** may be conically shaped. As another example, the body **231-1** of the end piece **230-1** may have a semi-spherical shape. In this case, the end piece **230-1** is a single piece. In alternative embodiments, the end piece **230-1** may have multiple pieces that are movable (e.g., rotatable) with respect to each other. In such cases, each piece of the end piece **230-1** may include one or more coupling features (similar to coupling feature **235-1**) that allow adjacent pieces of the end piece **230-1** to move relative to each other.

[0054] In certain example embodiments, the end piece **230-1** includes at least one coupling feature **235-1**. In this case, the end piece **230-1** includes a coupling feature **235-1** at or adjacent to end **242-1**. Each coupling feature **235-1** is configured to couple to a coupling feature **255-1** of the base **250**. Each coupling feature **235-1** may be configured to allow the end piece **230-1** and the base **250** to be movable (e.g., rotatably movable, slidably movable) with respect to each other.

[0055] The body **231-1** of the end piece **230-1** may have formed therein a channel **232-1** (also sometimes called an end piece channel **232-1** herein) that extends along the length **239-1** (e.g., 2 inches, 3 inches, 4 inches) of the end piece **230-1**. In some cases, the channel **232-1** is continuous along the length **239-1** of the body **231-1**. In some cases, the channel **232-1** has a width **233-1** and a depth **234-1** that are configured to be large enough (e.g., 0.5 inches, 1 inch, 2 inches, 3 inches) to receive a lengthwise portion of a wireline (e.g., wireline **115**) of up to a particular size or within a range of particular sizes (e.g., 0.486 inches to 0.567 inches). The width **233-1** of the channel **232-1** may be defined by side walls **237-1**, and the depth **234-1** may be partially defined by a bottom wall **238-1**. The side walls **237-1** of the channel **232-1** may be parallel with each other or antiparallel with each other at any point along the length **239-1** of the body **231-1**. The width **233-1** of the channel **232-1** may be substantially constant or variable along the length **239-1** of the body **231-1**.

[0056] In some cases, the bottom wall **238-1** has a curvature **236-1**. In such cases, the curvature **236-1** of the channel **232-1** may be substantially constant or variable along the length **239-1** of the body **231-1**. A dimension (e.g., width **233-1**, curvature **236-1**) of the channel **232-1** of the end piece **230-1** can be the same as, or different than, the corresponding dimension of the channel **252** of the base **250**. In certain example embodiments, at least one dimension of the channel **232-1** of the end piece **230-1** differs from the corresponding dimension of the channel **252** of the base **250** to generate a cam effect used to secure a lengthwise-section of a wireline as the end piece **230-1** and the base **250** move relative to each other.

[0057] The optional end piece **230-2** of the standoff **200** includes a body **231-2** (also sometimes called an end piece body **231-2** herein) having a diameter **241-2** (or other form of width). The end piece **230-2** can have a length **239-2** (also sometimes called an end piece length **239-2**) defined between one end **242-2** and an opposite end **243-2** of the end piece **230-2**. The body **231-2** of the end piece **230-2** can have any of a number of three-dimensional shapes. For example, the body **231-2** of the end piece **230-2** may be conically shaped. As another example, the body **231-2** of the end piece **230-2** may have a semi-spherical shape. In this case, the end piece **230-2** is a single piece. In alternative embodiments, the end piece **230-2** may have multiple pieces that are movable (e.g., rotatable) with respect to each other. In such cases, each piece of the end piece **230-2** may include one or more coupling features (similar to coupling feature **235-2**) that allow adjacent pieces of the end piece **230-2** to move relative to each other.

[0058] In certain example embodiments, the end piece **230-2** includes at least one coupling feature **235-2**. In this case, the end piece **230-2** includes a coupling feature **235-2** at or adjacent to end **242-2**. Each coupling feature **235-2** is configured to couple to a coupling feature **255-2** of the base **250**. Each coupling feature **235-2** may be configured to allow the end piece **230-2** and the base **250** to be movable (e.g., rotatably movable, slidably movable) with respect to each other.

[0059] The body **231-2** of the end piece **230-2** may have formed therein a channel **232-2** (also sometimes called an end piece channel **232-2** herein) that extends along the length **239-2** of the end piece **230-2**. In some cases, the channel **232-2** is continuous along the length **239-2** (e.g., 2 inches, 3 inches, 4 inches) of the body **231-2**. In some cases, the channel **232-2** has a width **233-2** and a depth **234-2** that are configured to be large enough (e.g., 2 inches, 3 inches) to receive a lengthwise portion of a wireline (e.g., wireline **115**). The width **233-2** of the channel **232-2** may be defined by side walls **237-2**, and the depth **234-2** may be partially defined by a bottom wall **238-2**. The side walls **237-2** of the channel **232-2** may be parallel with each other or antiparallel with each other at any point along the length **239-2** of the body **231-2**. The width **233-2** of the channel **232-2** may be substantially constant or variable along the length **239-2** of the body **231-2**. In some cases, the bottom wall **238-2** has a curvature **236-2**. In such cases, the curvature **236-2** of the channel **232-2** may be substantially constant or variable along the length **239-2** of the body **231-2**.

[0060] When the end piece **230-2** is present, one or more of the characteristics (e.g., shape, size, width **233-2** of the channel **232-2**, configuration of the coupling feature **235-2**) of the end piece **230-2** can be substantially the same as, or different than, the corresponding characteristics of the end piece **230-1**. For example, when the end piece **230-2** is present, a dimension (e.g., width **233-2**, curvature **236-2**) of the channel **232-2** of the end piece **230-2** can be the same as, or different than, the corresponding dimension of the channel **232-1** of the end piece **230-1**. In addition, or in the alternative, when the end piece **230-2** is present, a dimension (e.g., width **233-2**, curvature **236-2**) of the channel **232-2** of the end piece **230-2** can be the same as, or different than, the corresponding dimension of the channel **252** of the base **250**. In certain example embodiments, when the end piece **230-2** is present, at least one dimension of the channel **232-2** of the end piece **230-2** differs from the corresponding dimension of the channel **252** of the base **250** to generate a cam effect used to secure a lengthwise-section of a wireline as the end piece **230-2** and the base **250** move relative to each other.

[0061] An example standoff **200** may be configured to be reusable for multiple wireline operations. Specifically, a standoff **200** may be configured to perform multiple cycles of receiving a lengthwise portion of a wireline **115**, moving from the default position to a secured position while engaging the wireline **115**, returning to the default position while engaging the wireline **115**, and being separated from the wireline **115**. Alternatively, an example standoff **200** may be configured for use in a single wireline operation. For example, a standoff **200** may be configured such that returning the standoff **200** to the default position from a secured position while engaging the wireline **115** may be destructive to some or all of the standoff **200**. If part (e.g., the end piece **230-1**) of an example standoff **200** becomes damaged, the standoff **200** may be configured to allow the damaged part to be replaced.

[0062] In certain example embodiments, the outer surface of the body **251** of the base **250**, the outer surface of the body **231-1** of the end piece **230-1**, and/or the outer surface of the body **231-2** of the end piece **230-2** may include one or more features (e.g., coupling features, extensions, receiving features) that are configured to couple to, receive, host, etc. one or more other components that may assist the example standoff **200** in maintaining a fixed position relative to a lengthwise portion of a wireline (e.g., wireline **115**) and/or in protecting the wireline from one or more elements within a wellbore (e.g., wellbore **120**) throughout the duration of a wireline operation.

[0063] When all of the various pieces (e.g., the end piece **230-1**, the end piece **230-2**, the base **250**) are coupled to each other to form the wireline standoff **200**, the wireline standoff **200** can have an overall length (e.g., 5 inches, 8 inches, 10 inches) and a maximum diameter (e.g., 2 inches, 3 inches, 4 inches) (or other dimension that defines the maximum outer perimeter of the wireline standoff **200**). As discussed above, the channel of each component of the wireline standoff **200** may be configured to receive a wireline (e.g., wireline **115**) having a range of diameters. In such a case, the channel **232** (e.g., channel **232-1**) of an end piece **230** (e.g., channel **230-1**) may be configured to receive a range of diameters of a wireline that overlaps with, whether in whole or in part, the range of diameters of a wireline that may be received by the channel **252** of the base **250**.

[0064] When the example wireline standoff **200** is fully assembled, the standoff **200** may be configured to withstand one or more of the conditions (e.g., pressure, temperature) present in the wellbore (e.g., wellbore **120**) during a wireline and/or other type of subterranean operation. For example, the wireline standoff **200** may be configured to withstand at least 20,000 psi and at least 350° F. for long periods of time (e.g., days, weeks, months) without failing to maintain the relative position of one component (e.g., the base **250**) of the standoff **200** with another component (e.g., the end piece **230-1**) of the standoff **200** and without otherwise breaking down, breaking apart, and/or sliding along the wireline.

[0065] FIGS. **3**A through **3**C show various views of a wireline standoff **300** in a default position according to certain example embodiments. FIGS. **4**A through **4**H show various views of the wireline standoff **300** of FIGS. **3**A through **3**C in a secured position according to certain example embodiments. FIGS. **5**A through **5**E show various views of the base **550** of the wireline standoff **300** of FIGS. **3**A through **4**H according to certain example embodiments. FIGS. **6**A through **6**D show various views of an end piece **630-1** of the wireline standoff **300** of FIGS. **3**A through **4**H according to certain example embodiments. FIGS. **7**A through **7**D show various views of the other end piece **630-2** of the wireline standoff **300** of FIGS. **3**A through **4**H according to certain example embodiments.

[0066] Specifically, FIG. **3**A shows a top view of the wireline standoff **300** in the default position. FIG. **3**B shows an end view of the wireline standoff **300** in the default position. FIG. **3**C shows an exploded top view of the wireline standoff **300** in the default position. FIG. **4**A shows a semi-transparent exploded perspective view of the wireline standoff **300** in a partially secured position. FIG. **4**B shows another semi-transparent exploded perspective view of the wireline standoff **300** in a partially secured position. FIG. **4**C shows a top view of the wireline standoff **300** in a fully secured position. FIG. **4**D shows a side view of the wireline standoff **300** in a fully secured position. FIG. **4**E shows a sectional side view of the wireline standoff **300** in a fully secured position. FIG. **4**F shows a front view of the wireline standoff **300** in a fully secured position. FIG. **4**G shows a sectional front view of the wireline standoff **300** in a fully secured position. FIG. **4**H shows a sectional side perspective view of the wireline standoff **300** in a fully secured position.

[0067] FIG. **5**A shows a bottom view of the base **550** of the wireline standoff **300** of FIGS. **3**A through **4**H. FIG. **5**B shows a front view of the base **550** of the wireline standoff **300** of FIGS. **3**A through **4**H. FIG. **5**C shows a top view of the base **550** of the wireline standoff **300** of FIGS. **3**A through **4**H. FIG. **5**D shows a top-side perspective view of the base **550** of the wireline standoff **300** of FIGS. **3**A through **4**H. FIG. **5**A shows a sectional side view of the base **550** of the wireline standoff **300** of FIGS. **3**A through **4**H.

[0068] FIG. **6**A shows a side view of the end piece **630-1** of the wireline standoff **300** of FIGS. **3**A through **4**H. FIG. **6**B shows a distal end view of the end piece **630-1** of the wireline standoff **300** of FIGS. **3**A through **4**H. FIG. **6**C shows a proximal end view of the end piece **630-1** of the wireline standoff **300** of FIGS. **3**A through **4**H. FIG. **6**D shows a top-end perspective view of the end piece **630-1** of the wireline standoff **300** of FIGS. **3**A through **4**H. FIG. **7**A shows a side view of the end piece **630-2** of the wireline standoff **300** of FIGS. **3**A through **4**H. FIG. **7**B shows a distal end view of the end piece **630-2** of the wireline standoff **300** of FIGS. **3**A through **4**H. FIG. **7**C shows a proximal end view of the end piece **630-2** of the wireline standoff **300** of FIGS. **3**A through **4**H. FIG. **7**D shows a top-end perspective view of the end piece **630-2** of the wireline standoff **300** of FIGS. **3**A through **4**H.

[0069] Referring to FIGS. **1** through **7**D, as discussed above, the wireline standoff **300** (also more simply referred to as the standoff **300** herein) in this case includes a base **550** and two end pieces **630** (end piece **630-1** and end piece **630-2**). The base **550** of the standoff **300** includes a body **551** (also sometimes called a base body **551** herein). The base **550** has a length **559** (also sometimes called a base length **559**) defined between one end **562-1** and an opposite end **562-2** of the base **550**. The base **550** also has a width **561** (also sometimes called a base width **561**). The body **551** of the base **550** in this example is cylindrically shaped. In this case, the base **550** is a single piece. In certain example embodiments, the body **551** of the base **550** has an outer surface that is wear resistant.

[0070] The base **550** has a recess **566-1** at the end **562-1** and a recess **566-2** at the end **562-2**. The recess **566-1** has a depth **591-1**, defined between the end **562-1** and inner wall **589-1**, and a diameter **592-1**. The recess **566-2** has a depth **591-2**, defined between the end **562-2** and inner wall **589-2**, and a diameter **592-2**. In this case, the various characteristics (e.g., depth **591-1**, diameter **592-1**, cross-sectional shape) of recess **566-1** are substantially the same as the corresponding characteristics of recess **566-2**. In alternative embodiments, one or more of the characteristics of recess **566-1** may be different than the corresponding characteristics of recess **566-2**. In this case, the recess **566-1** is part of a coupling feature **555-1** for the base **550**, and the recess **566-2** is part of a coupling feature **555-2** for the base **550**.

[0071] In this example, coupling feature **555-1** and coupling feature **555-2** are configured substantially the same as each other. Specifically, in addition to the recesses **566**, coupling feature **555-1** includes a curved slot **569-1** that traverses the entire perimeter of the recess **566-1**, up to both side walls **557** of the channel **552**. The curved slot **569-1** has a width **593-1**. Similarly, coupling feature **555-2** includes a curved slot **569-2** that traverses the entire perimeter of the recess **566-2**, up to both side walls **557** of the channel **552**. The curved slot **569-2** has a width **593-2**.

[0072] The curvature of a slot **569** may be substantially constant or variable along the length of the slot **569**. The width **593** of a slot **569** can be substantially constant or variable along the length of the slot **569**. In alternative embodiments, a slot **569** of a coupling feature **555** is not curved (e.g., is squared, is semi-hexagonal). The coupling feature **555-1** is configured to couple to coupling feature **635-1** of the end piece **630-1** (discussed below) so that the end piece **630-1** and the base **550** can rotate with respect to each other around the axis along the length **559** of the base **550** and/or around the axis along the length **639-1** of the end piece **630-1**, creating a cam effect used to secure a lengthwise-section of a wireline. Similarly, the coupling feature **555-2** is configured to couple to coupling feature **635-2** of the end piece **630-2** (discussed below) so that the end piece **630-2** and the base **550** can rotate with respect to each other around the axis along the length **559** of the base **550** and/or around the axis along the length **639-2** of the end piece **630-2**, creating a cam effect used to secure a lengthwise-section of a wireline.

[0073] The body **551** of the base **550** has formed therein a channel **552** (also sometimes called a base channel **552** herein) that extends along the length **559** of the body **551**. In other words, the channel **552** extends across the entire depth **591-1** of recess **566-1** and the entire depth **591-2** of recess **566-2**. The channel **552** is continuous along the length **559** of the body **551**. The channel **552** has a width **553** that is substantially constant along the length **559**. Where there is no recess **566**, the depth **554** of the channel **552** is uniform along the length **559**. Also, the width **553** and depth **554** of the channel **552** in this case are large enough to receive a lengthwise portion of a wireline (e.g., wireline **115**). The width **553** of the channel **552** may be defined by side walls **557**, and the depth **554** may be partially defined (where there is no recess **566**) by a bottom wall **558**. In this case, the side walls **557** of the channel **552** are parallel to each other along the length **559** of the body **551**. The bottom wall **558** in this case has a curvature **556** that is substantially constant along the part of the length **559** of the body **551** where there are no recesses **566**.
[0074] In certain example embodiments, the body **551** of the base **550** may include one or more features to fix a position between the body **551** and an end piece **630**. For example, in this case, the body **551** includes four aperture pairs **567** (aperture pair **567-1**, aperture pair **567-2**, aperture pair **567-3**, and aperture pair **567-4**) that traverse part of the body **551**. Specifically, aperture pair **567-1** is located adjacent to end **562-1** and is aligned to intersect with part of the slot **569-1** of coupling feature **555-1**. Similarly, aperture pair **567-3** is located adjacent to end **562-1**, opposite aperture pair **567-1**, and is aligned to intersect with another part of the slot **569-1** of coupling feature **555-1**. Aperture pair **567-2** is located adjacent to end **562-2** and is aligned to intersect with part of the slot **569-2** of coupling feature **555-2**. Similarly, aperture pair **567-4** is located adjacent to end **562-2**, opposite aperture pair **567-3**, and is aligned to intersect with another part of the slot **569-2** of coupling feature **555-2**.
[0075] Working in conjunction with the aperture pairs **567** are one or more retention mechanisms **568**, where each retention mechanism **568** can be inserted into and/or removed from one of the aperture pairs **567**. A retention mechanism **568** can have any of a number of configurations that complement an aperture pair **567**. For example, in this case, a retention mechanism **568** may include a rod segment that has its ends tapered to substantially match the curvature of the outer surface of the body **551** adjacent to the aperture pair **567**. The various characteristics (e.g., length, tapering at ends, diameter, cross-sectional shape) of a retention mechanism **568** can be configured to complement the corresponding characteristics of the aperture pair **567** that engages the retention mechanism **568**.
[0076] In this case, there are two retention mechanisms **568** (retention mechanism **568-1** and retention mechanism **568-2**). Retention mechanism **568-1** in this case is used to engage aperture pair **567-1**, and retention mechanism **568-2** in this case is used to engage aperture pair **567-4**. As a result, aperture pair **567-2** and aperture pair **567-3** in this example are not engaged. In alternative embodiments, all of the aperture pairs **567** or different aperture pairs **567** may be engaged by the same number or a greater number of retention mechanisms **568**. In this example, a retention mechanism **568** (e.g., retention mechanism **568-1**) is configured to be used to engage any of the aperture pairs **567** of the base **550**. In alternative embodiments, a retention mechanism **568** may be configured to be used with only one or more, but not all, of the aperture pairs **567** of the base **550**.
[0077] When the retention mechanism **568-1** is inserted into the aperture pair **567-1**, the retention mechanism **568-1** occupies part of the curved slot **569-1** in the recess **566-1** of the coupling feature **555-1** of the base **550** as well as part of the curved slot **649-1** in the extension **646-1** of the coupling feature **635-1** of the end piece **630-1**. In this position, the retention mechanism **568-1** generates sufficient friction with the recess **566-1** of the coupling feature **555-1** of the base **550** and the extension **646-1** of the coupling feature **635-1** of the end piece **630-1** to hold or help hold the position of the base **550** and the end piece **630-1** relative to each other.
[0078] Similarly, when the retention mechanism **568-2** is inserted into the aperture pair **567-4**, the retention mechanism **568-2** occupies part of the curved slot **569-2** in the recess **566-2** of the

coupling feature **555-2** of the base **550** as well as part of the curved slot **649-2** in the extension **646-2** of the coupling feature **635-2** of the end piece **630-2**. In this position, the retention mechanism **568-2** generates sufficient friction with the recess **566-2** of the coupling feature **555-2** of the base **550** and the extension **646-2** of the coupling feature **635-2** of the end piece **630-2** to hold or help hold the position of the base **550** and the end piece **630-2** relative to each other.

[0079] In this configuration, a retention mechanism **568** may have a length that is substantially the same as, or less than, the distance between a corresponding aperture pair **567**. In this way, when the retention mechanism **568** is fully inserted into the corresponding aperture pair **567**, none of the retention mechanism **568** extends beyond the outer surface of the body **551** of the base **550**. This prevents the retention mechanism **568** from becoming a snagging point within the wellbore (e.g., wellbore **120**) as the wireline (e.g., wireline **115**) is lowered into the wellbore and subsequently extracted from the wellbore. A retention mechanism **568** may be inserted into and/or removed from a corresponding aperture pair **567** with tools (e.g., a screwdriver, a hammer) or without the use of tools (e.g., by hand). The manner in which a retention mechanism **568** is inserted into a corresponding aperture pair **567** may be the same as, or different than, the manner in which the retention mechanism **568** is removed from the corresponding aperture pair **567**.

[0080] In alternative embodiments, the base **550** may include no aperture pairs **567**. In other alternative embodiments, the base **550** may have a single aperture, rather than an aperture pair **567**, that traverses the thickness of the body **551**. In yet other alternative embodiments, the base **550** may additionally or alternatively include one or more other features (e.g., detents) to fix or help fix a position between the body **551** and an end piece **630**.

[0081] As detailed in FIGS. **6**A through **6**D, the end piece **630-1** of the standoff **300** includes a body **631-1** (also sometimes called an end piece body **631-1** herein). The end piece **630-1** can have a length **639-1** (also sometimes called an end piece length **639-1**) defined between one end **642-1** and an opposite end **643-1** of the end piece **630-1**. The body **631-1** of the end piece **630-1** in this example is conically shaped. Also, in this case, the end piece **630-1** is a single piece. In certain example embodiments, the body **631-1** of the end piece **630-1** has an outer surface that is wear resistant.

[0082] The end piece **630-1** includes a coupling feature **635-1** that extends away from the end **642-1** and is configured to couple to the coupling feature **555-1** of the base **550**. The coupling feature **635-1** is configured to allow the end piece **630-1** and the base **550** to rotatably move with respect to each other. In this case, the coupling feature **635-1** of the end piece **630-1** includes an extension **646-1** having a length **681-1** and a diameter **682-1**. The length **681-1** of the coupling feature **635-1** added to the length **639-1** of the body **631-1** yields an overall length **677-1** of the end piece **630-1**. The diameter **682-1** of the coupling feature **635-1** is less than the diameter **641-1** of the end **642-1** of the body **631-1**, where the diameter **641-1** of the end **642-1** of the body **631-1** is substantially the same as the width **561** of the body **551** of the base **550**.

[0083] The various characteristics (e.g., length **681-1**, cross-sectional shape, diameter **682-1**) of the coupling feature **635-1** complement the corresponding characteristics of the coupling feature **555-1** (including the recess **566-1**) of the base **550**. The coupling feature **635-1** of the end piece **630-1** also includes a slot **649-1** that extends radially around the entire outer perimeter of the extension **646-1**. In this case, the slot **649-1** is curved. The slot **649-1** has a width **694-1**. The curvature of the slot **649-1** may be substantially constant or variable along its length. The width **694-1** of the slot **649-1** can be substantially constant or variable along its length. In alternative embodiments, the slot **649-1** of the coupling feature **635-1** is not curved (e.g., is squared, is semi-hexagonal).

[0084] The body **631-1** of the end piece **630-1** has formed therein a channel **632-1** (also sometimes called an end piece channel **632-1** herein) that extends along the length **639-1** of the body **631-1** of the end piece **630-1**. The channel **632-1** in this case also extends along the entire length **681-1** of the coupling feature **635-1**. The channel **632-1** is continuous along the entire length **677-1** of the end piece **630-1**. The channel **632-1** has a width **633-1** and a depth **634-1** that are configured to be large enough to receive a lengthwise portion of a wireline (e.g., wireline **115**). The width **633-1** of the channel **632-1** is defined by side walls **637-1**, and the depth **634-1** is partially defined by a bottom wall **638-1**. The side walls **637-1** of the channel **632-1** are substantially parallel with each other along the length **677-1** of the end piece **630-1**. The width **633-1** of the channel **632-1** is substantially constant along the length **677-1** of the end piece **630-1**. The depth **634-1** of the channel **632-1** is substantially constant along the length **639-1** of the body **631-1** and substantially constant along the length **681-1** of the coupling feature **635-1**. The bottom wall **638-1** of the channel **632-1** has a curvature **636-1** that is substantially constant along the length **639-1** of the end piece **630-1**.

[0085] The body **631-1** of the end piece **630-1** may include one or more alignment indicators **687** to indicate that the standoff **300** (or portions thereof) are in a fully secured position. For example, alignment indicator **687-1-1** and alignment indicator **687-1-2**, both in the form of recesses disposed on the outer surface of the body **631-1** adjacent to the coupling feature **635-1** at the end **642-1**, may be used to indicate when the end piece **630-1** is in a fully secured position with respect to the base **550**. Specifically, as shown in FIG. **4**C, when the alignment indicator **687-1-1** is substantially aligned with the channel **552** of the base **550**, the end piece **630-1** and the base **550** are in a fully secured position with respect to each other.

[0086] In this example, alignment indicator **687-1-1** is positioned approximately 90° counterclockwise from the channel **632-1** of the end piece **630-1**, and alignment indicator **687-1-2** is positioned approximately 90° clockwise from the channel **632-1** of the end piece **630-1**. In some cases, an alignment indicator **687** of the end piece **630-1** can have any of a number of other forms (e.g., a stencil, a notch, a sticker). The end piece **630-1** may have no alignment indicators **687**, a single alignment indicator **687**, or more than two alignment indicators **687**. When the end piece **630-1** includes multiple alignment indicators **687**, the spacing (e.g., equidistant, random) between the alignment indicators **687** may vary. In some cases, an alignment indicator **687** may include a stop or similar feature to limit the range of motion of the end piece **630-1** relative to the base **550**.

[0087] The end piece **630-2** of the standoff **300** in this example is configured substantially the same as the end piece **630-1** discussed above. For example, the end piece **630-2** of the standoff **300** includes a body **631-2** (also sometimes called an end piece body **631-2** herein). The end piece **630-2** can have a length **639-2** (also sometimes called an end piece length **639-2**) defined between one end **642-2** and an opposite end **643-2** of the end piece **630-2**. The body **631-2** of the end piece **630-2** in this example is conically shaped. Also, in this case, the end piece **630-2** is a single piece. In certain example embodiments, the body **631-2** of the end piece **630-2** has an outer surface that is wear resistant.

[0088] The end piece **630-2** includes a coupling feature **635-2** that extends away from the end **642-2** and is configured to couple to the coupling feature **555-2** of the base **550**. The coupling feature **635-2** is configured to allow the end piece **630-2** and the base **550** to rotatably move with respect to each other. In this case, the coupling feature **635-2** of the end piece **630-2** includes an extension **646-2** having a length **681-2** and a diameter **682-2**. The length **681-2** of the coupling feature **635-2** added to the length **639-2** of the body **631-2** yields an overall length **677-2** of the end piece **630-2**. The diameter **682-2** of the coupling feature **635-2** is less than the diameter **641-2** of the end **642-2** of the body **631-2**, where the diameter **641-2** of the end **642-2** of the body **631-2** is substantially the same as the width **561** of the body **551** of the base **550**.

[0089] The various characteristics (e.g., length **681-2**, cross-sectional shape, diameter **682-2**) of the coupling feature **635-2** complement the corresponding characteristics of the coupling feature **555-2** (including the recess **566-2**) of the base **550**. The coupling feature **635-2** of the end piece **630-2** also includes a slot **649-2** that extends radially around the entire outer perimeter of the extension **646-2**. In this case, the slot **649-2** is curved. The slot **649-2** has a width **694-2**. The curvature of the slot **649-2** may be substantially constant or variable along its length. The width **694-2** of the slot **649-2** can be substantially constant or variable along its length. In alternative embodiments, the slot

649-2 of the coupling feature **635-2** is not curved (e.g., is squared, is semi-hexagonal).

[0090] The body **631-2** of the end piece **630-2** has formed therein a channel **632-2** (also sometimes called an end piece channel **632-2** herein) that extends along the length **639-2** of the body **631-2** of the end piece **630-2**. The channel **632-2** in this case also extends along the entire length **681-2** of the coupling feature **635-2**. The channel **632-2** is continuous along the entire length **677-2** of the end piece **630-2**. The channel **632-2** has a width **633-2** and a depth **634-2** that are configured to be large enough to receive a lengthwise portion of a wireline (e.g., wireline **115**). The width **633-2** of the channel **632-2** is defined by side walls **637-2**, and the depth **634-2** is partially defined by a bottom wall **638-2**. The side walls **637-2** of the channel **632-2** are substantially parallel with each other along the length **677-2** of the end piece **630-2**. The width **633-2** of the channel **632-2** is substantially constant along the length **677-2** of the end piece **630-2**. The depth **634-2** of the channel **632-2** is substantially constant along the length **639-2** of the body **631-2** and substantially constant along the length **681-2** of the coupling feature **635-2**. The bottom wall **638-2** of the channel **632-2** has a curvature **636-2** that is substantially constant along the length **639-2** of the end piece **630-2**.

[0091] The body **631-2** of the end piece **630-2** may include one or more alignment indicators **687** to indicate that the standoff **300** (or portions thereof) are in a fully secured position. For example, alignment indicator **687-2-1** and alignment indicator **687-2-2**, both in the form of recesses disposed on the outer surface of the body **631-2** adjacent to the coupling feature **635-2** at the end **642-2**, may be used to indicate when the end piece **630-2** is in a fully secured position with respect to the base **550**. Specifically, as shown in FIG. **4**C, when the alignment indicator **687-2-2** is substantially aligned with the channel **552** of the base **550**, the end piece **630-2** and the base **550** are in a fully secured position with respect to each other.

[0092] In this example, alignment indicator **687-2-1** is positioned approximately 90° counterclockwise from the channel **632-2** of the end piece **630-1**, and alignment indicator **687-2-2** is positioned approximately 90° clockwise from the channel **632-2** of the end piece **630-2**. In some cases, an alignment indicator **687** of the end piece **630-2** can have any of a number of other forms (e.g., a stencil, a notch, a sticker). The end piece **630-2** may have no alignment indicators **687**, a single alignment indicator **687**, or more than two alignment indicators **687**. When the end piece **630-2** includes multiple alignment indicators **687**, the spacing (e.g., equidistant, random) between the alignment indicators **687** may vary. In some cases, an alignment indicator **687** may include a stop or similar feature to limit the range of motion of the end piece **630-2** relative to the base **550**.

[0093] The standoff **300** has multiple positions. In other words, the position of the base **550** relative to one or both of the end pieces **630** can change. When the standoff **300** is in the default position, as shown in FIGS. **3**A through **3**C, the channel **552** of the base **550**, the channel **632-1** of the end piece **630-1**, and the channel **632-2** of the end piece **630-2** are aligned with each other. This configuration allows the channel **552** of the base **550** to receive a lengthwise portion of a wireline (e.g., wireline **115**), the channel **632-1** of the end piece **630-1** to receive another lengthwise portion of the wireline, and the channel **632-2** of the end piece **630-2** to receive yet another lengthwise portion of the wireline substantially simultaneously. Also, when the standoff **300** is in the default position, the standoff **300** has an overall length **317** (e.g., 6 inches, 8 inches, 12 inches).

[0094] The standoff **300** may have multiple secured positions. For example, FIGS. **4**A and **4**B show the standoff **300** in a partially secured position because, while the channel **552** of the base **550** and the channel **632-1** of the end piece **630-1** are aligned with each other, which places the base **550** and the end piece **630-1** in a default position with respect to each other, the channel **552** of the base **550** and the channel **632-2** of the end piece **630-2** are misaligned with each other (also sometimes called offset, raised, recessed, etc. herein), creating a cam effect that places the base **550** and the end piece **630-2** in a secured position with respect to each other. When lengthwise portions of a wireline (e.g., wireline **115**) are received in the channel **552** of the base **550** and the channel **632-2** of the end piece **630-2** when the base **550** and the end piece **630-2** are in the default position with respect to each other, as shown in FIGS. **3**A through **3**C, and subsequently when the base **550** and the end piece **630-2** are moved (e.g., rotated) with respect to each other, creating a cam effect, so that the channel **552** of the base **550** and the channel **632-2** of the end piece **630-2** are misaligned with each other (also sometimes called offset, raised, recessed, etc. herein) as the wireline remains in the channel **552** of the base **550** and the channel **632-2** of the end piece **630-2**, the wireline is secured.

[0095] For example, the curvature **636-2** of the bottom wall **638-2** of the channel **632-2** of the end piece **630-2** may differ from the curvature **556** of the bottom wall **558** of the channel **552** of the base **550**. As another example, the width **633-2** of the channel **632-2** of the end piece **630-2** may differ from the width **553-2** of the channel **552** of the base **550**. As another example, the lengthwise axis along which the curvature **636-2** of the bottom wall **638-2** of the channel **632-2** of the end piece **630-2** is based may be misaligned (also sometimes called offset, raised, recessed, etc. herein) with the lengthwise axis along which the curvature **556** of the bottom wall **558** of the channel **552** of the base **550** is based. Any of these examples may result in a gap between the bottom wall **558** of the channel **552** of the base **550** and the bottom wall **638-2** of the channel **632-2** of the end piece **630-2**, as shown in FIGS. **4**G and **4**H, which show an example of how the standoff **300** may engage a wireline (e.g., wireline **115**) when the standoff **300** is in such a partially secured position.

[0096] Regardless of whether one or more of these examples and/or one or more other methods (e.g., retractable grips in the end piece **630-2** that extend/retract when the end piece **630-2** is rotated relative to the base **550**) known to those of ordinary skill in the art are used, when the standoff **300** is placed in a secured position, the standoff **300** remains locked into position relative to the wireline. In other words, when the standoff **300** is placed in a secured position, the standoff **300** does not slide along the wireline. Also, when the standoff **300** is placed in a secured position, the wireline is unable to become retracted from the various channels (e.g., channel **552**, channel **632-2**) of the standoff **300**.

[0097] Further, when the standoff **300** is placed in a secured position (as in FIG. **4**C), the overall length **317** of the standoff **300** may remain unchanged relative to when the standoff **300** is in the default position (as in FIG. **3**A). In alternative embodiments, depending on the configuration and/or inclusion of the various components (e.g., the base **550**, the end piece **630-1**) of the standoff **300**, the overall length **317** of the standoff **300** may vary when the standoff is in a secured position relative to when the standoff **300** is in the default position.

[0098] FIGS. **4**C through **4**F and **4**H show the standoff **300** in a fully secured position because the channel **552** of the base **550** and the channel **632-1** of the end piece **630-1** are misaligned with each other (also sometimes called offset, raised, recessed, etc. herein), creating a cam effect that places the base **550** and the end piece **630-1** in a secured position with respect to each other, and because the channel **552** of the base **550** and the channel **632-2** of the end piece **630-2** are misaligned with each other (also sometimes called offset, raised, recessed, etc. herein), which places the base **550** and the end piece **630-2** in a secured position with respect to each other. In the fully secured position, the channel **632-1** of the end piece **630-1** and the channel **632-2** of the end piece **630-2** may generally be aligned with each other or misaligned with each other (also sometimes called offset, raised, recessed, etc. herein), as long as they are each misaligned (also sometimes called offset, raised, recessed, etc. herein) with the channel **552** of the base **550**.

[0099] The differences between the channel **552** of the base **550** and the channel **632-1** of the end piece **630-1** may be substantially the same as the differences between the channel **552** of the base **550** and the channel **632-2** of the end piece **630-2** discussed above. These differences may prevent the wireline (e.g., wireline **115**) from becoming retracted from the channel **552** of the base **550** and the channel **632-2** of the end piece **630-2** and may keep the standoff **300** locked into position relative to the wireline when the base **550** and the end piece **630-2** are in a secured position relative to each other. In this way, as illustrated in FIGS. **4**F and **4**H, the wireline may be fixed relative to the standoff **300** at the junction of the base **550** and the end piece **630-1** and at the base **550** and the end piece **630-2** when the standoff **300** is in a fully secured position.

[0100] The base **550**, the end piece **630-1**, and/or the end piece **630-2** may include one or more features that limit an amount of movement of one component of the standoff **300** relative to another. For example, the coupling feature **555-1** of the base **550** and/or the coupling feature **635-1** of the end piece **630-1** may include one or more stops (e.g., protrusions, slots, detents) that limit the range of motion of the end piece **630-1** relative to the base **550**. A specific example of a configuration of limiting a range of movement between two components in an example standoff is shown in FIGS. **8**A and **8**B, which show an end piece **830-1** and a base **850**, respectively, of a wireline standoff according to certain example embodiments.

[0101] Referring to FIGS. **1** through **8**B, the end piece **830-1** and the base **850** of FIGS. **8**A and **8**B are substantially the same as the end piece **630-1** and the base **550** discussed above, except as discussed below. For example, the proximal end view of the end piece **830-1** of a wireline standoff of FIG. **8**A includes a channel **832-1** that traverses the extension **846-1** of the coupling feature **835-1** and part of the end **842-1**. In addition, the end piece **830-1** of FIG. **8**A includes an extension **884-1** to extends from the end of the extension **846-1** and is located opposite the channel **832-1**.

[0102] Further, the end view of the base **550** of a wireline standoff of FIG. **8**B includes a channel **852** that traverses the end **862** of the body as well as the inner wall **889-1** that defines the coupling feature **855-1**. In addition, the inner wall **889-1** of FIG. **8**A includes a curved slot **883-1** recessed into it, where the curved slot **883-1** forms a semi-circle that is located opposite the channel **852**. When the end piece **830-1** and the base **850** are coupled to each other, the extension **846-1** is configured to fit within the curved slot **883-1**. As the end piece **830-1** moves (in this case, rotates) relative to the base **850**, the extension **846-1** moves within the curved slot **883-1**, creating a cam effect. When the extension **846-1** abuts against an end of the curved slot **883-1**, the end piece **830-1** is prevented (stopped) from moving any further in that direction relative to the base **850**. In this case, the curved slot **883-1** acts as a stop to limit the range of movement of the end piece **830-1** relative to the base **850**.

[0103] Example embodiments can be used to provide targeted protection to lengthwise portions of a wireline during a wireline operation. Example embodiments can be installed and securely placed in a secured position in a negligible amount of time, imposing only minimal delays in lowering a wireline into a wellbore. Conversely, example embodiments can be returned to a default position and uninstalled in a negligible amount of time, imposing only minimal delays in retrieving a wireline from a wellbore. Example embodiments can be installed, adjusted, manipulated, and/or uninstalled without the use of tools. Example embodiments may be configured to allow a damaged part to be replaced. Example embodiments may be configured to a single use or multiple uses. Example embodiments may comply with applicable industry standards when used during wireline operations.

[0104] Although embodiments described herein are made with reference to example embodiments, it should be appreciated by those skilled in the art that various modifications are well within the scope and spirit of this disclosure. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that the example embodiments described herein are not limited to any specifically discussed application and that the embodiments described herein are illustrative and not restrictive. From the description of the example embodiments, equivalents of the elements shown therein will suggest themselves to those skilled in the art, and ways of constructing other embodiments using the present disclosure will suggest themselves to practitioners of the art. Therefore, the scope of the example embodiments is not limited herein.

Claims

1. A wireline standoff comprising: a base comprising a base body having a base length between a first end and a second end, wherein the first end has a first coupling feature, wherein the base body includes a base channel formed therein that extends along the base length of the base body, and wherein the base channel has a width and a depth that are configured to be large enough to receive a first lengthwise portion of the wireline; and an end piece movably coupled to the first end of the base, wherein the end piece comprises an end piece body and a second coupling feature that is configured to couple to the first coupling feature of the base, wherein the end piece body has formed therein an end piece channel that extends along an end piece length of the end piece body, wherein an end piece channel has a width and a depth that are configured to be large enough to receive a second lengthwise portion of the wireline, wherein the base and the end piece are configured to be in a default position when the base channel and the end piece channel are aligned with each other so that the base channel is configured to receive the first lengthwise portion of the wireline simultaneously with when the end piece channel is configured to receive the second lengthwise portion of the wireline, and wherein the base and the end piece are configured to be in a secured position when the end piece is moved relative to the base using the first coupling feature and the second coupling feature so that the base channel and the end piece channel are misaligned with each other while the first lengthwise portion of the wireline is positioned in the base channel and while the second lengthwise portion of the wireline is positioned in the end piece channel.

2. The wireline standoff of claim 1, further comprising: a second end piece movably coupled to the second end of the base, wherein the second end piece comprises a second end piece body and a third coupling feature that is configured to couple to a second coupling feature at the second end of the base, wherein the second end piece body has formed therein a second end piece channel that extends along a second end piece length of the second end piece body, and wherein the second end piece channel has a width and a depth that are configured to be large enough to receive a third lengthwise portion of the wireline.

3. The wireline standoff of claim 2, wherein the end piece and the second end piece have a substantially similar configuration.

4. The wireline standoff of claim 1, wherein the end piece is rotatably coupled to the base around an axis along the base length of the base.

5. The wireline standoff of claim 1, wherein the first coupling feature at the first end of the base body comprises a stop to limit a range of movement of the end piece relative to the base.

6. The wireline standoff of claim 1, wherein the second coupling feature of the end piece comprises an extension that is configured to be movably positioned within the first coupling feature of the base, where in the first coupling feature comprises a recess.

7. The wireline standoff of claim 1, wherein the base channel has a first curvature, wherein the end piece channel has a second curvature, and wherein a side body of the end piece channel is raised relative to a bottom surface of the base channel when the base and the end piece are in the secured position.

8. The wireline standoff of claim 1, wherein the end piece has a substantially conical shape, and wherein the base has a substantially cylindrical shape.

9. The wireline standoff of claim 1, further comprising: a retention device that is configured to be disposed within a receiving feature on the base body of the base, wherein the retention device, when engaged with the receiving feature, fixes a position of the end piece relative to the base.

10. The wireline standoff of claim 9, wherein the retention device comprises a pin, and wherein the receiving feature comprises an aperture that traverses the base body proximate to the first end.

11. The wireline standoff of claim 1, wherein the base body has an outer surface that is wear resistant.

12. The wireline standoff of claim 1, wherein the end piece body has disposed on its outer surface an alignment marker that is configured to align with the base channel when the base and the end piece are in the secured position.

13. The wireline standoff of claim 1, wherein the base and the end piece transition from the secured position to the default position when the end piece is moved, using the first coupling feature and the second coupling feature, until the base channel and the end piece channel are aligned with each other.

14. A wireline standoff assembly comprising: a wireline having a wireline thickness; a wireline standoff encasing a portion of the wireline, the wireline standoff comprising: a base comprising a base body having a base length between a first end and a second end, wherein the first end has a first coupling feature, wherein the base body includes a base channel formed therein that extends along the base length of the base body, and wherein the base channel has a width and a depth that are configured to be large enough to receive a first part of the portion of the wireline; and an end piece movably coupled to the first end of the base, wherein the end piece comprises an end piece body and a second coupling feature that is coupled to the first coupling feature of the base, wherein the end piece body has formed therein an end piece channel that extends along an end piece length of the end piece body, wherein the end piece channel has a width and a depth that are configured to be large enough to receive a second part of the portion of the wireline, wherein the base and the end piece are configured to be in a default position when the base channel and the end piece channel are aligned with each other so that the base channel is configured to receive the first part of the portion of the wireline simultaneously with when the end piece channel is configured to receive the second part of the portion of the wireline, and wherein the base and the end piece are configured to be in a secured position when the end piece is moved relative to the base using the first coupling feature and the second coupling feature so that the base channel and the end piece channel are misaligned with each other while the first lengthwise portion of the wireline is positioned in the base channel and while the second lengthwise portion of the wireline is positioned in the end piece channel.

15. The wireline standoff assembly of claim 14, wherein the base and the end piece of the wireline standoff are configured to absorb impacts of a wellbore to protect the portion of the wireline from wear.

16. The wireline standoff assembly of claim 14, wherein the wireline standoff remains affixed to the portion of the wireline when the base and the end piece are in the secured position relative to each other.

17. A wellbore system comprising: a wellbore disposed in a subterranean formation; field equipment located at a surface adjacent to the wellbore; a wireline having a wireline thickness, wherein the field equipment is configured to lower the wireline into and extract the wireline from the wellbore; and a wireline standoff encasing a portion of the wireline, the wireline standoff comprising: a base comprising a base body having a base length between a first end and a second end, wherein the first end has a first coupling feature, wherein the base body includes a base channel formed therein that extends along the base length of the base body, and wherein the base channel has a width and a depth that are configured to be large enough to receive a first part of the portion of the wireline; and an end piece movably coupled to the first end of the base, wherein the end piece comprises an end piece body and a second coupling feature that is coupled to the first coupling feature of the base, wherein the end piece body has formed therein an end piece channel that extends along an end piece length of the end piece body, wherein the end piece channel has a width and a depth that are configured to be large enough to receive a second part of the portion of the wireline, wherein the base and the end piece are configured to be in a default position when the base channel and the end piece channel are aligned with each other so that the base channel is configured to receive the first part of the portion of the wireline at the surface simultaneously with when the end piece channel is configured to receive the second part of the portion of the wireline, and wherein the base and the end piece are configured to be in a secured position when the end piece is moved relative to the base at the surface using the first coupling feature and the second coupling feature so that the base channel and the end piece channel are misaligned with each other while the first lengthwise portion of the wireline is positioned in the base channel and while the second lengthwise portion of the wireline is positioned in the end piece channel.

18. The wellbore system of claim 17, wherein the portion of the wireline is removed from the base channel and the end piece channel of the wireline standoff at the surface as the wireline is extracted from the wellbore by the field equipment.

19. The wellbore system of claim 18, wherein the end piece is moved at the surface to the default position relative to the base using the first coupling feature and the second coupling feature before the portion of the wireline is removed from the base channel and the end piece channel of the wireline standoff.

20. The wellbore system of claim 17, wherein the wireline standoff protects the portion of the wireline from a feature in the wellbore, and wherein the feature comprises at least one of a group consisting of a casing and a subterranean formation.