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(54) **LINEMAN'S TOOL CARRYING STRAP DEVICE**

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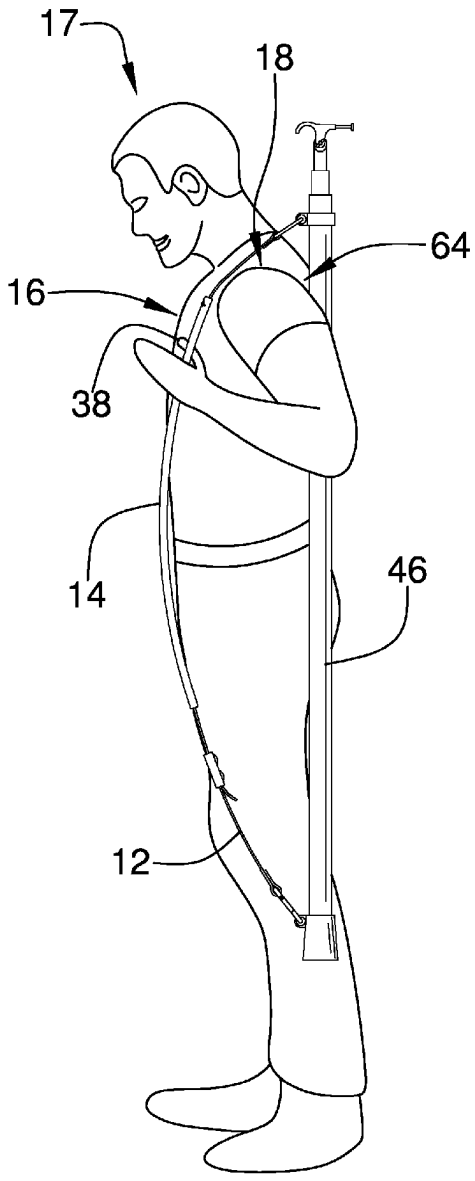
(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC ***A45F 3/14*** (2013.01); ***A45F 3/12*** (2013.01); *A45F 2003/003* (2013.01); *A45F 2003/142* (2013.01)

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A lineman's tool carrying strap device includes shoulder strap which has a pad that is centrally located on the shoulder strap to rest against a worker's chest when the shoulder strap is worn over the worker's shoulder. A coupling strap is attached to the shoulder strap which can be wrapped around a lineman's hot stick. The coupling strap is matable to itself to form a closed loop to secured the coupling strap around the lineman's hot stick. A cup is attached to the shoulder strap at an opposing end of the shoulder strap with respect to the coupling strap to receive an end of the lineman's hot stick for securing the lineman's hot stick to the shoulder strap. In this way the worker can carry the lineman's hot stick on their back.



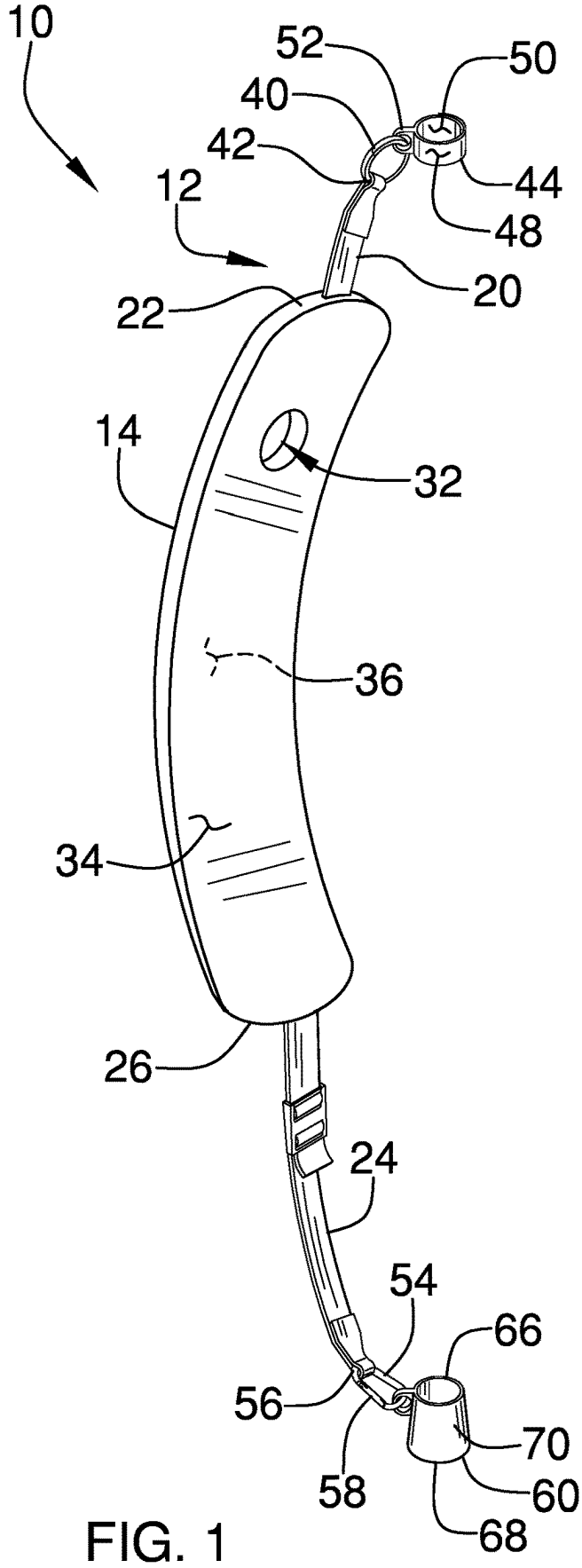

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FIG. 1

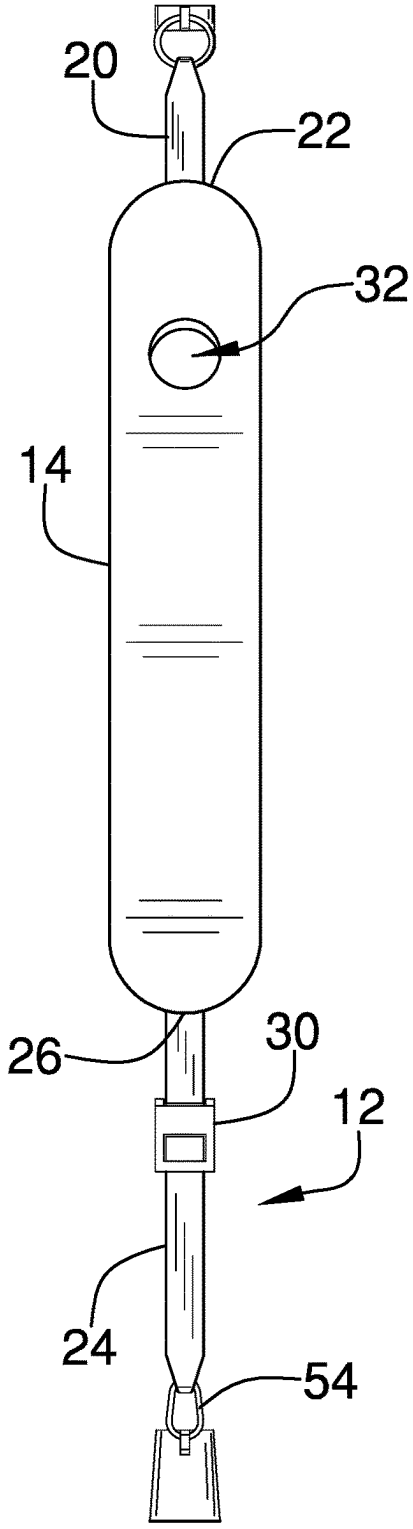
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FIG. 2

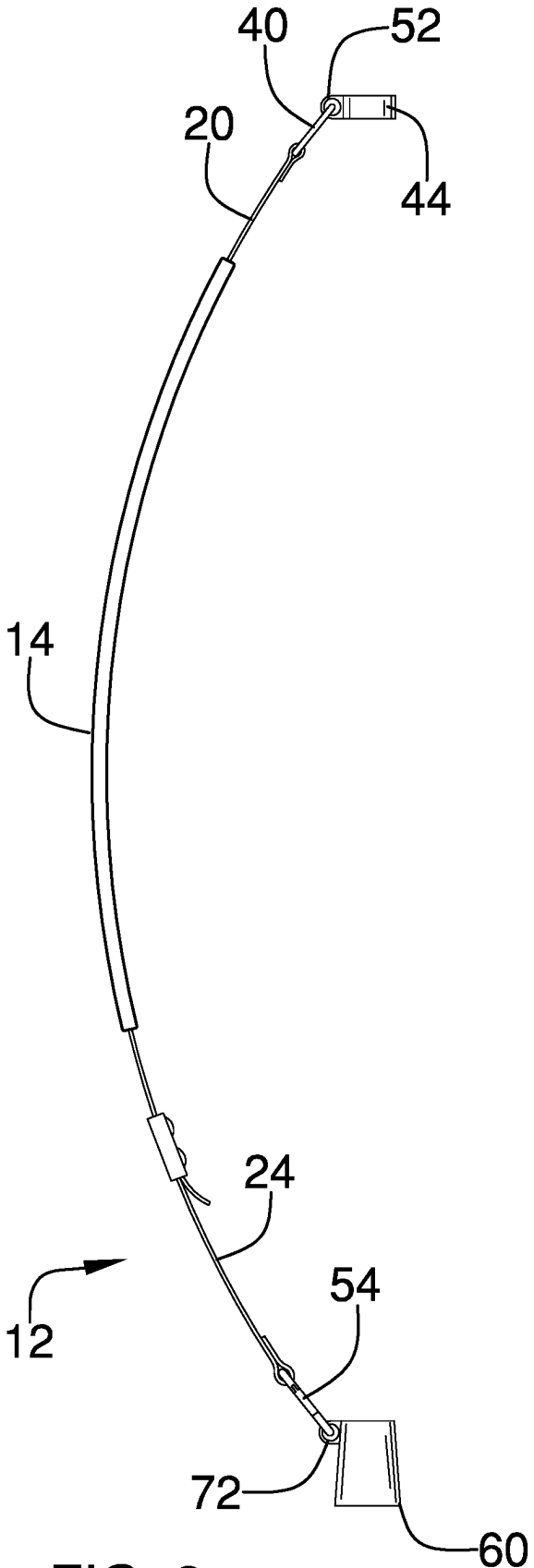

FIG. 3

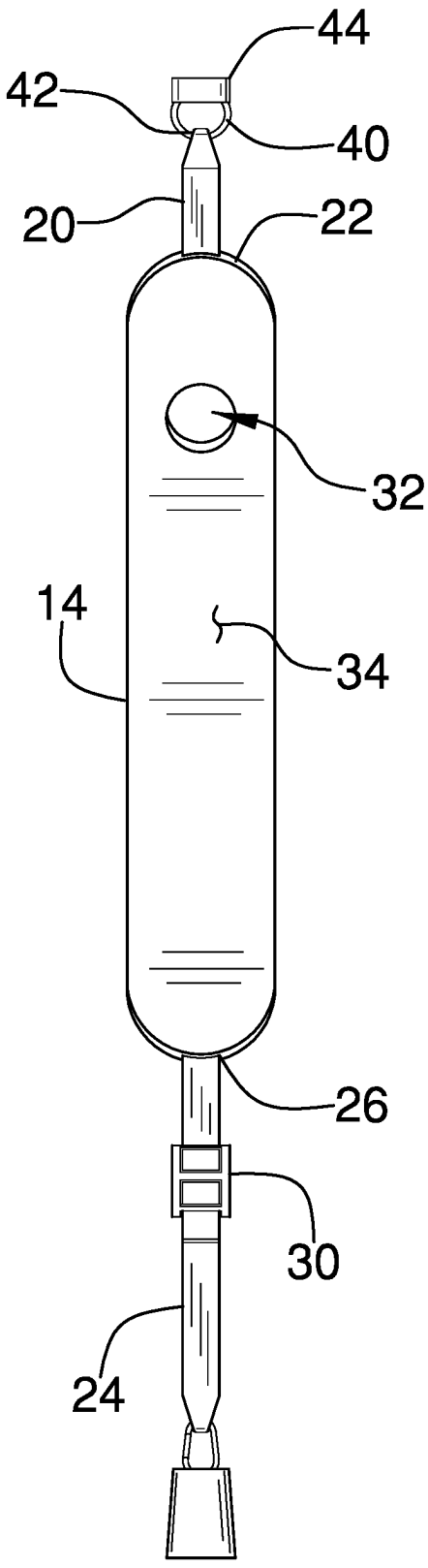

FIG. 4

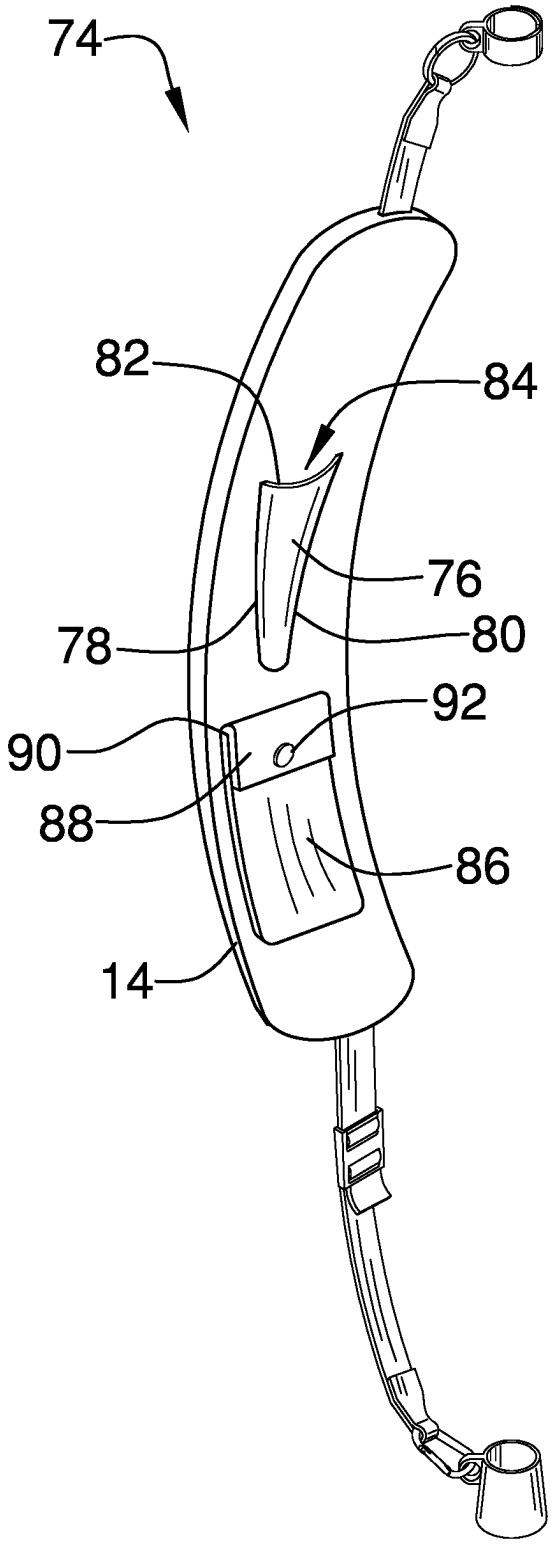

FIG. 5

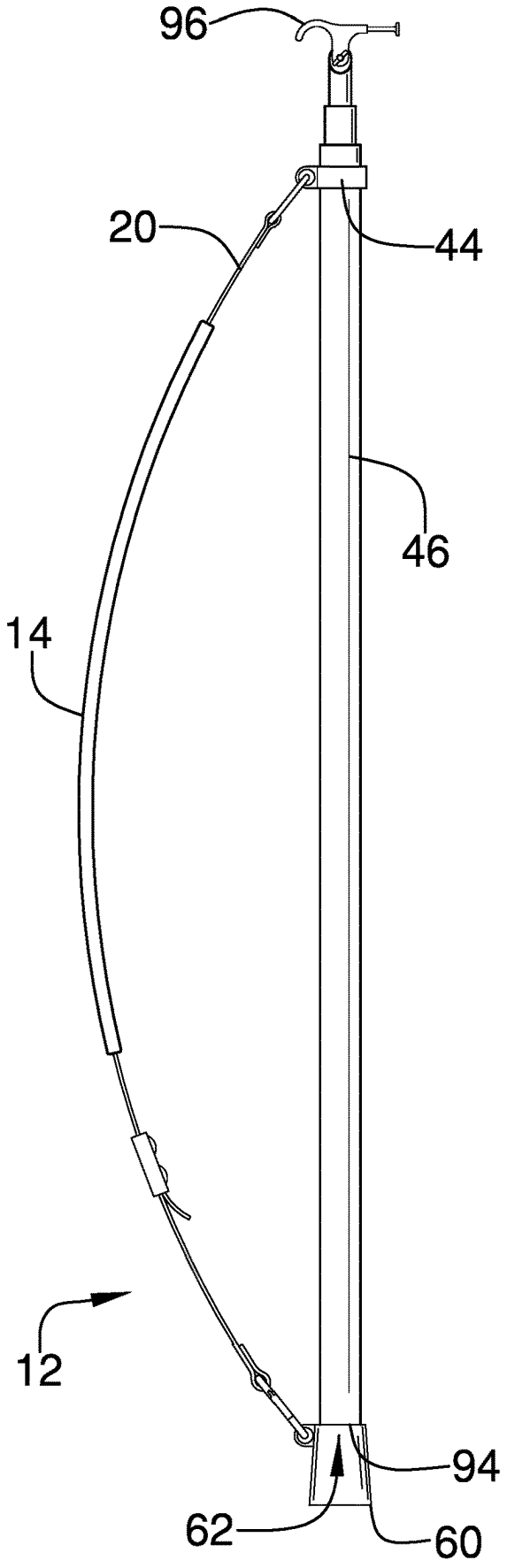

FIG. 6

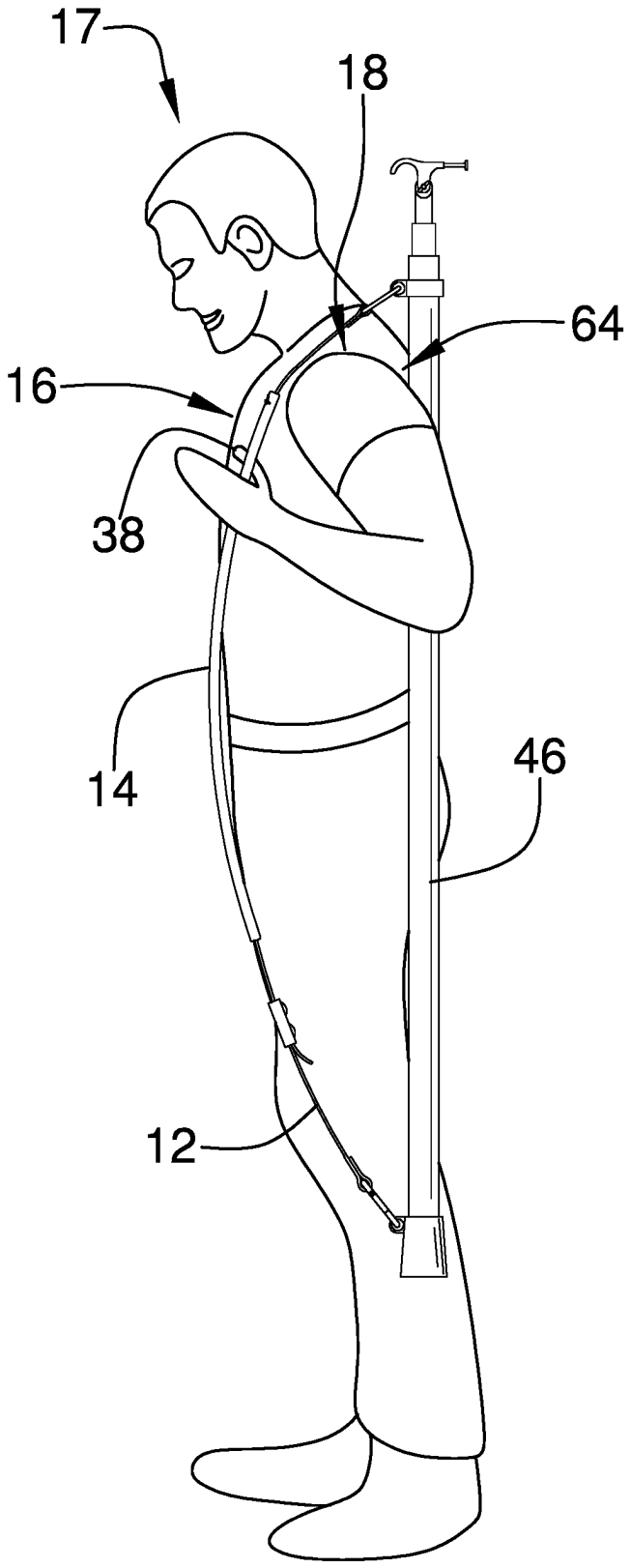

FIG. 7

LINEMAN'S TOOL CARRYING STRAP DEVICE

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] Not Applicable

STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT

[0002] Not Applicable

THE NAMES OF THE PARTIES TO A JOINT RESEARCH AGREEMENT

[0003] Not Applicable

INCORPORATION-BY-REFERENCE OF MATERIAL SUBMITTED ON A COMPACT DISC OR AS A TEXT FILE VIA THE OFFICE ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM.

[0004] Not Applicable

STATEMENT REGARDING PRIOR DISCLOSURES BY THE INVENTOR OR JOINT INVENTOR

[0005] Not Applicable

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

(1) Field of the Invention

[0006] The disclosure relates to carrying strap devices and more particularly pertains to a new carrying strap device for carrying a lineman's hot stick on a worker's back. The device includes a shoulder strap and a pad attached to the shoulder strap and a coupling strap and a cup each attached to opposing ends of the shoulder strap. The coupling strap can be wrapped around a lineman's hot stick and the cup receives an end of the lineman's hot stick to attach the lineman's hot stick to the shoulder strap. The shoulder strap can be worn over the worker's shoulder for carrying the lineman's hot stick on the worker's back.

(2) Description of Related Art Including Information Disclosed Under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98

[0007] The prior art relates to carrying strap devices including a variety of body harness devices that each at least includes a plurality of straps that can be worn on a person's body and their waist for carrying golf bags or snow skis on a worker's body. In no instance does the prior art disclose a shoulder strap that has a coupling strap and a cup for engaging a lineman's hot stick for carrying the lineman's hot stick on a worker's back.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0008] An embodiment of the disclosure meets the needs presented above by generally comprising a shoulder strap which has a pad that is centrally located on the shoulder strap to rest against a worker's chest when the shoulder strap is worn over the worker's shoulder. A coupling strap is attached to the shoulder strap which can be wrapped around a lineman's hot stick. The coupling strap is matable to itself to form a closed loop to secured the coupling strap around the lineman's hot stick. A cup is attached to the shoulder strap at an opposing end of the shoulder strap with respect to the coupling strap to receive an end of the lineman's hot stick for securing the lineman's hot stick to the shoulder strap. In this way the worker can carry the lineman's hot stick on their back.

[0009] There has thus been outlined, rather broadly, the more important features of the disclosure in order that the detailed description thereof that follows may be better understood, and in order that the present contribution to the art may be better appreciated. There are additional features of the disclosure that will be described hereinafter and which will form the subject matter of the claims appended hereto.

[0010] The objects of the disclosure, along with the various features of novelty which characterize the disclosure, are pointed out with particularity in the claims annexed to and forming a part of this disclosure.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING(S)

[0011] The disclosure will be better understood and objects other than those set forth above will become apparent when consideration is given to the following detailed description thereof. Such description makes reference to the annexed drawings wherein:

[0012] FIG. **1** is a front perspective view of a lineman's tool carrying strap device according to an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0013] FIG. **2** is a back view of an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0014] FIG. **3** is a left side view of an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0015] FIG. **4** is a front view of an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0016] FIG. **5** is a perspective view of an alternative embodiment of the disclosure.

[0017] FIG. **6** is a left side in-use view of an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0018] FIG. **7** is a perspective in-use view of an embodiment of the disclosure.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0019] With reference now to the drawings, and in particular to FIGS. **1** through **7** thereof, a new carrying strap device embodying the principles and concepts of an embodiment of the disclosure and generally designated by the reference numeral **10** will be described.

[0020] As best illustrated in FIGS. **1** through **7**, the lineman's tool carrying strap device **10** generally comprises a shoulder strap **12** that has a pad **14** which is centrally located on the shoulder strap **12**. The pad **14** rests against a chest **16** of a worker **17** when the shoulder strap **12** is worn over the worker's shoulder **18**. The shoulder strap **12** includes a first strap **20** that is coupled to and extends away from a first end **22** of the pad **14** and the shoulder strap **12** includes a second strap **24** that is coupled to and extends away from a second end **26** of the pad **14**. The pad **14** is elongated between the first end **22** and the second end **26** and each of the first end **22** and the second end **26** is rounded. Furthermore, the pad **14** is comprised of a resiliently compressible material,

including but not being limited to rubber or silicone, to enhance comfort for the user.

[0021] The shoulder strap **12** has an adjustment buckle **30** which is slidably integrated into the second strap **24** for adjusting a length of the second strap **24**. The pad **14** has a thumb hole **32** extending through a front surface **34** and a back surface **36** of the pad **14** to accommodate the worker's thumb **38** when the shoulder strap **12** is worn over the worker's shoulder **18**. The thumb hole **32** is positioned closer to the first end **22** of the pad **14** than the second end **26** of the pad **14** and the thumb hole **32** is aligned with a centerline of the pad **14**. An annular ring **40** is provided and the annular ring **40** is attached to a free end **42** of the first strap **20**.

[0022] A coupling strap **44** is attached to the shoulder strap **12** and the coupling strap **44** can be wrapped around a lineman's hot stick **46**. The lineman's hot stick **46** may be a lineman's hot stick of any conventional design that is carried by a worker who performs maintenance and service on high voltage power lines. The coupling strap **44** is matable to itself to form a closed loop thereby securing the coupling strap **44** around the lineman's hot stick **46**. The coupling strap **44** has a first surface **48** which is releasably matable to a second surface **50** of the coupling strap **44**. Additionally, the coupling strap **44** has a receiver **52** extending away from the first surface **48** at a point is centrally located on the coupling strap **44**. The annular ring **40** extends through the receiver **52** thereby securing the coupling strap **44** to the annular ring **40**. Furthermore, the coupling strap **44** may include hook and loop fasteners to facilitate the coupling strap **44** to be mated to itself.

[0023] A clasp **54** is provided and the clasp **54** is attached to a free end **56** of the second strap **24**. The clasp **54** has a gate **58** that is biased into a closed position such that the clasp **54** forms a closed loop. Furthermore, the gate **58** is urgeable into an open position such that the clasp **54** defines an open loop. The clasp **54** may comprise a D-ring or a lobster claw clasp or other type of clasp that can be opened and closed.

[0024] A cup **60** is attached to the shoulder strap **12** at an opposing end of the shoulder strap **12** with respect to the coupling strap **44**. The cup **60** insertably receives an end **62** of the lineman's hot stick **46** for securing the lineman's hot stick **46** to the shoulder strap **12**. In this way the worker **17** can carry the lineman's hot stick **46** on their back **64**. The cup **60** has a lower end **66**, an upper end **68** and an outer wall **70** extending between the upper end **68** and the lower end **66** and the upper end **68** is open to insertably receive the end **62** of the lineman's hot stick **46**. The outer wall **70** slopes inwardly between the lower end **66** and the upper end **68** such that the upper end **68** has a diameter that is less than a diameter of the lower end **66**. The cup **60** has a receiver **72** which extends away from the outer wall **70** and the receiver **72** on the outer wall **70** receives the clasp **54** for retaining the cup **60** on the clasp **54**.

[0025] In an alternative embodiment **74** as shown in FIG. **5**, a pouch **76** is included that has a first lateral edge **78** and a second lateral edge **80** each angling away from a top edge **82** and intersecting each other such that the pouch **76** has a triangular shape. Each of the first lateral edge **78** and the second lateral edge **80** is coupled to the back surface **36** of the pad **14**. Furthermore, the top edge **82** is free from the back surface **36** to define an entry **84** into the pouch **76** for storing objects. Continuing in the alternative embodiment **74**, a pocket **86** is attached to the back surface **36** of the pad **14** and the pocket **86** is positioned between the pouch **76** and the second end **26** of the pad **14**. The pocket **86** includes a flap **88** which is foldable over a top end **90** of the pocket **86** for opening and closing the top end **90**. Additionally, the flap **88** includes a fastener **92** which releasably engages the pocket **86** for releasably retaining the flap **88** in a closed orientation.

[0026] In use, the cup **60** is placed on a bottom end **94** of the lineman's hot stick **46** and the coupling strap **44** is wrapped around the lineman's hot stick **46** at a point located adjacent to a hook **96** on the lineman's hot stick **46**. In this way the shoulder strap **12** is attached to the lineman's hot stick **46** thereby facilitating the shoulder strap **12** to be worn over the worker's shoulder **18**. Thus, the worker **17** can carry the lineman's hot stick **46** on their back **64** rather than having the carry the lineman's hot stick **46** in their hands. Additionally, the worker **17** can extend one of their thumbs **38** through the thumb hole **32** while the shoulder strap **12** is being worn over their shoulder **18** to stabilize the shoulder strap **12** on their shoulder **18**.

[0027] With respect to the above description then, it is to be realized that the optimum dimensional relationships for the parts of an embodiment enabled by the disclosure, to include variations in size, materials, shape, form, function and manner of operation, device and use, are deemed readily apparent and obvious to one skilled in the art, and all equivalent relationships to those illustrated in the drawings and described in the specification are intended to be encompassed by an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0028] Therefore, the foregoing is considered as illustrative only of the principles of the disclosure. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the disclosure to the exact construction and operation shown and described, and accordingly, all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the disclosure. In this patent document, the word "comprising" is used in its non-limiting sense to mean that items following the word are included, but items not specifically mentioned are not excluded. A reference to an element by the indefinite article "a" does not exclude the possibility that more than one of the element is present, unless the context clearly requires that there be only one of the elements.

I claim:

1. A lineman's tool carrying strap device for facilitating a worker to carry a lineman's hot stick on the worker's back, said device comprising:

a shoulder strap having a pad being centrally located on said shoulder strap wherein said pad is configured to rest against a worker's chest when said shoulder strap is worn over the worker's shoulder;

a coupling strap being attached to said shoulder strap wherein said coupling strap is configured to be wrapped around a lineman's hot stick, said coupling strap being matable to itself to form a closed loop wherein said coupling strap is configured to be secured around the lineman's hot stick;

a cup being attached to said shoulder strap at an opposing end of said shoulder strap with respect to said coupling strap wherein said cup is configured to receive an end of the lineman's hot stick for securing the lineman's hot stick to said shoulder strap thereby facilitating the worker to carry the lineman's hot stick on their back.

2. The device according to claim 1, wherein:

said shoulder strap includes a first strap being coupled to and extending away from a first end of said pad;

said shoulder strap includes a second strap being coupled to and extending away from a second end of said pad;

said pad is elongated between said first end and said second end;

each of said first end and said second end is rounded;

said pad is comprised of a resiliently compressible material wherein said pad is configured to enhance comfort for the user; and

said shoulder strap has an adjustment buckle being slidably integrated into said second strap for adjusting a length of said second strap.

3. The device according to claim 2, wherein:

said pad has a thumb hole extending through a front surface and a back surface of said pad wherein said thumb hole is configured to accommodate the worker's thumb when said shoulder strap is worn over the user's shoulder;

said thumb hole is positioned closer to said first end of said pad than said second end of said pad; and

said thumb hole is aligned with a centerline of said pad.

4. The device according to claim 2, wherein:

said device includes an annular ring being attached to a free end of said first strap;

said coupling strap has a first surface which is releasably matable to a second surface of said coupling strap;

said coupling strap has a receiver extending away from said first surface at a point being centrally located on said coupling strap; and

said annular ring extends through said receiver thereby securing said coupling strap to said annular ring.

5. The device according to claim 2, wherein:

said device includes a clasp being attached to a free end of said second strap;

said clasp has a gate being biased into a closed position such that said clasp forms a closed loop;

said gate is urgeable into an open position such that said clasp defines an open loop;

said cup has a receiver extending away from an outer wall of said cup; and

said receiver on said outer wall receives said clasp for retaining said cup on said clasp.

6. The device according to claim 5, wherein:

said cup has an upper end and a lower end, said outer wall of said cup extending between said upper end and said lower end;

said upper end of said cup is open wherein said upper end is configured to insertably receive the end of the lineman's hot stick; and

said outer wall slopes inwardly between said lower end and said upper end such that said upper end has a diameter being less than a diameter of said lower end.

7. A lineman's tool carrying strap device for facilitating a worker to carry a lineman's hot stick on the worker's back, said device comprising:

a shoulder strap having a pad being centrally located on said shoulder strap wherein said pad is configured to rest against a worker's chest when said shoulder strap is worn over the worker's shoulder, said shoulder strap including a first strap being coupled to and extending away from a first end of said pad, said shoulder strap having a second strap being coupled to and extending away from a second end of said pad, said pad being elongated between said first end and said second end, each of said first end and said second end being rounded, said pad being comprised of a resiliently compressible material wherein said pad is configured to enhance comfort for the user, said shoulder strap having an adjustment buckle being slidably integrated into said second strap for adjusting a length of said second strap, said pad having a thumb hole extending through a front surface and a back surface of said pad wherein said thumb hole is configured to accommodate the worker's thumb when said shoulder strap is worn over the user's shoulder, said thumb hole being positioned closer to said first end of said pad than said second end of said pad, said thumb hole being aligned with a centerline of said pad;

an annular ring being attached to a free end of said first strap;

a coupling strap being attached to said shoulder strap wherein said coupling strap is configured to be wrapped around a lineman's hot stick, said coupling strap being matable to itself to form a closed loop wherein said coupling strap is configured to be secured around the lineman's hot stick, said coupling strap having a first surface which is releasably matable to a second surface of said coupling strap, said coupling strap having a receiver extending away from said first surface at a point being centrally located on said coupling strap, said annular ring extending through said receiver thereby securing said coupling strap to said annular ring;

a clasp being attached to a free end of said second strap, said clasp having a gate being biased into a closed position such that said clasp forms a closed loop, said gate being urgeable into an open position such that said clasp defines an open loop; and

a cup being attached to said shoulder strap at an opposing end of said shoulder strap with respect to said coupling strap wherein said cup is configured to receive an end of the lineman's hot stick for securing the lineman's hot stick to said shoulder strap thereby facilitating the worker to carry the lineman's hot stick on their back, said cup having a lower end and an upper end and an outer wall extending between said upper end and said lower end, said upper end being open wherein said upper end is configured to insertably receive the end of the lineman's hot stick, said outer wall sloping inwardly between said lower end and said upper end such that said upper end has a diameter being less than a diameter of said lower end, said cup having a receiver extending away from said outer wall, said receiver on said outer wall receiving said clasp for retaining said cup on said clasp.

8. The device according to claim 7, further comprising a pouch having a first lateral edge and a second lateral edge each angling away from a top edge and intersecting each other such that said pouch has a triangular shape, each of said first lateral edge and said second lateral edge being coupled to said back surface of said pad, said top edge being free from said back surface to define an entry into said pouch for storing objects.

9. The device according to claim 8, further comprising a pocket being attached to said back surface of said pad, said pocket being positioned between said pouch and said second

end of said pad, said pocket including a flap which is foldable over a top end of said pocket for opening and closing said top end, said flap including a fastener which releasably engages said pocket for releasably retaining said flap in a closed orientation.

* * * * *