

## BOREHOLE DRILLING

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1987 August 3

ZF, as it appears, boreholes are still drilled by inserting and turning pipe the full length of the drill hole (and above, if drilled from a floating ship) it would seem obvious to replace this with a system where only the drill bit turned. The drill bit could be driven by compressed air or water or some other way.

Deep-drilling research vessels (e.g. the Ocean Drilling Project's "Joides Resolution") can have as much as 9100 metres of drill pipe suspended under them, and can drill in water depths up to 2200 metres. It seems ludicrous to replace 8 km of pipe just to provide a drive shaft - and to have to cope with problems of ship heave and drift in the case of ocean drilling.

## INFLATABLE BICYCLE/BOAT BODY

1987 July 27

A vehicle body for attachment to a bicycle style or other human-propelled vehicle needs to be light. An inflatable body seems to be the answer - possibly with the inflation pressure maintained by a pump connected to the pedal mechanism. This body could be shaped for aerodynamic flow and to avoid 'solid wall' wind effects - e.g. could be 'hollow' in form. The 'top' could be roller base in fine weather. Park could be made silver or orange to improve cyclist visibility. Standard-shape bodies could be sold to allow cheap and easy replacement in case of accident or tearing of the fabric.

## TERMITES CONTROL

1987 July 16

Termites should be controllable easily and safely by feeding them baits containing antibiotic to kill their cellulose-digesting stomach bacteria.