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Subject: Re: Here's the plot, what's the title?  
Posted by [bsa](#) on Tue, 17 Sep 2013 19:20:41 GMT  
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References:

Reply-To: [bsa@ncoast.UUCP](mailto:bsa@ncoast.UUCP) (Brandon Allbery (the tame hacker on the North Coast))

Organization: The North Coast Xenix System, Cleveland

Lines: 23

Summary:

> Article , from [rcb@rti-sel.UUCP](mailto:rcb@rti-sel.UUCP) (Randy Buckland)

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| > > The main character repeatedly gets drunk and suffers from blackouts.

| > > During his blackout periods he manages to invent machines.

| >

| > Your friend may be thinking of "The Proud Robot" by Henry Kuttner.

|  
| I don't think that is it. I remember the story as being about an inventor  
| who during his last blackout made a machine that eats dirt through a hose  
| and produces an almost invisible clear cable. He had three contract:

Sounds like another of Kuttner's "Gallegher Plus" stories. The only one I've been able to find so far (not big on SF around here...) had him invent an elixir that could either slow things down a lot, or speed them up a lot. And he had a contract (make something that would be absolutely safe for Great White Hunter types to hunt).

--bsa

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Brandon Allbery @ [decvax!cwruecmp!ncoast!bsa](mailto:decvax!cwruecmp!ncoast!bsa) (..ncoast!tdi1!bsa business)  
6504 Chestnut Road, Independence, Ohio 44131 +1 216 524 1416 (or what have you)  
Who said you had to be (a) a poor programmer or (b) a security hazard  
to be a hacker?