

Title (en)
Method and installation for elimination of mercury from contaminated pipes and parts of installation, especially of mercury which comes from natural gas

Title (de)
Verfahren und Anlagen zur Entfernung von Quecksilber aus kontaminierten Rohren und Anlagenteilen, insbesondere von mit Erdgas eingetragenen Quecksilber

Title (fr)
Procédé et installation pour éliminer du mercure de tuyaux contaminés et de pièces d'installation, notamment du mercure transporté avec le gaz naturel

Publication
EP 0563554 B1 19960612 (DE)

Application
EP 93102309 A 19930215

Priority
• DE 4210455 A 19920330
• US 12292493 A 19930917

Abstract (en)
[origin: US5529605A] Pipe lines for conducting natural gas become contaminated, over a period of time, by an accumulation of mercury, which occurs in minute amounts in natural gas. If used pipe is scrapped, for example by melting, mercury vapor escaping to the atmosphere poses a health hazard. To remove mercury, sections of pipe are closed at both ends by plugs having nipples for connection to a closed circuit and inert gas line connected with a pump for evacuating the line and with a source of inert gas, for example nitrogen. The closed circuit inert gas line contains a blower for circulating the inert gas repeatedly through the pipe sections and a condenser for condensing mercury vapor. The closed circuit further includes a heat exchanger for removing heat upstream of the condenser, a coordinated heat exchanger for restoring heat removed and an additional heater. The pipe sections are heated externally by an oven or internally by heated inert gas.

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IPC 8 full level
B08B 7/00 (2006.01); **B08B 9/00** (2006.01); **B08B 9/02** (2006.01); **C22B 43/00** (2006.01); **F16L 53/00** (2006.01)

CPC (source: EP US)
B08B 7/00 (2013.01 - EP US); **B08B 9/032** (2013.01 - EP US); **C22B 43/00** (2013.01 - EP US); **B08B 2230/01** (2013.01 - EP US); **Y10T 137/0419** (2015.04 - EP US)

Cited by
US6361616B1; DE19520876A1; DE19520876C2; WO2016154394A1; WO9840174A1

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