

Title (en)  
SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR CONVERTING THERMAL ENERGY

Title (de)  
VERFAHREN UND VORRICHTUNG ZUR UMWANDLUNG VON THERMISCHER ENERGIE

Title (fr)  
SYSTEMES ET PROCEDES DE TRANSFORMATION DE L'ENERGIE THERMIQUE

Publication  
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Application  
**EP 97946553 A 19971110**

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Abstract (en)  
[origin: WO9924766A1] The present invention provides devices and methods for obtaining mechanical, electrical and cooling power from a high temperature heat source (80), which maybe intermittent, and an ambient temperature heat source (130). In one embodiment of the invention, the working fluid (100) passes through a fluid circuit including a first vaporizer (10), an expansion device (30) for providing useful mechanical power from the vaporized liquid, a first heat exchanger (40) for cooling the high pressure vaporized liquid, a reservoir for collecting (50), by gravity, the high pressure vaporized liquid, a first valve (60) leading to a second heat exchanger (260), which may or may not be necessary, leading by gravity flow to a second valve (70), allowing the cool, low pressure liquid to drain back by gravity to the first vaporizer. In this embodiment, the first vaporizer is heated by a high temperature heat source, and the expansion device provides mechanical power to an electric generator.

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Citation (search report)  
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• [XY] DE 3634376 A1 19880421 - HETTENHAUSEN WILHELM DIPL ING [DE]  
• [X] US 4686831 A 19870818 - SILVA ROBERT E  
• [Y] WO 8502881 A1 19850704 - LIPOVETZ IVAN, et al  
• See references of WO 9924766A1

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