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(71) Applicant: **SERV-TECH, INC.**
Houston, Texas 77087 (US)

(72) Inventors:
- **Mehta, Nishaneth K.**
Houston, Texas 77057 (US)
- **Krajicek, Richard W.**
Houston, Texas 77005 (US)

(74) Representative: **Baillie, Iain Cameron**
c/o Ladas & Parry
Altheimer Eck 2
80331 München (DE)

(54) **Process for vessel decontamination**

(57) An improved process for the decontamination of process equipment and vessels is described wherein an extractant material for the contaminant and a surfactant are vaporized, heated with steam, to condense on the internal surfaces of the vessel to trap contaminants, such as benzene, for removal from the vessel to allow safe entry for humans for inspection and maintenance.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 93 10 4356

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.5)
A	WO-A-92 10314 (GOLDEN TECH CO) 25 June 1992 * claims 18-23 * ---	1	C23G1/24 A62D3/00
A	WO-A-88 09199 (STEINER WERNER) 1 December 1988 ---		
A	GB-A-2 243 842 (ELECTROLUBE LIMITED) 13 November 1991 ---		
A	US-A-4 511 488 (MATTA GRANT B) 16 April 1985 ---		
A	US-A-2 715 594 (GARRISON C. W.) 16 August 1955 ---		
A	US-A-2 023 496 (TODD V. J.) 10 December 1935 ---		
A	US-A-1 891 592 (FITZGERALD) 20 December 1932 -----		

TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.5)
C23G A62D

The present search report has been drawn up for all claims

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE	14 October 1996	Torfs, F

CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS

X : particularly relevant if taken alone
Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category
A : technological background
O : non-written disclosure
P : intermediate document

T : theory or principle underlying the invention
E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date
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