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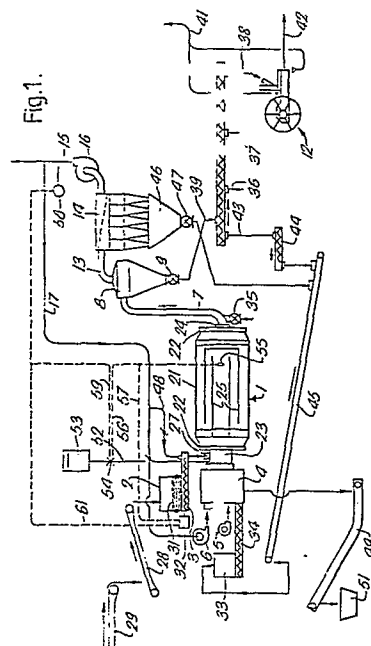
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### 54 Peat drying apparatus and method.

57 In drying apparatus for removing moisture from peat, hot gases generated by a furnace 4 are sucked through a rotary drum drier 1 by a downstream blower 16. Peat is fed into the drum drier 1 by a conveyor 3 and entrained with the gas flow for direct contact heat exchange and intensive drying action during its passage through the drier. Downstream of the drier 1, the peat and hot gases are separated by cyclone units 8 and 14. A substantial proportion of the hot gases separated from the gas and peat mixture are returned by duct 17 to the upstream end of the drying system for recycling through the drying stage. The returned gases are input to the furnace 4 by blower 6, where they are mixed with fresh combustion gas and reheated. Oxygen content in the hot gases leaving the system is monitored by sensor 58 and peat input to the drier 1 is only allowed when the oxygen content is less than 120%. Temperature within the drier is also monitored by sensor 55 and peat input only takes place when enabled by oxygen content and also when appropriate temperature conditions prevail in the drier. A water input 52 to the drying system is also enabled and disabled by the oxygen sensor 58, and water injection takes place, when enabled, if drier temperature rises to an excessive level.





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.4)
Y	AUFBEREITUNGS-TECHNIK, Nr. 12, 1980, pages 603-611; OBERING. H. MOTEK: "Betrachtungen zur Kohleschlamm-trocknung unter besonderer Berücksichtigung sicherheitstechnischer Aspekte" * Page 609, right-hand column, line 55 - page 611, right-hand column, line 38 *	1-10	C 10 F 5/00 F 26 B 21/06
Y	FR-A-2 574 918 (ETABLISSEMENT GEORGES & FILS) * Claims 1-3; figure *	1-4,7-10	
Y	US-A-4 008 042 (AUVIL et al.) * Claims 1-15; figure 1 *	1-4,6-10	
Y	FR-A-2 367 261 (GOURMELIN et al.) * Claims 1-8; figure 1; page 4, line 26 *	5	
A,D P	GB-A-2 188 134 (ATRITOR) * Claims 1-9; figure *	1-4,8-10	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)
A	DE-A-1 604 824 (BÜTTNER-SCHILDE-HAAS) * Claims; figure *	1-10	C 10 F C 10 B F 26 B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 28-10-1988	Examiner MEERTENS J.
<b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b> 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 D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			