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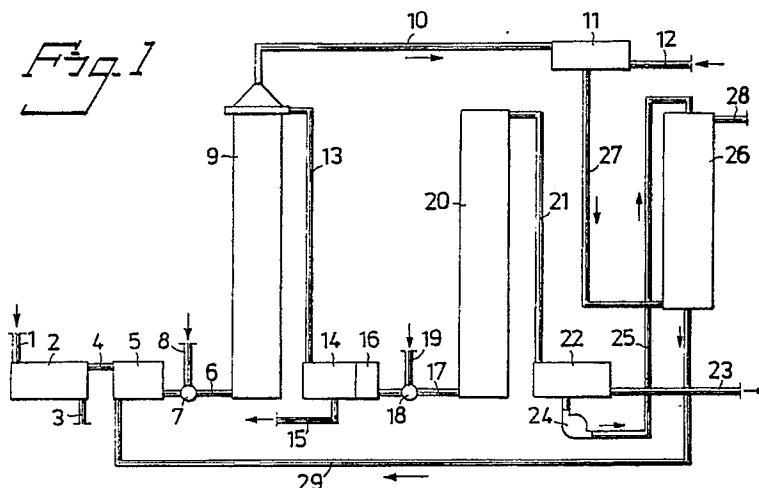
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(54) **A method in the activation of lignocellulosic material with a gas containing nitrogen dioxide.**

(57) Method of activating aqueous lignocellulosic material with a gas containing nitrogen oxide, followed by a delignification stage for the purpose of obtaining a high quality end product with no or only a slight effect on the environment. In accordance with the inventive method, the lignocellulosic material is brought into contact (18) with an oxygen-containing gas (19), and activating gas is separated from the lignocellulosic material during and/or subsequent to the activating process (9). The method is character-

ized by a) controlling the supply of oxygen-containing gas (12) such that the separated gas (27) contains at least 2 kg nitric oxide (NO) calculated on 1000 kg of dry lignocellulosic material, and by b) reacting the separated gas (27) in one or more stages (26) with absorption solution (25) whose original pH lies within the range 3-13.5, and by passing (28) the gas purified with the aid of absorption solution to atmosphere, or to a destruction plant optionally subsequent or further purification of the gas.



EP 0 309 998 A3



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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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	US-A-4 439 271 (MO OCH DOMSJO AKTIEBOLAG) * column 2, lines 33 - 55 ** column 4, lines 44 - 61 ** claims * -- --	1,2	D 21 C 11/06 D 21 C 9/00 D 21 C 9/10
A	US-A-4 165 253 (IVANOV ET AL.) * column 4, lines 49 - 53; claim 1 * -- -- -- --	1,5,6,8	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			D 21 C
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of search 10 May 91	Examiner BERNARDO NORIEGA F.
<div>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</div> <div>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</div> <div>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</div>			