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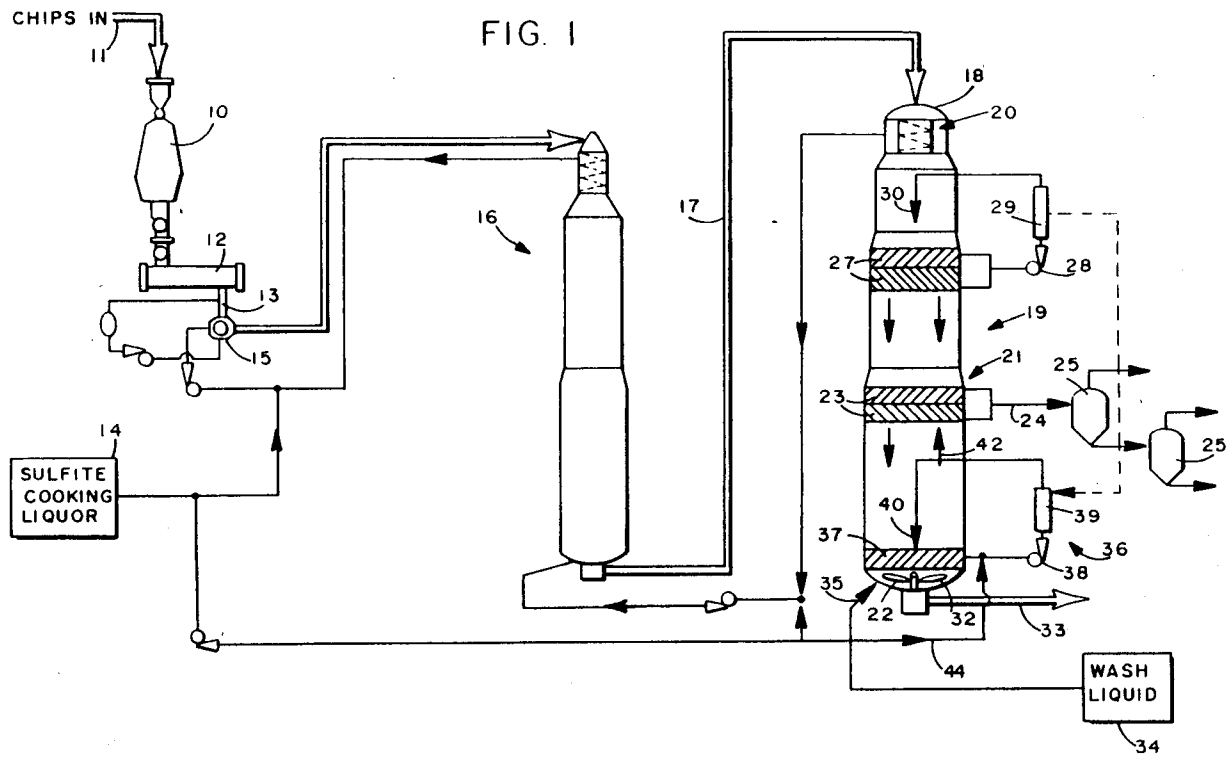
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Sulfite modified continuous digesting.

In the production of paper pulp by the sulfite pulping process, the amount of sulfite cooking chemical consumed per ton of pulp produced is significantly lowered, a much lower K-No. can be achieved without screen plugging, the wash circulation temperature is lowered, and the digester (19) runs better, in the practice of the invention. According to the invention, the wood chips entrained in sulfite cooking liquor are fed into the top of a digester, and flow co-currently to a central portion (21) of the digester, at which portion waste liquor is extracted and passed to flash tanks (25). An effective amount of the sulfite cooking liquor (preferably about

5-20%) utilized for producing the pulp is introduced into the vessel in the wash circulation (36), adjacent the bottom of the digester, to flow countercurrently to the material moving downwardly in the vessel. The produced sulfite pulp is withdrawn (at 33) from the bottom of the digester. The invention is primarily applicable to acid or bisulfite pulping, but also can be utilized with alkaline or neutral sulfite pulping. In some circumstances the entire cooking flow can be countercurrent (e.g. 5% up to close to 100% of the sulfite cooking liquor flows countercurrently to the material).





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 91 10 8240

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-3 427 218 (RICHTER) * the whole document * ---	1-3,5,9	D21C3/06 D21C7/00
A	US-A-3 215 588 (KLEINERT) * claims * ---	1	
P,A	EP-A-0 407 370 (KAMYR AB) * the whole document * -----	1,3,9,10	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			D21C
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 13 APRIL 1993	Examiner BERNARDO NORIEGA 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 D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			