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(54) **A process and an apparatus for rinsing and/or drying articles that have been subjected to a washing process**

(57) A process and an apparatus for rinsing and/or drying articles that have been subjected to a washing process. The articles are rinsed in an enclosure from which air and dust have been removed, by filling the tank (1) with a rinsing liquid and expelling the air from the tank (1).

The rinsing liquid is then slowly drained while a flow

of hot vapor is admitted into the tank (1) and condensates over the surfaces of the articles progressively emerging from the descending liquid.

A vacuum is then created within the tank (1) causing the boiling of the liquid film covering the articles until they are completely dry.

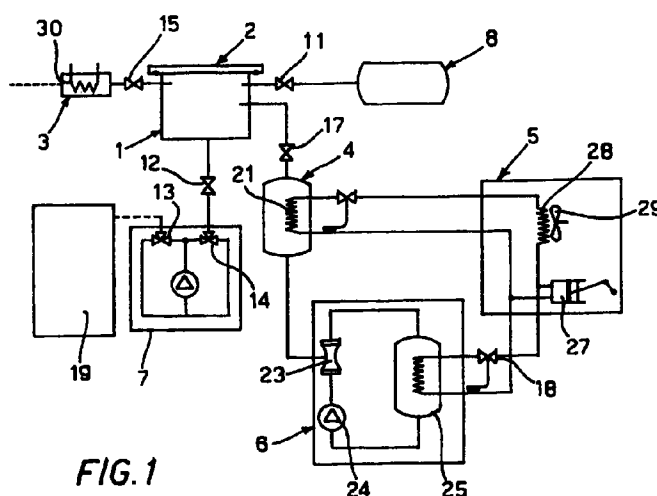


FIG. 1



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 96 20 1507

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.6)
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A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN	1,2,5	
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	* abstract *		

			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			B08B C23G
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		20 August 1997	Lilimpakis, E
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			

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