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(71) Applicant:  
**R.J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO COMPANY  
Winston-Salem North Carolina 27102 (US)**

(72) Inventors:  
• **White, Jackie Lee  
Pfafftown, N.C. 27040 (US)**  
• **Coleman, William Monroe, III  
Winston-Salem, N.C. 27106 (US)**  
• **Perfetti, Thomas Albert  
Winston-Salem, N.C. 27103 (US)**

(74) Representative:  
**Hoeger, Stellrecht & Partner  
Uhlandstrasse 14 c  
70182 Stuttgart (DE)**

(54) **Method of providing aromatic compounds from tobacco**

(57) Processes for producing flavorful and aromatic compounds from tobacco material are provided. The processes involve subjecting finely ground tobacco material to heat treatment at a temperature above 100°C, while the finely ground tobacco material is enclosed in a pressure controlled environment. Preferably, the finely ground tobacco material is provided as an aqueous tobacco suspension, which suspension is then heat-treated in a pressure controlled environment.

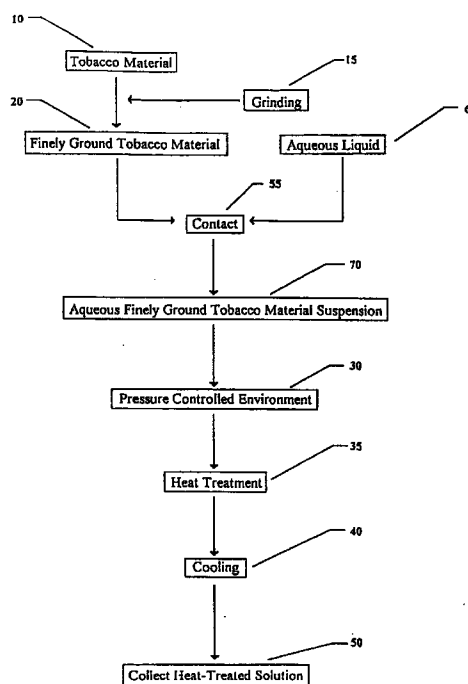


FIG. 1

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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 97 11 3000

| 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) |
| X   | GB 572 236 A (AMERICAN MACHINE & FOUNDRY)<br>* page 3, line 14 - line 26 *<br>* page 3, line 112 - page 4, line 36;<br>claims 1,9,12 *<br>--- | 1-8  | A24B15/18<br>A24B15/24                       |
| X   | DE 15 17 280 A (GENERAL CIGAR CO. INC.) 11<br>September 1969<br>* page 3 - page 4; claims *<br>-----  | 1-3,5-7,<br>9                                    |  |
|   |   |  | TECHNICAL FIELDS<br>SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)      |
|   |   |  | A24B   |
| The present search report has been drawn up for all claims  |   |  |  |
| Place of search<br>THE HAGUE  |   | Date of completion of the search<br>29 June 1998 | Examiner<br>Lepretre, F                      |
| <p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone<br/>Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category<br/>A : technological background<br/>O : non-written disclosure<br/>P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention<br/>E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date<br/>D : document cited in the application<br/>L : document cited for other reasons<br/>.....<br/>&amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p> |   |  |  |

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