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(54) **Process and apparatus for controlling the inlet temperature of an air compressor**

(57) The inlet temperature of an air compressor 2 is controlled by vaporising in a mixing chamber 10 upstream of an air inlet 4 to the compressor 2 a sufficient

flow of cryogenic liquid (nitrogen or a mixture of oxygen and nitrogen) to maintain the inlet temperature at or below a chosen temperature.

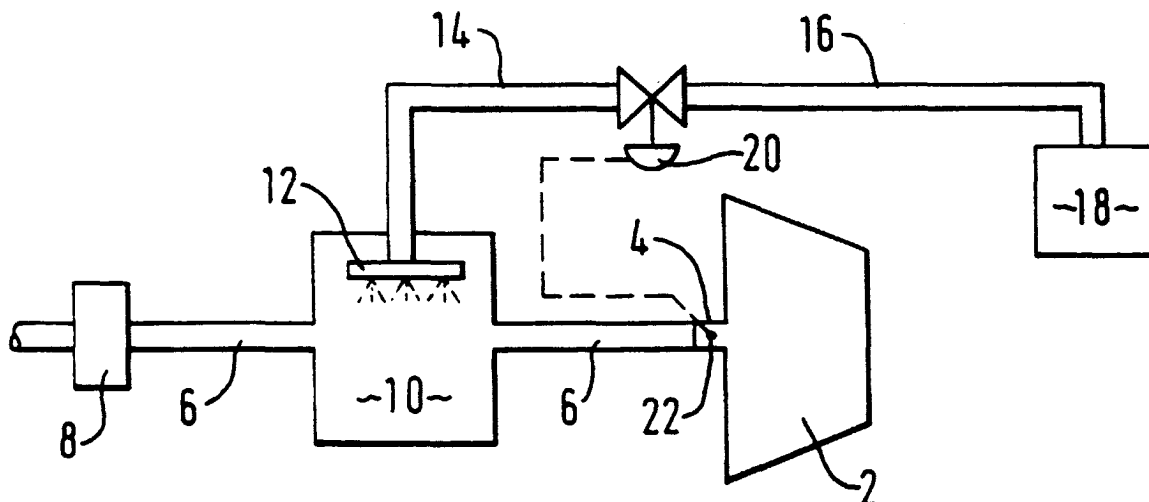


FIG. 1



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			F25J F02C F04D F04C F04B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		8 January 1999	Lapeyrere, J
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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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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