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(54) **Cyclonic separating apparatus**

(57) Cyclonic separating apparatus comprising a cyclone (114) for effecting cyclonic separation and a tangential inlet for supplying fluid to the cyclone (114), the tangential inlet having at least two points of entry (152) into the interior of the cyclone (114). Each point of entry consists of a longitudinal slot (152) located in the cyclone for directing fluid into the cyclone in a tangential manner and each slot has a vane (154) for directing fluid through the respective slot.

Providing two or more points of entry (152) to the interior of the cyclone (114) effectively spreads the inlet over a greater proportion of the circumference of the cyclone (114). The dimensions of the apparatus (110) can therefore be reduced and, furthermore, losses due to friction can be minimised.

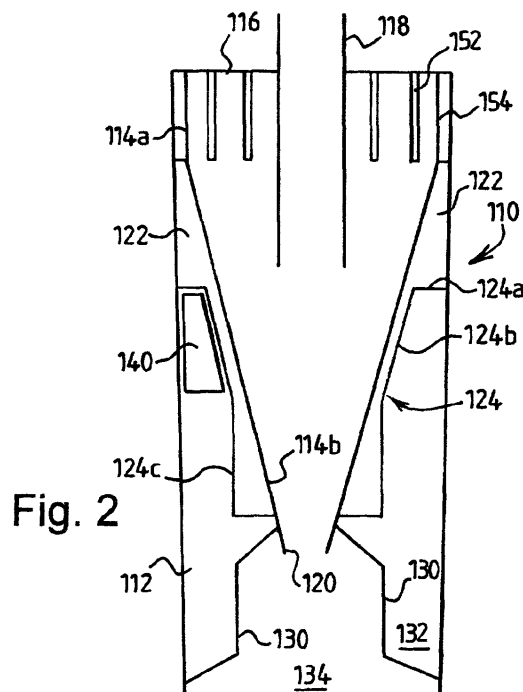


Fig. 2



European Patent
Office

PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

which under Rule 45 of the European Patent Convention shall be considered, for the purposes of subsequent proceedings, as the European search report

EP 98 31 0373

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	US 3 969 096 A (RICHARD) 13 July 1976 (1976-07-13) * abstract * * column 2, line 66 - column 4, line 31 * * column 5, line 37 - line 44; figures *	1-6, 8	B04C5/04
A		7	
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X	EP 0 557 096 A (IONA APPLIANCES INC.) 25 August 1993 (1993-08-25) * column 6, line 50 - column 7, line 26; figures 4-7 *	1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			B04C A47L
INCOMPLETE SEARCH			
<p>The Search Division considers that the present application, or one or more of its claims, does/do not comply with the EPC to such an extent that a meaningful search into the state of the art cannot be carried out, or can only be carried out partially, for these claims.</p> <p>Claims searched completely : 1-9, 11</p> <p>Claims searched incompletely :</p> <p>Claims not searched : 10</p> <p>Reason for the limitation of the search: Not allowable; rule 29 (6) EPC.</p>			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		4 November 1999	Van der Zee, W
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		<p>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</p> <p>& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>	
<p>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</p>			

EPC FORM 1503 03.82 (P4/C07)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82