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(72) Inventors:
• **Satoshi, Ikeda**
Yamato-shi, Kanagawa 242-0021 (JP)
• **Masayuki, Kamimura**
Ichikawa-shi, Chiba 272-0025 (JP)
• **Kazuo, Sonomura**
Katsushika-ku, Tokyo 125-0041 (JP)

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(74) Representative: **Hubert, Philippe et al**
Cabinet Beau de Loménie
158, rue de l'Université
75340 Paris Cédex 07 (FR)

(71) Applicant: **Nippon Paint Co., Ltd.**
Osaka-shi, Osaka 531-0077 (JP)

(54) **Method of pickling aluminium can bodies**

(57) This invention provides a method of pickling an aluminum can body comprising ejecting a pickling agent from a tank against an aluminum can body caused to traverse said tank overhead to clean them and recycling the used agent to said tank,

the concentration of (A) is 100 to 5000 ppm and the ratio of (A) to (B) is 10:90 to 90:10, and the pickling agent in the tank is withdrawn out of the system from below the agent level.

wherein said pickling agent is an acidic aqueous solution containing (A) a polyethylene glycol type detergent nonionic surfactant having an HLB value of 14 to 18 and (B) a low-foaming nonionic surfactant having an HLB value of 2 to 12,

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 12 March 2003	Examiner Torfs, F
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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			

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