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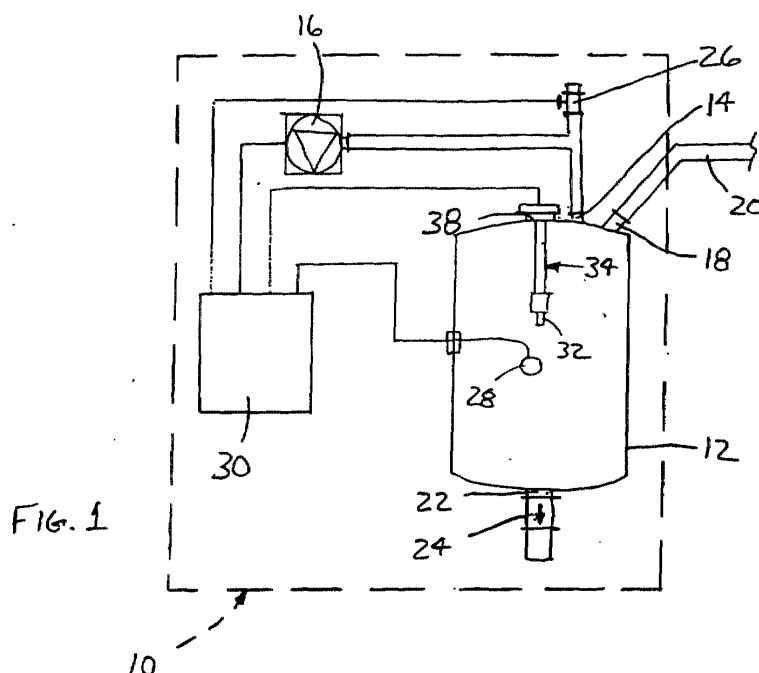
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(54) **Apparatus for dissipating foam in a vacuum collection tank**

(57) A vacuum collection tank (12) having apparatus for dissipating foam is disclosed. The vacuum collection tank (12) is connected to a vacuum generator (16) to create a vacuum level in the tank. A transport pipe (20) is also connected to the tank to allow flow of waste water into the tank (12). A drain (22,24) is provide at a bottom of the tank (12) for discharging the contents of the tank.

A foam detector (32) is provided for sensing foam inside the (12) tank and triggering a discharge operation, thereby to remove the foam from the tank. Alternatively, an anti-foam assembly may be provided for discharging an anti-foam agent into the tank, wherein the anti-foam agent is discharged in response to a foam signal from the foam detector.





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 01 11 4249

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.CI.7)
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Y	* column 6, line 60 - column 7, line 10; figures *	1-3, 15, 17-22	
Y	EP 0 699 877 A (ANDO IWA0) 6 March 1996 (1996-03-06) * column 7, line 43 - column 10, line 4; figure 1 *	1-3, 5-13, 15, 17-22, 26-29	
Y	DE 42 08 598 A (VOLKSWAGENWERK AG) 1 October 1992 (1992-10-01) * column 1, line 53 - column 2, line 52; figures *	5-13, 26	
Y	US 5 851 486 A (PLOTKIN NEIL D) 22 December 1998 (1998-12-22) * column 2, line 27 - line 33; figure 2 *	27-29	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.CI.7) E03F G01F F25D A47F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 8 November 2002	Examiner De Coene, P
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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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