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(71) Applicant: **Consolidated Engineering Company, Inc.**
Kennesaw, GA 30144 (US)

(72) Inventors:
- **Crafton, Scott, P.**
  Marietta, GA 30064 (US)
- **Crafton, Paul, M.**
  Kennesaw, GA 30144 (US)
- **Lewis, James, L., Jr.**
  Calabash, NC 28467 (US)
- **French, Ian**
  Kennesaw, GA 30144 (US)

(74) Representative: **Hofstetter, Alfons J.**
Hofstetter, Schurack & Skora
Balanstrasse 57
81541 München (DE)

(54) Integrated metal processing facility

(57) A integrated facility for forming and heat treating a metal casting is provided, the facility comprising: a pouring station for pouring a molten metal into a mold to form a casting; a process temperature control station downstream from said pouring station, said process temperature control station comprising a temperature sensing device in a heat treatment furnace; wherein said the temperature sensing device and said heat source are adapted to maintain the temperature of the casting at or above a process control temperature for the metal of the casting, and wherein upon receipt of a rejection signal from said temperature sensing device, said transfer mechanism removes the casting prior to entry into said furnace.

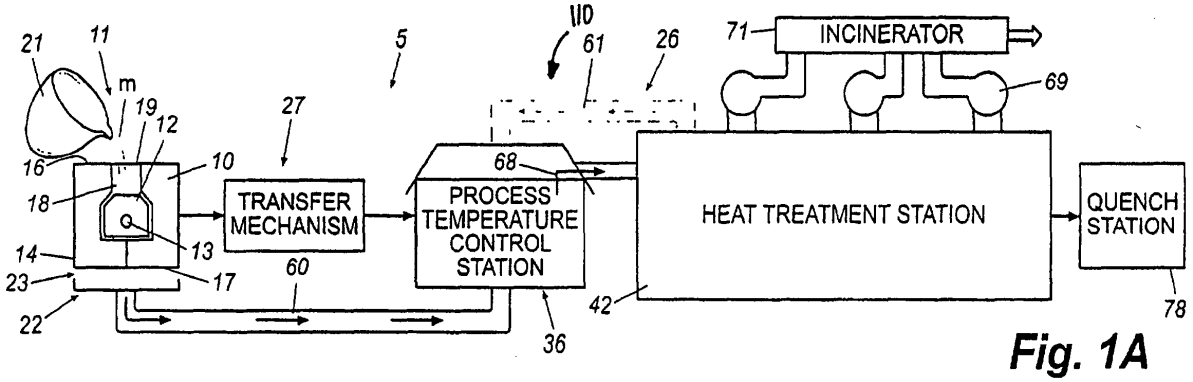

Fig. 1A

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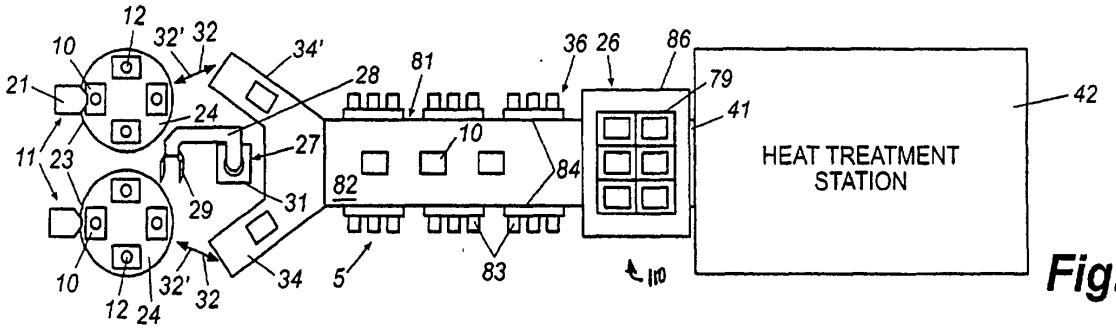
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34'
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81
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86
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11
23
82
84
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31
HEAT TREATMENT STATION
10
32'
32
34
5
83
110
12
24

Fig. 1B

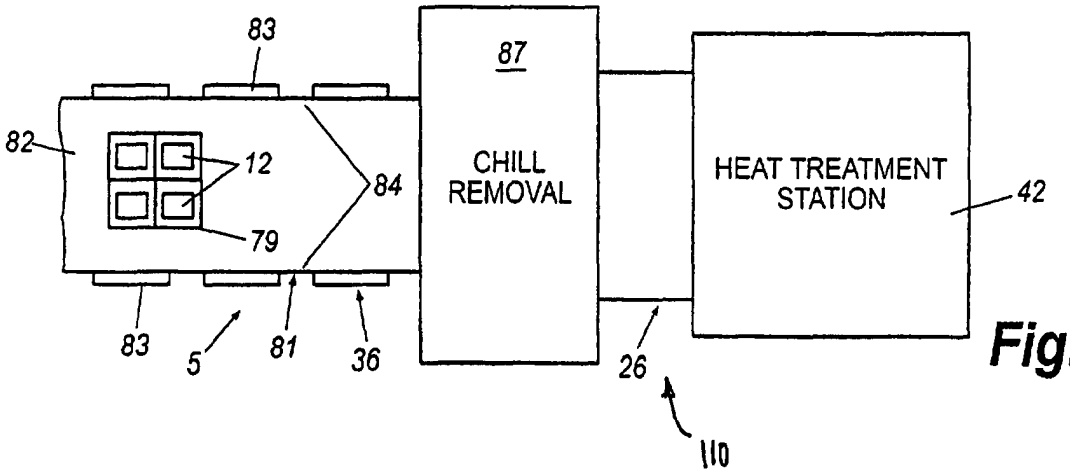
83
87
82
12
84
CHILL REMOVAL
HEAT TREATMENT STATION
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Fig. 1C

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 10 19 7136

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague	10 October 2011	Rischard, Marc

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X : particularly relevant if taken alone
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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82