

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
7 December 2006 (07.12.2006)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2006/130427 A1

(51) International Patent Classification:
B01F 3/04 (2006.01)

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(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2006/020258

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,
KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV,
LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NG, NI,
NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG,
SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US,
UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(22) International Filing Date: 25 May 2006 (25.05.2006)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
11/142,804 1 June 2005 (01.06.2005) US

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(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM,
ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),
European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI,
FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, NL, PL, PT,
RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA,
GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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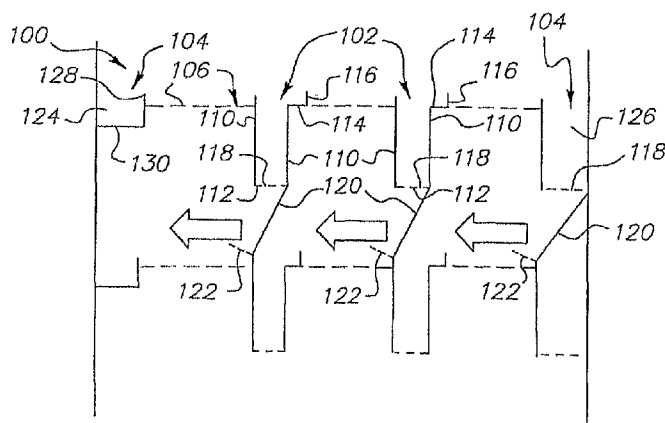
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Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: PARALLEL FLOW FRACTIONATION TRAY



(57) Abstract: The invention comprises multiple configurations of downcomers (20) in a parallel flow multiple downcomer tray (100) for vapor-liquid contacting processes such as the separation of chemical compounds via fractional distillation or the removal of a component of a gas stream with a treating liquid. In one embodiment, side downcomers (104) are incorporated into a parallel flow multiple downcomer tray (100). In another embodiment, the downcomers (20) have an inclined side wall (220) that directs liquid onto the deck (206) below the downcomer. The inclined side wall (220) also provides additional volume above the inferior downcomer inlet to reduce pinching at this inlet without the need for a stilling deck (114).

WO 2006/130427 A1