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(54) Title: NOZZLE ASSEMBLY FOR SEPARATING HYDROCARBON EMULSIONS AND METHODS OF SEPARATING HYDROCARBON EMULSIONS

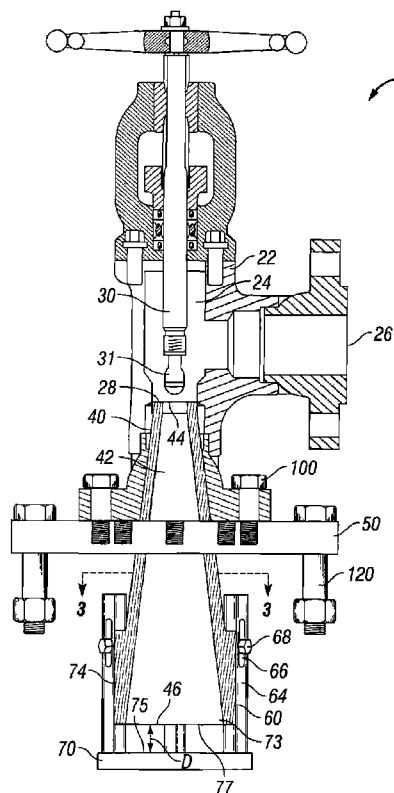


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: A nozzle assembly and related methods for separating hydrocarbon emulsions in a fluid is provided. The nozzle assembly comprises an impingement plate into which hydrocarbon emulsions are ejected causing large emulsion particles in the fluid to be broken apart upon impact with the plate, thus allowing the various constituent components of the emulsion to be more easily separated. In certain embodiments, impact of the hydrocarbon emulsions into the impingement plate also expose clean surfaces on the various components of the emulsion fluid that can more easily interact with any surfactant that may be mixed with the fluid.



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