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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):
MALLINCKRODT INC. [US/US]; 675 McDonnell
Boulevard, P.O. Box 5840, St. Louis, MO 63134 (US).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **GENTILCORE,**
Michael, J. [US/US]; 2358 Pheasant Run Drive, Maryland
Heights, MO 63043 (US).

(74) Agent: **CHEATHAM, Tim, A.**; Mallinckrodt Inc., 675
McDonnell Boulevard, P.O. Box 5840, St. Louis, MO
63134 (US).

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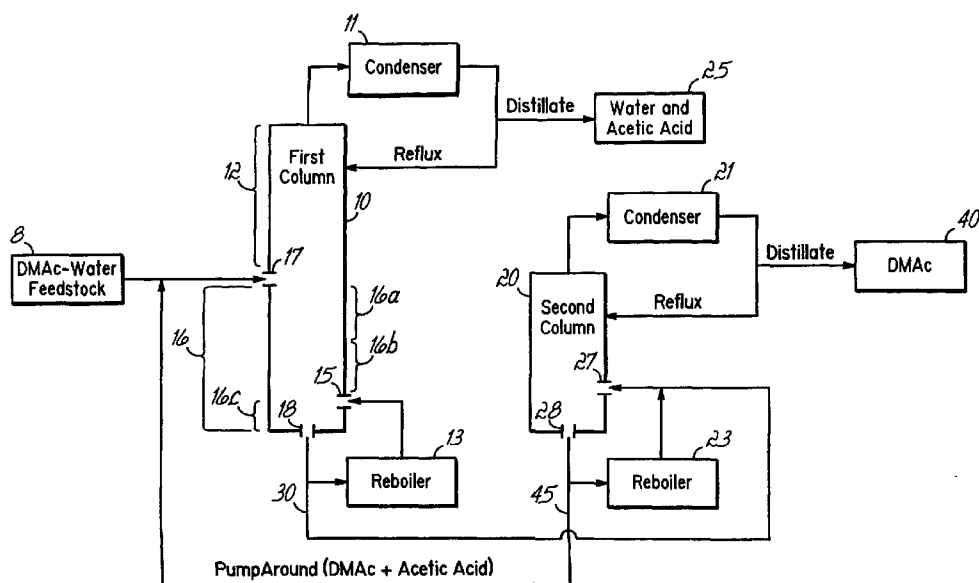
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(54) Title: PURIFICATION OF N,N-DIMETHYLACETAMIDE



(57) Abstract: A method to purify N,N-dimethylacetamide (DMAc) from an aqueous solution containing acetic acid as a contaminant. Two fractional distillation columns (10, 20) are arranged in series. The first column (10) has a condenser (11) overhead and a reboiler (13) at the bottom. The second column (20) also has a condenser (21) overhead and a reboiler (23) at the bottom. The solution containing the contaminant is provided to the first column (10) with a temperature profile to result in acetic acid partitioning into the overhead water. The material remaining in the bottom portion of the first column is recycled to the first column and also provided in a second column (20), whereby DMAc free of acetic acid contamination is recovered, and remaining DMAc and acetic acid are returned to the first column for further separation.



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