



(51) International Patent Classification:

C08F 6/00 (2006.01) **F26B 25/00** (2006.01)
B01J 8/00 (2006.01) **G05B 17/00** (2006.01)
B01J 19/00 (2006.01) **C08F 10/02** (2006.01)
B65D 88/54 (2006.01) **C08F 10/06** (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/EP2011/060787

(22) International Filing Date:

28 June 2011 (28.06.2011)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

10168855.4 8 July 2010 (08.07.2010) EP

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **INEOS COMMERCIAL SERVICES UK LIMITED** [GB/GB]; Hawkslease, Chapel Lane, Lyndhurst Hampshire SO43 7FG (GB).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **CHAMAYOU, Jean-Louis** [FR/FR]; 18 allée des Restanques, F-13620 Carry Le Rouet (FR). **LIOTARD, Gregori Patrick** [FR/FR]; 6 avenue des fortunes, F-13180 Gignac-la-Nerthe (FR). **RAMSAY, Kevin Peter** [GB/GB]; 102 Bankton Brae, Murieston, Livingston West Lothian EH54 9LB (GB).

(74) Agent: **KING, Alex**; COMPASS PATENTS LLP, 120 Bridge Road, Chertsey Surrey KT16 8LA (GB).

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

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))
- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))
- of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv))

Published:

- with international search report (Art. 21(3))

(54) Title: INTERLOCK AND PROCESS

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to the degassing of polymer powder, and in particular to an interlock for use in a process for degassing of a polymer powder in a degassing vessel, which interlock comprises: 1. measuring the temperature of the polymer powder within or exiting the degassing vessel, 2. comparing said measured value to a threshold value in order to ascertain whether it is lower than the threshold value or not, and 3. if the measured temperature is lower than the threshold value taking one or more actions to reduce the concentration of hydrocarbons in the polymer powder exiting the degassing vessel and/or to stop the polymer powder withdrawal from that degassing vessel.

