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(54) Title: SPIRAL HEAT EXCHANGER AS A PREHEATER IN POLYMER DEVOLATILIZATION PROCESSES

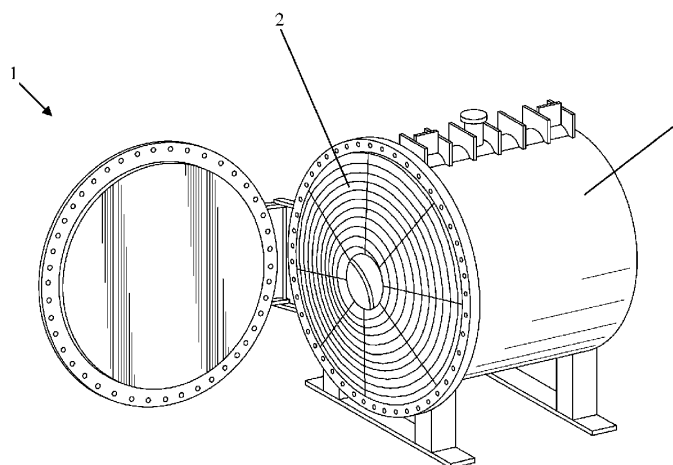


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: This invention relates to a process for forming polymer including: polymerizing a monomer dissolved in a solvent in the presence of a catalyst system under conditions to obtain a first effluent stream including a solution of the polymer and the solvent; heating the first effluent stream in at least one spiral heat exchanger to produce a second effluent stream, where the first effluent stream flows through the spiral heat exchanger in a cross-flow direction relative to spirals of the spiral heat exchanger and performing a separation on the second effluent stream to produce: a third effluent stream including polymer substantially free of the solvent; and a recycle stream including the solvent and unreacted monomer. Processes for devolatilizing a polymer stream are also provided herein.

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