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(54) Title: METHOD FOR PRODUCING DIMETHYL ETHER USING A SEPARATOR

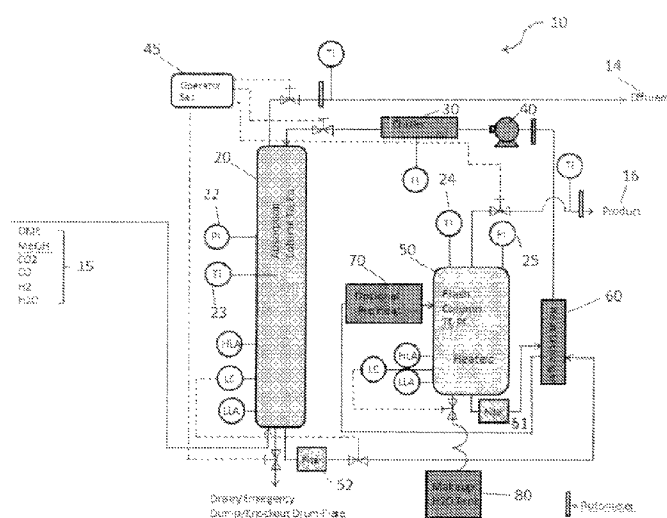


Fig. 1

(57) **Abstract:** A method for the production of dimethyl ether is disclosed which utilizes: a dimethyl ether synthesis catalyst that converts synthesis gas to a dimethyl ether containing stream, wherein the dimethyl ether containing stream is directed to an absorption column containing water as a scrubbing agent and operating in a temperature range from 1°C-20°C and pressure range from 20 psig to 500 psig, and wherein the scrubbing liquid resulting from the exposure of the dimethyl ether containing stream to the absorption column is directed to a flash evaporation unit operating at 25°C-100°C and pressure range -15 psig to 15 psig to produce a product stream rich in dimethyl ether.