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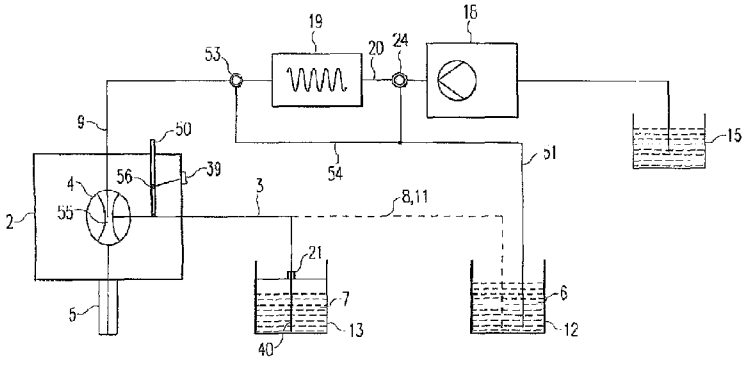
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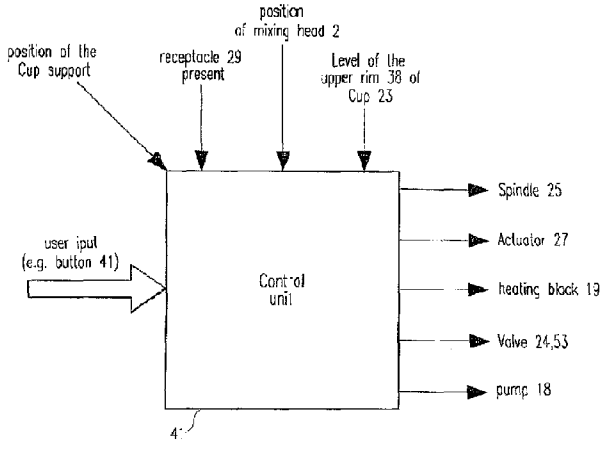
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(54) Title: SELF-CLEANING MIXING HEAD FOR PRODUCING A MILK-BASED MIXTURE AND BEVERAGE PRODUCTION MACHINES COMPRISING SUCH A MIXING HEAD





(57) Abstract: A device for producing a mixture of milk and water steam has a mixing head (2) presenting - a water inlet (10), - a milk inlet (3), the water inlet (10) and the milk inlet (3) being adapted to supply water steam and milk, respectively, to a mixing area adapted to mix and emulsify the supplied, - an outlet nozzle (5) for draining the emulsified mixture, - a rinsing medium supply (6), and - a milk supply. In order to rinse the mixing head (2) a mechanism is provided for selectively bringing the milk inlet (3) in fluid connection with the rinsing medium supply (6) and the milk supply, such that selectively milk or water can enter the milk inlet (3) and thus the mixing head (2). In a rinsing mode of the device the following steps are carried out: - bringing the milk inlet (3) in fluid contact with a rinsing medium supply (6), and - having the water enter the mixing head (2) a the milk inlet (3) and pass through the mixing head (2) in order to leave the mixing head (2) at the outlet nozzle (5) and into a milk supply receptacle.

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— *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))*

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