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(54) Title: METHOD FOR IDENTIFYING LAYERS PROVIDING CORROSION PROTECTION IN CRUDE OIL FRACTIONS

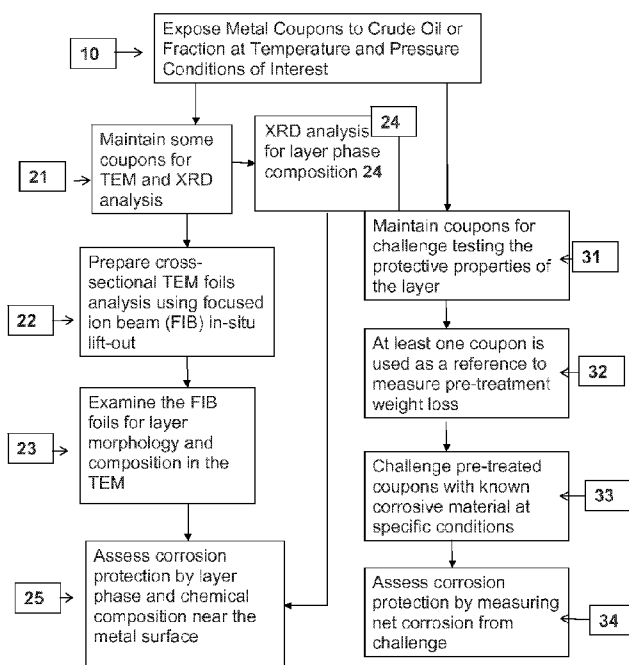


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: A method for determining and identifying corrosion protective layers that provide corrosion protection against crude oils and crude oil fractions is disclosed. The method identifies naturally occurring constituents in crude oils that indirectly provide corrosion protection. A method assessing the potential of these constituents is also disclosed. The method includes exposing metal coupons with the crude oil or crude fraction of interest at the expected operating temperature of concern. The corrosion potential assessment further analyzes the exposed coupons with transmission electron microscopy and an additional high temperature exposure that challenges the tenacity of the protection offered by the corrosion protective layer.



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