

Method and Apparatus for Producing Nitrogen by Cryogenic
Distillation of Air

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Abstract

In a method for producing nitrogen by cryogenic
distillation, air containing carbon monoxide is sent to a
10 cryogenic distillation column (5), a flow D of nitrogen is
taken from the top of the distillation column, with a CO
content less than a fixed value S1, and a flow of nitrogen-
rich cryogenic liquid coming from an external source (7) is
sent to the top of the column, the flow rate of cryogenic
15 liquid sent to the column being less than a value V if the
CO content in the air does not exceed a previously defined
threshold (S0), and the flow rate of cryogenic liquid sent
to the column being greater than a value V if the carbon
monoxide content of the air exceeds this previously defined
20 threshold (S0).

Figure 1