

METHOD OF NEUTRALIZING WASTE DEVELOPING SOLUTION CONTAINING
TETRAALKYLAMMONIUM HYDROXIDE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of neutralizing a developer waste liquid containing a tetraalkylammonium hydroxide wherein an organic matter derived from photoresist is dissolved through reaction with carbon dioxide gas, in which clogging by intra-column resist precipitation at neutralization can be effectively prevented and in which resist precipitated at neutralization ensures a high filterability and can be effectively removed. The method of neutralizing a developer waste liquid containing a tetraalkylammonium hydroxide comprises adding carbon dioxide gas to a developer waste liquid containing tetraalkylammonium hydroxide of 13 or higher pH value in which an organic matter derived from photoresist is dissolved to thereby carry out neutralization to a pH value of 11.5 or below, wherein the rate of carbon dioxide gas added from the time at which the pH of the developer waste liquid is 13 to the time at which the pH reaches 12 is 0.15 L/hr or less per mol of tetraalkylammonium hydroxide contained in the developer waste liquid at the time of pH 13.