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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US97/00231 (22) International Filing Date: 6 January 1997 (06.01.97) (30) Priority Data: 08/617,464 18 March 1996 (18.03.96) US (71) Applicant: CHEVRON U.S.A. INC. [US/US]; P.O. Box 7141, San Francisco, CA 94120-7141 (US). (72) Inventors: REYNOLDS, Bruce, E.; 1739 Jeannie Circle, Martinez, CA 94553 (US). STANGELAND, Bruce, E.; 691 Cragmont Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94708 (US). PARIMI, Krishniah; 4460 Shellflower Court, Concord, CA 94518 (US). BACHTEL, Robert, W.; 5480 Barrett Avenue, El Cerrito, CA 94530 (US). (74) Agents: KLAASSEN, Alan, W. et al.; Chevron Corporation Law Dept., P.O. Box 7141, San Francisco, CA 94120-7141 (US).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, ARIPO patent (KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i>

(54) Title: A GAS-POCKET DISTRIBUTOR AND METHOD FOR HYDROPROCESSING A HYDROCARBON FEED STREAM**(57) Abstract**

A distributor assembly for hydroprocessing a hydrocarbon mixture of hydrogen-containing gas and liquid hydrocarbon is presented. The distributor assembly has a circular plate with a plurality of hollow risers bound thereto for distributing hydrogen-containing gas and liquid hydrocarbon through openings in the circular plate member. Each of the hollow risers has a tubular opening in its associated side. The distributor assembly is connected to an internal wall of a reactor. A method is also presented for hydroprocessing a hydrocarbon feed stream comprising flowing a mixture of hydrogen-containing gas and liquid hydrocarbon into a reactor zone to produce evolved hydrogen-containing gas; and flowing the mixture of hydrogen-containing gas and liquid hydrocarbon through a plurality of tubular zones while admixing simultaneously therewith the evolved hydrogen-containing gas.

