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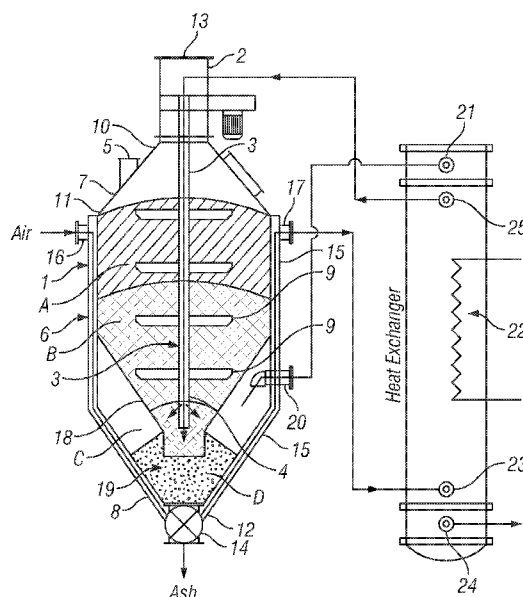


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: In the gasification process, shredded municipal waste is allowed to descend through a pyrolysis reactor (1) and the waste is pyrolysed in the reactor to form a combustible gas. The waste is contacted in a downdraft with an air supply (16) which has been preheated by heat exchange with the pyrolysis reactor (1) and further heated by heat exchange (22) with combustible exhaust gas (20) from the pyrolysis reactor (1).