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EXXONMOBIL CHEMICAL PATENTS INC.
[US/US]; 5200 Bayway Drive, Baytown, TX 77522-2149 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **YEH, Richard, Cheng-Ming** [US/US]; 4910 Braeburn Drive, Bellaire, TX 77401-5316 (US). **WANG, Yu, Feng** [US/US]; 15907 Moon Rock Drive, Houston, TX 77062 (US). **SWOBODA, J., P.** [FR/FR]; Haineau Claville, F-76170 Grandcamp (FR). **BROUSSARD, Oscar, K., III** [US/US]; 744 Woodgate Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70808 (US).(74) Agents: **KRAWCZYK, Nancy, T.** et al.; ExxonMobil Chemical Company, P.O. Box 2149, Baytown, TX 77522-2149 (US).

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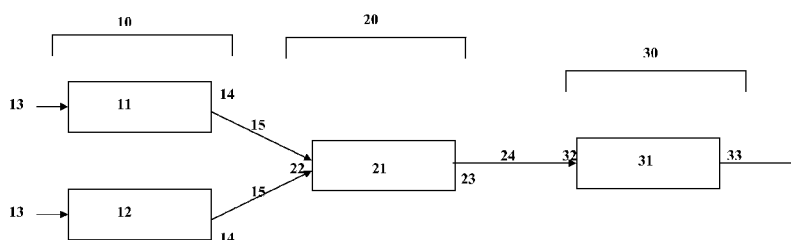
- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELASTOMER FINISHING

Figure 1



(57) **Abstract:** In the production of elastomers the product obtained from the polymerization process is often in the form of a slurry. Described herein are an apparatus and a process for "finishing" the elastomer, i.e., dewatering and drying the elastomer. The process comprises the steps of obtaining a slurry comprising water and elastomer; passing the slurry through a first dewatering device to produce a wet elastomer crumb, wherein the first dewatering device comprises two dewatering extruders in parallel; passing the wet elastomer crumb through a second dewatering device; and then passing the wet elastomer crumb through a drying device to produce a dried elastomer crumb.