

A B S T R A C T

A process for the continuous preparation of aqueous formaldehyde solutions.

The process uses a supply column (3) and additional heat
5. exchangers (10, 11, 13) associated with absorption columns
(8). Air and methanol from outside and a subcurrent of
methanol, originating from a cold methanol current exiting
from the supply column (3), are fed to the supply column (3).
This exiting current recirculates through the additional heat
10. exchangers (10, 11, 13) and is divided into the subcurrent
which returns to the supply column (3) and another subcurrent
which is fed to an evaporator (4). A methanol-air mixture
exits from the head of the supply column (3) and is fed to an
evaporator (4). The cold methanol is cooled in the supply
15. column (3) by evaporation of the methanol forming part of the
methanol-air mixture.

Figure 1.