Claims

1. A collector (56) for collecting washing fluid issuing (40, 41) from a gas turbine engine (10) during and/or after a washing operation, the collector (56) comprises, a collection tray (58, 53) and an inlet collector (70) connected at a first end (72) to the collection tray (58, 53) and is **characterised in that** its second end (74) is adapted to be connected to an inlet (12) of the engine (10), thereby the inlet collector (70) collects washing fluid (40, 41) issuing from any one or both the inlet (21) and below the engine (10).

2. A collector (56) as claimed in claim 1 wherein the collection tray (58, 53) comprises a drip tray (58) or a floor (53) of an engine washing cart (50).

3. A collector (56) as claimed in any one of claims 1-2 wherein the inlet collector (70) is adapted to extend forwardly of the inlet (12).

4. A collector (56) as claimed in any one of claims 1-3 wherein the inlet collector (70) comprises extendable means (90, 104) capable of extending the inlet collector (70) between the collection tray (58, 53) and in front of the inlet (12) to accommodate different engine types, sizes, positions and the position of the collection tray (58, 53).

5. A collector (56) as claimed in any one of claims 1-4 wherein the inlet collector (70) comprises a flexible sheet material (76).

6. A collector (56) as claimed in any one of claims 1-4 wherein the inlet collector (70) comprises a moveable bar (102) mounted to the collection tray (58, 53).

7. A collector (56) as claimed in claim 6 wherein the sheet (76) is anchored at its first end (72) to the collection tray (58, 53) and extends around the moveable bar (102).

8. A collector (56) as claimed in any one of claims 1-4 wherein the inlet collector (70) comprises a rigid panel (110).

9. A collector (56) as claimed in claim 8 wherein the rigid panel (110) is mounted to the collection tray (58, 53) via a slidable arrangement (104) that extends between the ends of the collection tray (58, 53).

10. A collector (56) as claimed in claim 4 and any claim dependent thereon, wherein the extendable means (90, 104) is located on the drip tray (58) or floor (53) / rear part (50) of an engine washing cart (50R).

11. A collector (56) as claimed in any one of claims 1-10 wherein the inlet collector (70) comprises a hook (78) at its second end (74) to connect to the inlet (12).

12. A collector (56) as claimed in claim 19 wherein the hook (78) is configured so that the sheet (76) or rigid panel (110) forms a concave or dished upper surface (84).

13. A collector (56) as claimed in any one of claims 11-12 wherein the hook (78) comprises a frame (76) having at least two generally C-shaped members (80).

14. A collector (56) as claimed in any one of claims 11-12 wherein the hook (78) comprises a frame (76) having three generally C-shaped members (80), the central C-shaped member (80C) subtends a greater arc than the outer two members (80) and causes the sheet (76) to form a concave or dished upper surface (84).

15. A method of washing a gas turbine engine with a collector (56) as claimed in any one of claims 1-14, the method comprising the step of connecting the inlet collector (70) to the inlet (12).