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(54) Title: IMPROVEMENTS IN MATERIALS HANDLING AND SAMPLING

(57) Abstract: A bulk sample is fed with a liquid into a mixing tank (1) where it is stirred to form a dispersion. A proportion of the dispersion is recycled from the bottom of the tank through a line to the top of the tank so that at least the dispersion in the recycle loop (3) is substantially homogeneous, and a representative sample of the dispersion is taken from the recycle loop, *e.g.* using a slurry sampler (5).