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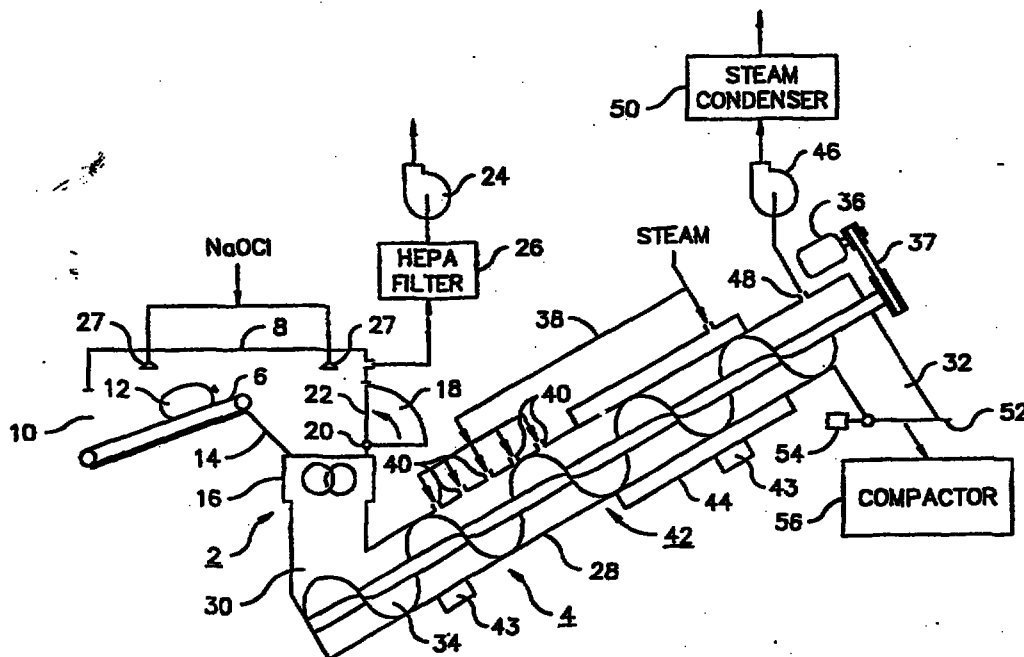
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(54) Title: WASTE TREATMENT APPARATUS AND METHOD



(57) Abstract

Containerized medical waste (12) is treated by shredding, and then passing the shredded material, by means of a screw conveyor (34), through a direct steam impingement stage and a dehydration stage in which the material is brought into contact with a hot surface to vaporize moisture and thereafter passed through a low pressure chamber in which the vapor is drawn off.