

Abstract

This method for operating a lock hopper (34) includes a solid movement step. The solid movement step is a step of moving a solid from one of the inside of a combustible gas production system and the outside of the combustible gas production system to the other one by introducing a solid into a lock hopper or discharging the solid from the lock hopper. The combustible gas production system is a system for generating a combustible gas. The method for operating a lock hopper includes a non-combustible gas introduction step and a discharge step. The non-combustible gas introduction step is a step of introducing a non-combustible gas into a lock hopper from a path different from an introduction port for the solid and a discharge port for the solid. The discharge step is a step of discharging, from the lock hopper, a gas in the lock hopper using a path different from an introduction port for the solid and a discharge port for the solid.