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(71) Applicant: **LUMMUS TECHNOLOGY LLC** [US/US];
1515 Broad Street, Bloomfield, NJ 07003-3096 (US).

(72) Inventors: **BARIAS, Rosette**; 1515 Broad Street, Bloomfield, NJ 07003-3096 (US). **KORPELSHOEK, Maurice**; 1515 Broad Street, Bloomfield, NJ 07003-3096 (US). **SCOTT, Michael, Jon**; 1515 Broad Street, Bloomfield, NJ 07003-3096 (US). **SCHWARZ, Eric, Arthur**; 1515 Broad Street, Bloomfield, NJ 07003-3096 (US). **JAMAL, Shahid**; 1515 Broad Street, Bloomfield, NJ 07003-3096 (US).

(74) Agent: **GRIFFITH, Aaron, T.** et al.; Osha Bergman Watanabe & Burton LLP, 909 Famin Street, Suite 3500, Houston, TX 77010 (US).

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(54) Title: OXYGEN STRIPPING IN ETHERIFICATION, ETHERS DECOMPOSITION AND ISOCTENE PRODUCTION

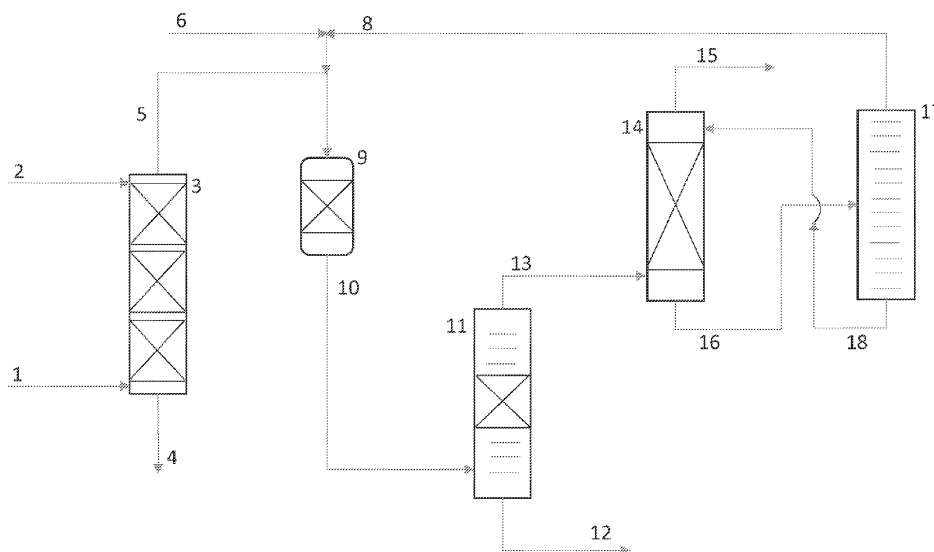


Figure 1

(57) Abstract: A process for supplying deaerated water to a chemical plant that includes a distillation column for separating a reaction effluent comprising water and a product. The process includes inventorying the distillation column with aerated water (water having an oxygen content of greater than 50 ppbw, such as greater than 1 ppmw). The aerated water in the distillation column may then be distilled to produce an oxygen-containing overheads and a bottoms fraction comprising deaerated water. The deaerated water in the bottoms fraction may be transported to an upstream or a downstream unit operation, and utilizing the deaerated water in the upstream or downstream unit operation. The reaction effluent is fed to the distillation column, transitioning the distillation column from separating oxygen from water to operations for separating the product from the water.

[Continued on next page]

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