

Method of Cleaning a Heat Exchanger

Abstract

5 The invention relates to a method for cleaning a heat exchanger. The heat exchanger comprises a plurality of tubes extending between a first header and a second header, and further comprises an insertion unit for introducing a plurality of projectiles thereinto. A first step of the method comprises pumping a fluid into the first header. A second step comprises inserting the plurality of projectiles into the
10 fluid, such that the plurality of projectiles are distributed within the fluid. A third step comprises flowing the fluid and the projectiles through the tubes, such that the projectiles abrades at least one tube. A fourth step comprises discharging the fluid and the projectiles out of the second header. Among the plurality of projectiles, at least one projectile has a different specific gravity, relative to the fluid, from at least
15 one of the remaining projectiles.

FIG. 1