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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/15281 (22) International Filing Date: 7 July 1999 (07.07.99) (30) Priority Data: 60/092,029 7 July 1998 (07.07.98) US (63) Related by Continuation (CON) or Continuation-in-Part (CIP) to Earlier Application US 60/092,029 (CIP) Filed on 7 July 1998 (07.07.98) (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): LaMINA, INC. [US/US]; Suite 100, 2190 Fox Mill Road, Herndon, VA 20171 (US). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): EL-AMIN, Marianna [US/US]; 10008 Montauk Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20817 (US). GUIRGUIS, Raouf, A. [US/US]; 9700 Meadowmere Drive, Vienna, VA 22182 (US). SAMAAAN, Nashed [US/US]; 11414 Flowerton Place, Germantown, MD 20876 (US).	(74) Agents: SAXE, Bernhard, D. et al.; Foley & Lardner, Suite 500, 3000 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20007-5109 (US). (81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published With international search report.	

(54) Title: IMPROVED METHOD FOR MIXING AND PROCESSING SPECIMEN SAMPLES**(57) Abstract**

The invention is an apparatus and method for separating particulate matter from a fluid, wherein the apparatus includes a collection container, a porous arrangement positioned in a housing and suitable for collecting particulate matter in the liquid on a collection site, a pump, and a mixer having a rotating receptacle adapted to receive the specimen container. The apparatus includes a cover that has a portion that is fixed in a first position and freely rotatable in a second position.

