

ABSTRACT

METHOD FOR PRODUCING ACETIC ACID

A method for producing acetic acid includes subjecting an acetic acid solution to an acetic anhydride decreasing treatment. The acetic acid solution is present typically in, or downstream from, a distillation column (5) of acetic acid production equipment (X), includes acetic acid in a concentration of 90 mass percent or more, acetic anhydride, and water, and is in such a state that an equilibrium concentration of acetic anhydride is higher than an acetic anhydride concentration. The acetic anhydride decreasing treatment includes at least one of water concentration increasing and temperature lowering so as to bring the acetic acid solution into such a state that the equilibrium concentration of acetic anhydride is lower than the acetic anhydride concentration. The acetic acid production method is suitable for yielding a high-purity acetic acid product.

Fig. 1