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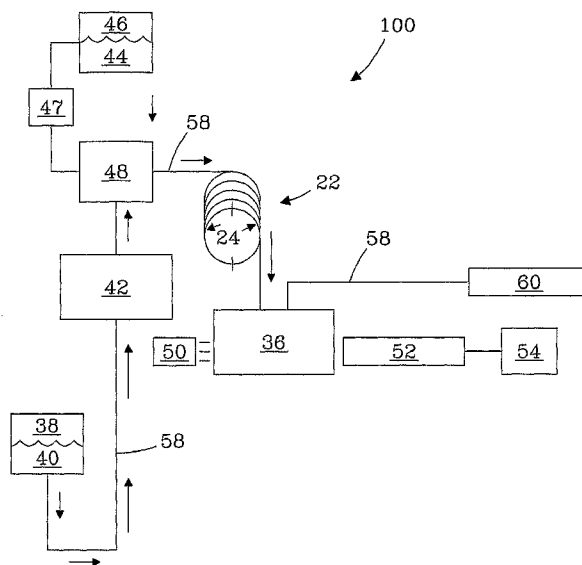
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(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MIXING FLUIDS, COMPRISING MIXING OF AT LEAST ONE FLUID WITH A NEAR-CRITICAL OR SUPER-CRITICAL CARRIER FLUID



(57) Abstract: The present invention generally relates to a method and apparatus for mixing of fluids. More particularly, the present invention relates to a method and apparatus for mixing fluids introduced into near-critical and supercritical fluids forming a fluid stream. In the fluid stream a density gradient is generated that induces a convective velocity resulting in rapid mixing. The invention has application in such commercial applications as semiconductor and wafer fabrication where rapid cycle times or rapid mixing of fluids are required and where low tolerances for residues are permitted.

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