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(54) Title: SEPARATION OF HYDROCARBONS AND WATER FROM MIXTURES THEREOF ✓

(57) Abstract

A method and an apparatus for separating hydrocarbon (particularly oil) and water components from mixtures thereof, involving passing the mixture through a filter mass such as a fluidised bed (20) in a vertically elongate housing (10) divided into three chambers (13, 14 and 15) by sieves (16a and 16b) with chamber (14) containing the fluidized bed. The fluidised bed contains granules (17) of polymer material, such as rubber, suspended in a body of water, which granules have been activated by exposure to a substance, such as alcohol or an alcohol based substance, rendering the granules hydrophilic whereby the mixture flowing through the housing from an inlet conduit (18) contacts the granules and a large proportion of the oil content is retained by the granules to be separated from the water content which in turn discharges from the housing through a discharge conduit (22).

