

METHOD OF DRYING A SUBSTANCE USING SECTIONAL TEMPERATURE CONTROL

ABSTRACT

A method of drying a substance, the method comprising the steps of:

distributing the substance on a first belt (11) having a side adapted to receive the substance (17);

urging the substance via the side of the first belt towards at least two adjacent sections (8 to 8n) of an exterior circumferential surface (9) of at least one drum (5) rotatable about a central axis;

heating the substance on the first belt via a plurality of heating devices (7 to 7n) arranged proximate to and about each said section of the drum to heat the substance to remove fluids from the substance; and

separately controlling the heating devices proximate to each said section of the drum to heat the substance at different heating temperatures at each section thereof while traveling on the first belt around the drum.

Figure. 1