

ABSTRACT

MULTIPHASE FLUID SEPARATING METHOD AND APPARATUS

Multiphase fluid comprising a relatively high density component and a relatively low density component is introduced through an inlet 124 into a separation region 104 where it is given a rotational motion to form an outer annular region of fluid surrounding a core of fluid in an inner region, the relatively high density component being concentrated in the outer region and the relatively low density component being concentrated in the inner region. The inlet 124 is spaced from the upstream end 106 of the separating region 104. The method and apparatus are particularly suitable for the separation of solid debris from multiphase fluid produced by a subterranean oil or gas well at wellhead flow pressure.

FIG. 2