

ARTICLE PROCESSING SYSTEM AND METHOD

Abstract

Timber and wood products are articles that are susceptible to infestation problems,
5 for example, infestation by insects and other pests. These infestation problems
become more severe when the articles are enclosed over an extended period of time
for storage or for transportation. Currently, many processing methods are available
for processing the articles prior to storage or transportation to prevent infestation.
Methyl bromide (MB) fumigation and heat treatment (HT) are two commonly used
10 processing methods. However, MB fumigation and HT will not substantially prevent
re-infestation from occurring. An alternative processing method is the use of ozone
for fumigation. An embodiment of the invention describes a method and a system
that uses a combination of ozone, heating and cooling for processing articles.

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FIG. 1