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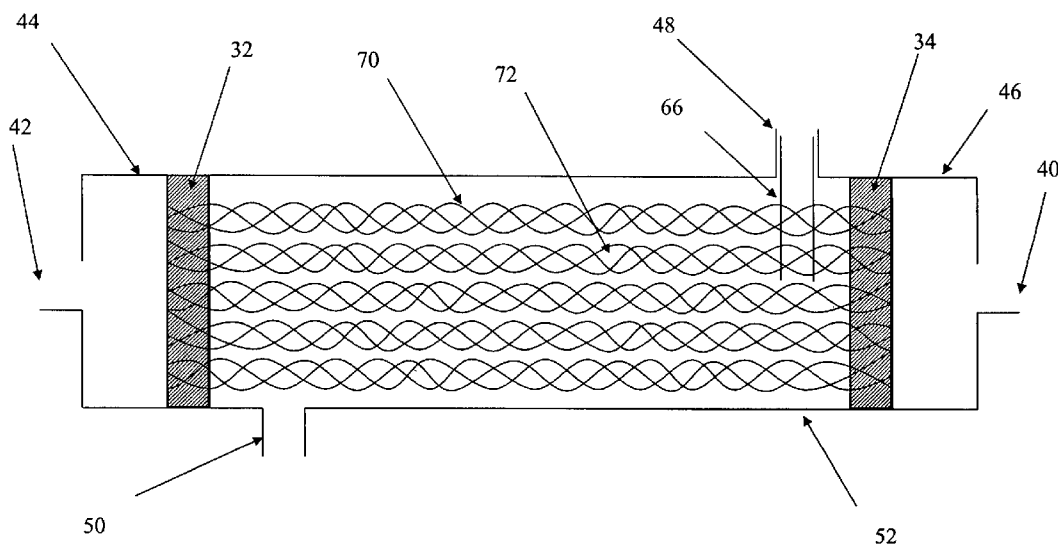
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(54) Title: A THERMOPLASTIC HEAT EXCHANGER AND METHOD OF MAKING THE SAME



(57) Abstract: A heat exchanger comprising hollow thermoplastic tubes, which are fusion bonded with a thermoplastic resin to form unified terminal end blocks (32, 34), is disclosed. The hollow tubes may be shaped by plaiting or braiding the tubes into cords (70, 72) and then thermally annealing the cords (70, 72) to set the crests and bends of the plait or braid. The cords (70, 72) provide improved flow distribution of fluid about the hollow tubes in the heat exchanger. The heat exchanger is chemically inert and is useful for cross-flow filtration, as well as for heat- and mass-transfer applications in harsh chemical environments.



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