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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

— as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: HYDROCONVERSION MULTI-METALLIC CATALYST AND METHOD FOR MAKING THEREOF

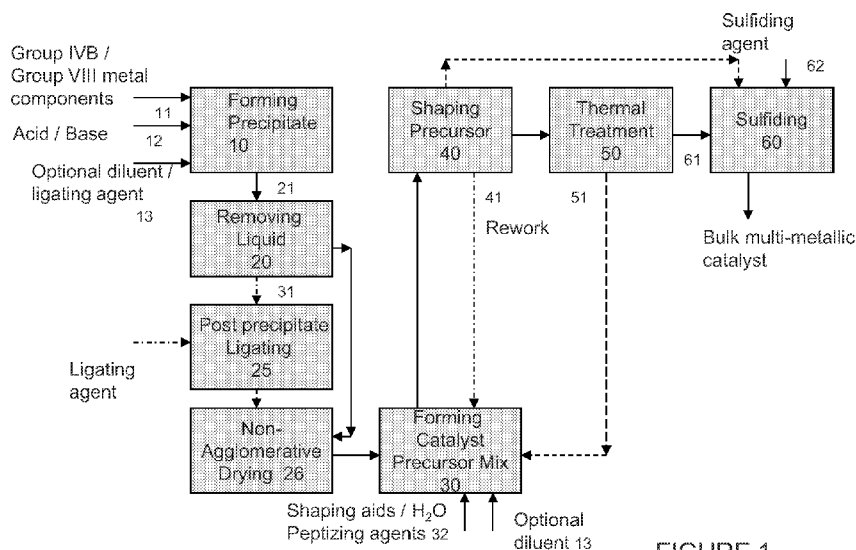


FIGURE 1

(57) **Abstract:** A method for preparing a bulk multi-metallic suitable for hydrotreating heavy oil feeds is provided. In one embodiment of the process of preparing the catalyst precursor which is subsequently sulfided to form the bulk catalyst, a catalyst precursor filter cake is treated with at least a chelating agent, resulting in a catalyst precursor with optimum porosity. In another embodiment, non-agglomerative drying is employed to keep the catalyst precursor from aggregating / clumping. The catalyst precursor obtained herein has an optimum porosity with at least 90% of the pores being macropores and a total pore volume of at least 0.08 g/cc.



- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))* — *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))*

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