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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MAKING ACETIC ACID WITH IMPROVED LIGHT ENDS COLUMN PRODUCTIVITY

(57) Abstract: An improved apparatus and method of producing acetic acid includes condensing overhead vapor to provide reflux to the light ends column as well as condensing vapor from a central portion of the light ends column to increase capacity. Throughput or load on the light ends column is substantially reduced without compromising product quality.

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