

Abstract**A FLUID MANAGEMENT APPARATUS AND METHOD**

A fluid management apparatus and method, the apparatus comprising: a fluid conduit
5 (4, 6) for the passage of a dispersion containing particulate matter; a laser arranged to
provide laser light inside the fluid conduit (4, 6); wherein, in use, the laser light heats
the particulate matter sufficiently to generate incandescence; one or more sensors (10)
for detecting the incandescence of the particulate matter so as to determine a
characteristic of the dispersion; and an electromagnetic wave generator operable to
10 provide electromagnetic waves inside the fluid conduit (4, 6) at a position downstream
of the laser light so as to vaporise at least a portion of the dispersion.

[Fig. 1]