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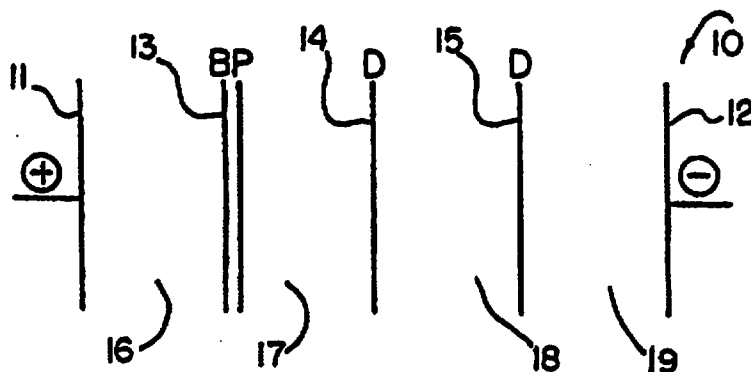
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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US97/15071 (22) International Filing Date: 27 August 1997 (27.08.97) (30) Priority Data: 08/704,898 30 August 1996 (30.08.96) US (71) Applicant: SACHEM, INC. [US/US]; 821 East Woodward, Austin, TX 78704 (US). (72) Inventors: SHARIFIAN, Hossein; 6136 Oliver Loving Trail, Austin, TX 78749 (US). SHAY, Christopher, D.; 209 South Duck Street, No. 1, Stillwater, OK 74074 (US). (74) Agent: TUROCY, Gregory; Renner, Otto, Boisselle & Sklar, The Keith Building, 19th floor, 1621 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115 (US).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i>

(54) Title: PREPARATION OF ONIUM HYDROXIDES IN AN ELECTROCHEMICAL CELL**(57) Abstract**

Electrochemically preparing onium hydroxides by (A) providing a cell comprising an anode (11), a cathode (12) and one or more unit cells between the anode and the cathode, each unit cell comprising: four compartments defined by, in sequence beginning at the anode, a bipolar membrane (13), a first divider (14) and a second divider (15), said bipolar membrane having an anion selective side facing the anode and a cation selective side facing the cathode; (B) charging a solution of an onium salt to the compartment in each unit cell formed by the first and second dividers; (C) passing a current through the cell to produce an onium hydroxide in the compartment in each unit cell formed by one of the dividers on the anode side and a bipolar membrane on the cathode side; and (D) recovering the onium hydroxide.



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