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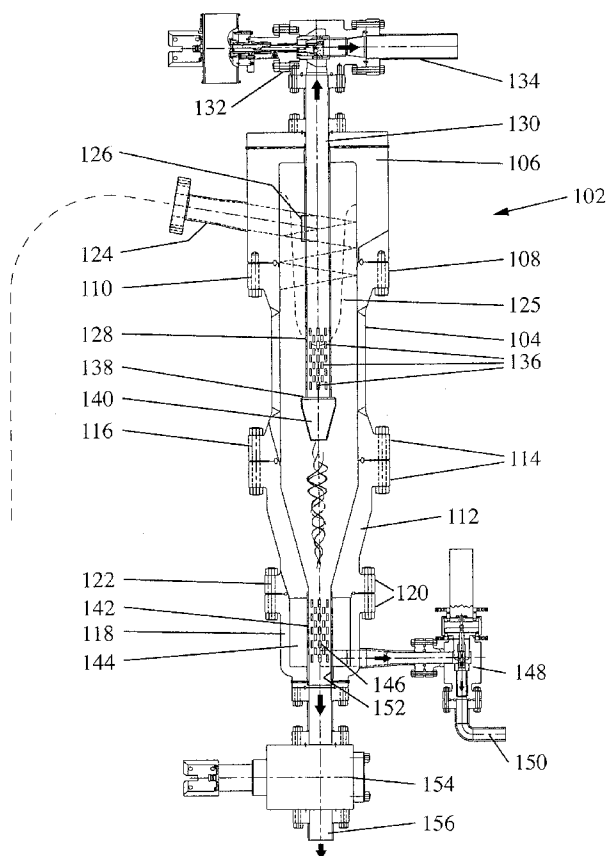
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(54) Title: CYCLONE SEPARATOR AND METHOD OF SEPARATION



(57) Abstract: A method of separating a multiphase fluid, the fluid comprising a relatively high density component and a relatively low density component, comprises introducing the fluid into a separation region (104); imparting a rotational movement into the multiphase fluid; forming an outer annular region of rotating fluid of predetermined thickness within the separation region; and forming and maintaining a core of fluid in an inner region (125); wherein fluid entering the separation vessel is directed into the outer annular region (126); and the thickness of the outer annular region is such that the high density component is concentrated and substantially contained within this region, the low density component being concentrated in the rotating core. A separation system employing the method is also provided. The method and system are particularly suitable for the separation of solid debris from the fluids produced by a subterranean oil or gas well at wellhead flow pressure.



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