(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
9 January 2003 (09.01.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 03/002921 A1

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: F25J 3/00

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US02/19325

(22) International Filing Date: 20 June 2002 (20.06.2002)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/302,123 29 June 2001 (29.06.2001) US

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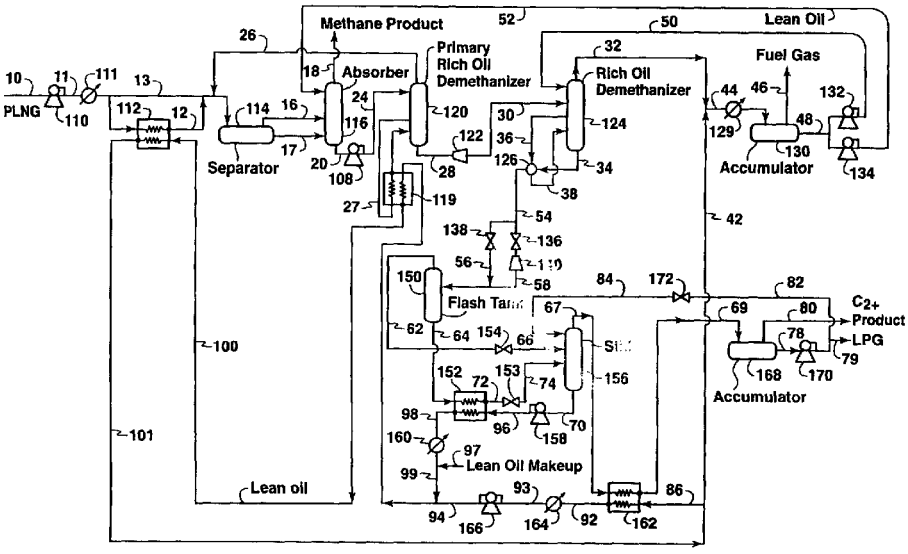
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(81) Designated States *(national)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States *(regional)*: ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR RECOVERING ETHANE AND HEAVIER HYDROCARBONS FROM A METHANE-RICH PRESSURIZED LIQUID MIXTURE



(57) Abstract: The invention (Fig.1) is an absorption process for recovering C2+ components from a pressurized liquid mixture comprising C1 and C2+. The pressurized liquid mixture is at least partially vaporized by heating the liquid mixture in a heat transfer means (112). The heat transfer means (112) provides refrigeration to an absorption medium that is used in treating the vaporized mixture in an absorption zone. The vaporized mixture is passed to an absorption zone that produces a first stream enriched in C1 and a second stream enriched in C2+ components. The pressurized liquid mixture is preferably pressurized liquid natural gas (PLNG) having an initial pressure above about 1,724 kPa (250 psia) and an initial temperature above-112 °C (-170 °F). Before being vaporized, the pressurized liquid mixture is preferably boosted in pressure to approximately the desired operating pressure of the absorption zone.

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Published:

— *with international search report*

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