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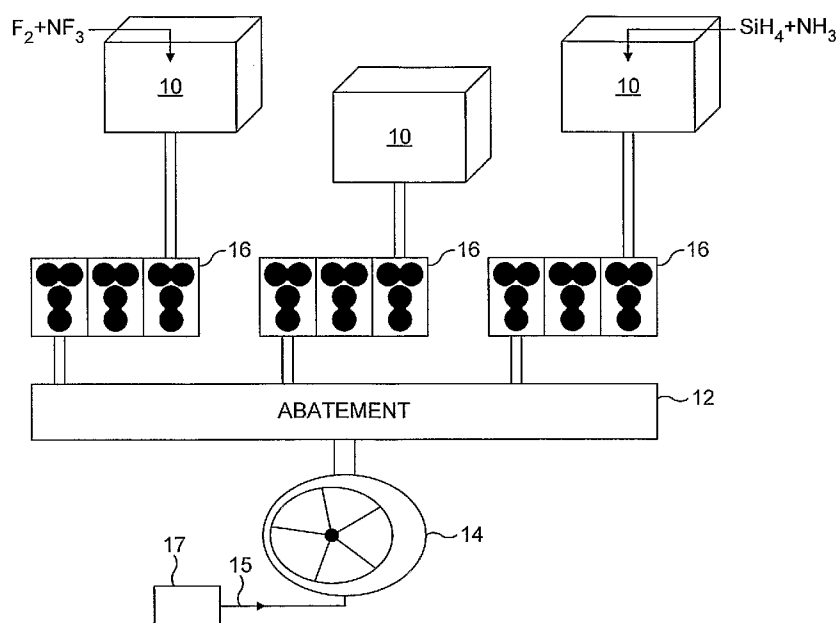
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(54) Title: GAS ABATEMENT



(57) Abstract: Low-cost apparatus is described for treating an effluent fluid stream from a process tool. In one embodiment, the apparatus comprises an abatement device (12) and a liquid ring pump (14) for at least partially evacuating the abatement device (12). During use, the abatement device (12) converts one or more components of the effluent stream, for example F_2 or a PFC, into one or more liquid-soluble compounds, for example HF, that are less harmful to the environment. The liquid ring pump (14) receives the effluent stream and a liquid, and exhausts a solution of the liquid and the liquid-soluble component of the effluent stream. The liquid ring pump (14) thus operates as both a wet scrubber and an atmospheric vacuum pumping stage.

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