

**ABSTRACT****PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF PURIFIED TEREPHTHALIC ACID**

A process for the production of purified terephthalic acid comprises subjecting an aqueous solution of crude terephthalic acid to hydrogenation to reduce impurities therein, crystallising the resulting
5 solution to produce a slurry of purified terephthalic acid in aqueous liquor and carrying out an integrated terephthalic acid separation and washing process without a reslurrying stage between separation and washing. In one form of the invention, the integrated separation and washing process is implemented at elevated pressure by means of a belt
10 filtration system (100, Figure 2) in which the pressure on the downstream side of the filter belt is no less than that prevailing following pressure let-down in the crystallisation process. Other implementations of the invention may be achieved by means of centrifuge apparatus incorporated arrangements for the application of wash liquor
15 to the cake formed during centrifuging (Figures 3 and 4).