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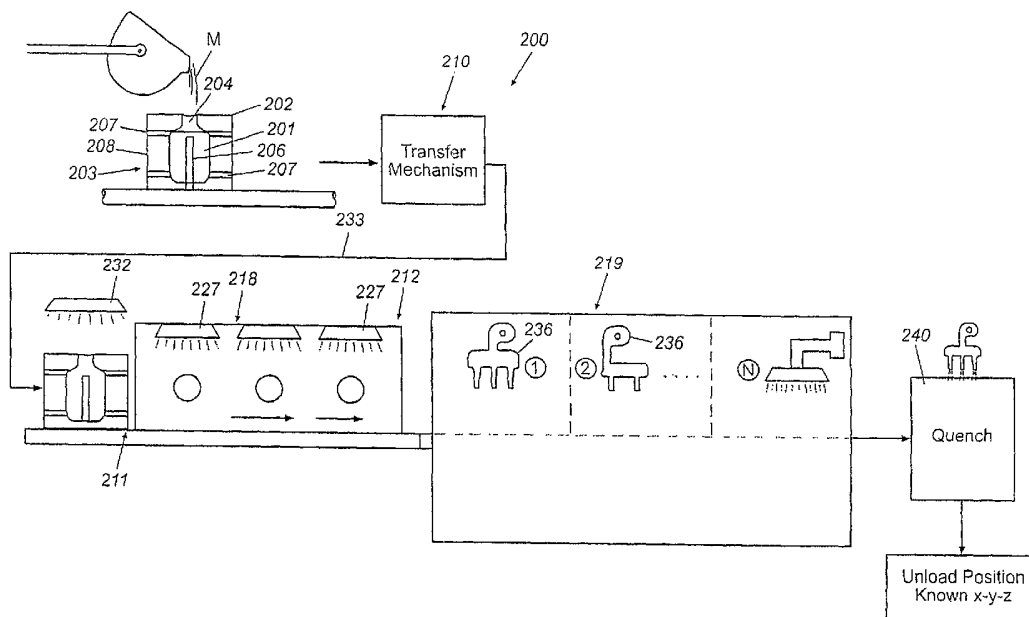
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR HEAT TREATMENT AND SAND REMOVAL FOR CASTINGS



(57) Abstract: A system and method for heat treating castings and removing sand cores therefrom. The castings are initially located in indexed positions with their x, y, and z coordinates known. The castings are passed through a heat treatment station typically having a series of nozzles mounted in preset positions corresponding to the known indexed positions of the castings passing through the heat treatment station. The nozzles apply fluid to the castings for heat treating the castings and degrading the sand cores for removal from the castings.



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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 B22D C21D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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Y	US 6 253 830 B1 (BICKFORD KARIN STAFFIN ET AL) 3 July 2001 (2001-07-03) figures claims -----	1-34
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☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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