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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **BIOREGIONAL MINIMILLS (UK) LIMITED** [GB/GB];
BedZed Centre, 24 Helios Road, Wallington, Surrey SM6 7BZ (GB).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **DEAN, Trevor** [GB/GB]; South View, 2 Windmill Lane, Widmer End, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire HP15 6AF (GB).

(74) Agent: **COHEN, Alan, Nicol**; 2, Grove Place, Tatsfield, Nr. Westerham, Kent TN16 2BB (GB).

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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

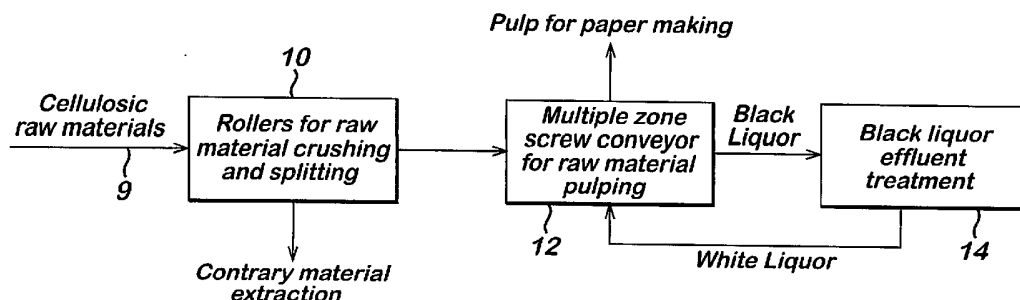
- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, 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, 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, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)
- of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only

Published:

- with international search report

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: PRODUCTION OF PULP FROM CELLULOSIC FIBROUS RAW MATERIALS AND RECOVERY OF CHEMICALS AND ENERGY FROM PULP LIQUORS



(57) Abstract: The invention includes a treatment apparatus (10) for treating fibrous cellulosic raw material suitable for use in a paper making plant comprising extracting means for extracting contrary material from the raw material, crushing means for crushing the raw material to remove nodes therefrom and splitting means for splitting the crushed raw material lengthways. A co-rotating twin screw conveyor (12) is used to pulp the crushed material, the conveyor being divided up into a plurality of zones, means for inserting treatment materials into at least one zone and means for controlling the temperature and/or pressure of all of the zones. The black liquor effluent produced in the pulping process is treated in an apparatus (14) comprising an evaporator for concentrating the liquor to 30-70 % solids, a processing vessel for treating the concentrated liquor at a temperature of between 300-650 °C, and a closed conveyor for transporting the concentrated liquor from the evaporator to the processing vessel in excess of 90 °C. The invention also includes the method involved in using the above apparatus.



— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/GB 02/03641

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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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 D21B D01B A01F

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

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 122 769 A (STEWART & SONS WM R) 24 October 1984 (1984-10-24) the whole document -----	1,3,4,6, 8,9
A	US 5 507 073 A (ALDRIDGE GRAHAM J) 16 April 1996 (1996-04-16) the whole document -----	1-10
A	US 5 465 464 A (CHEN LUNG-HUA ET AL) 14 November 1995 (1995-11-14) the whole document -----	1-10

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/GB 02/03641

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1-10

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-10

Method and apparatus for the mechanical treatment of
fibre-containing material

2. claims: 11-19

Method and apparatus for pulping fibrous cellulosic raw
material in a twin screw conveyor

3. claims: 30-42

Method and apparatus for the treatment of black liquors

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB 02/03641

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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