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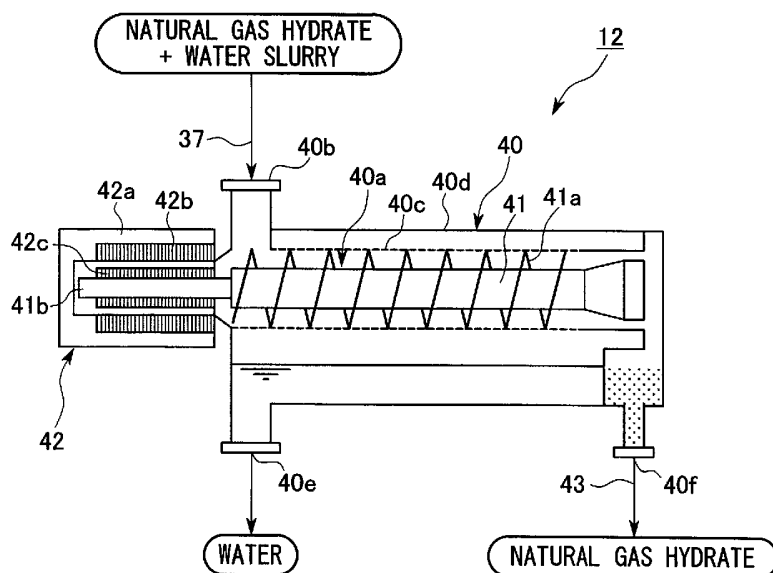
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(54) Title: DEWATERING DEVICE AND METHOD FOR GAS HYDRATE SLURRIES



(57) Abstract: It is required to provide a gas hydrate dewatering device which performs dewatering and produces a gas hydrate with a low proportion of included water (40f) continuously at high efficiency, under conditions in which the gas hydrate is not decomposed and the water is not frozen into ice. This is achieved by providing a dewatering device (12) for gas hydrate slurry (37) which eliminates the water (40e) from a slurry in which gas hydrate is dispersed in water, including a dewatering mechanism of a screw press type (41) within an environment which is maintained at temperature and pressure conditions at which the gas hydrate does not decompose and the water does not freeze.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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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)

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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, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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X	WO 00 56684 A (BG INTELLECTUAL PTY LTD ; BROWN RICHARD ALLEN (GB); HAYNES DAVID AL) 28 September 2000 (2000-09-28) page 3, paragraph 3 page 4, paragraph 3 page 5, paragraph 1 - paragraph 2 -/--	1,2,6-9, 13,14

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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