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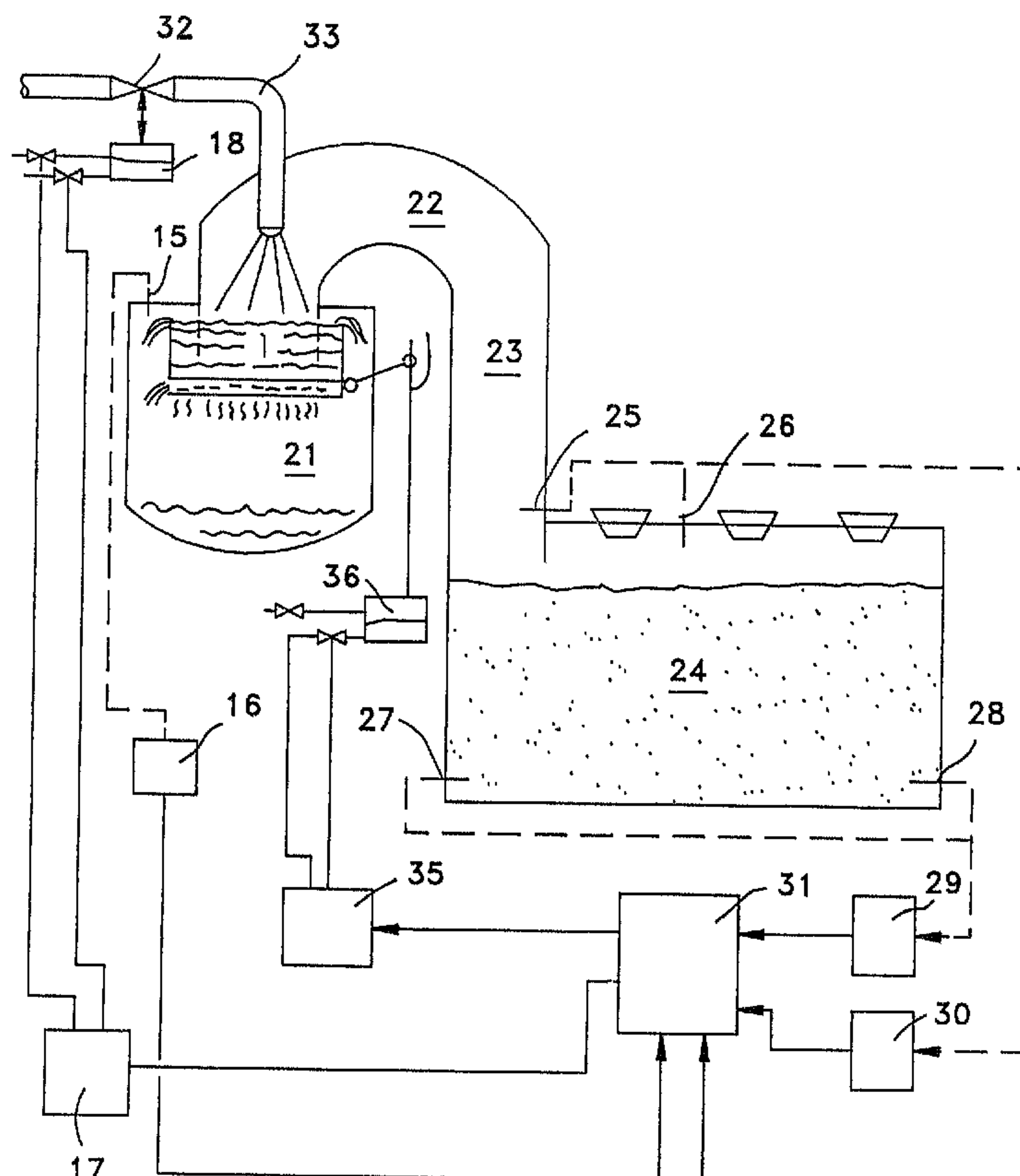
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Abstract

A process is disclosed for regulating the gas pressure in the retort of a coke oven. Pivotal cup valves arranged in the elbows of the ascending pipe are actuated as throttling members according to the pressure curve resulting from gas formation from the coal to be cokefied. Throttling of each individual retort is effected by varying water supply, thus regulating the extent of submersion in water, and regulation follows actual pressure conditions in the retort of the coke oven.

PROCESS FOR GAS PRESSURE REGULATION IN THE RETORT OF A COKE OVEN

The invention concerns a process for regulation of gas pressure of a coke oven battery or retort.

From DE-PS 955 681 January 10, 1957, regulating gas pressure in the elbows of ascending pipes of coke oven batteries by means of throttling members which are connected with a cam disk as a controlling element is known. In this, the geometry of the control disk corresponds to the pressure ratios customarily to be expected. Through this rotational movement of the throttling member of the ascending pipe elbow, which takes place in small steps, the cross section of the ascending pipe is regulated from the beginning of the filling of the oven retort until the end of the coking time, corresponding to the pressure course during gas formation of the coal which is to be coked in order to constantly maintain a slight constant overpressure in the retort.

From DE-AS 1 192 152 May 6, 1965, a process is known for regulation of the gas pressure of a coke oven retort in which the cup shaped pivotable valves as throttling members corresponding to the pressure course during gas formation of the coal to be coked are activated. In this, regulation takes place via a control disk which completes one rotation for each gas formation period and is connected with a lever arm for the valve. In the horizontal position, the valve fills with water such that the effectively sealing fluid density known from coal carbonizing practice is maintained.

With these known regulating techniques, it is an advantage that all coke ovens of a battery solely can be controlled according to the default geometry of the cam disk as the control element. Regulation of the actually present individual retort pressure dependent upon the gas release of the individual oven is not possible.

DE-C-417348 August 10, 1925, reveals a device for control of gas extraction from gas development devices by which a differential pressure regulator works for the control of the resistance of the change of the fluid level in the collecting main serving gas evacuation.

DE-C-528972 January 7, 1926, reveals a cut off device for gas collecting mains which includes a liftable and sinkable circularly shaped closing body, which exhibits a gutter on the side, and which is sprayed with water.

From US-E-20619 January 11, 1938, is known a device for gas sealing for the collecting main by means of a fluid seal as well as an off-flow device for the fluid.

DE-C-366274 February 28, 1922, reveals a safety immersion device for collecting mains for gas producers with a submersion pipe which is displaceable in height.

With the named devices, an actual individual retort pressure control dependent

upon the actually present gas release of a single oven is not possible.

The task underlying the invention is to develop a process in order to individually regulate the gas pressure of each single coke oven retort in dependence on the present gas release and/or to influence the crude gas composition. Further, the task underlying the invention is to present a device for the implementation of the process.

STATEMENT OF INVENTION

Generally speaking the present invention may be considered as providing a process for regulation of the gas pressure of a coke oven retort in which throttling in an ascending pipe elbow region is actuated corresponding to a pressure curve resulting from gas formation from the coal to be coked characterized in that the throttling for each individual oven takes place by controllable water submersion dependent upon the actual pressure relationships in the coke oven retort in such a manner that, in accordance with the desired gas pressure in the coke oven retort, the water submersion is set between a minimal submersion level of 0 mm and a maximal submersion level.

Controllable water submersion can be undertaken with the conventional pivotable cup. In this, the water feed into the pivotable cup must be regulatable designed. Through increased supply of water an additional submersion is formed within the submersion pipe (inner water submersion) additional to the usual submersion,

which can be regulated by altering the water supply.

With the conventional pivotable cup, the water submersion cannot be reduced beneath the pivotable cup rim. A reduction of the submersion is thus possible in that the familiar pivotable cup is equipped with openings in or on the cup floor. It is further possible to use the cup floor as a deflector for a controllable water submersion within the submersion pipe. The collecting main valve designed as a butterfly valve can likewise be used for water submersion according to invention.

A pivotable cup modified opposite the conventional pivotable cup possess for example a slit between the cup floor and cup rim through which not only water but also the condensate which has reached the submersion can flow off. During filling, the pivotable cup according to invention is opened exactly as is the conventional pivotable cup. It can even be closed from the beginning on with equal area in the construction of the annular gap opposite the cross section of the open ascending pipe elbow, as with this design, no throttling effect takes place.

Through this controllable water submersion, a separation of collecting main pressure and retort pressure is possible for the first time. By this, with identical suction cross section better evacuation through a less collecting main pressure can be achieved as the retort pressure is no longer dependent upon collecting main

pressure by reason of the separation through controllable water submersion. Further, known measures for emission reduction during the filling process can be omitted (press water suction, delivery tube and the blowing in of air in the levelling door), e.g. with a levelling coupling.

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The maximal height of the water level within the submersion pipe can be limited through the design of the cross section of the water feed line, through a thermoelectric resistor or by a maximal pressure in the retort.

10 The clear separation between retort and collecting main pressure allows individual control of pressure within each single retort.

Additionally, by means of known pressure sensors, retort pressure can be measured for example at the foot of the ascending pipe, at the elbow, in the area
15 of the door or at another suitable location. The pressure thus measured serves as a command variable for pressure regulation which takes place via altering the water supply to the water submersion.

Another possibility consists of using the crude gas volume stream as a command
20 variable for the control.

Naturally, a pure control of pressure - without expected/actual value comparison -

can be carried out, e.g. in case of loss of pressure measurement, depending upon the coking period, crude gas temperature in the ascending pipe or other suitable variable.

5 The regulation of gas pressure can take place in such a manner that it takes place in the area of the maximal height of the water submersion. By increasing the submersion, the retort pressure can be increased in an intentional manner. The possibility of increasing the crude gas sojourn time is thereby created. Due to crack reactions, a crude gas compound results, e.g. with increased hydrogen
10 content and reduced tar yield.

Gasses are evacuated with lesser collecting main pressure using an opened throttling member. In this, even a vacuum can prevail in the collecting main. This reduced collecting main pressure has the effect on the oven retort that the
15 crude gas can escape more easily than before from the oven retort at the onset of the coking period and during coking, and by this, high pressures can be avoided in the retort. By this, it is possible to reduce retort pressure, which is dependent upon the higher collecting main pressure as known from the state of art, as now the lesser, possibly even negative collecting main pressure can be directly
20 effective in the retort and leads by this to stronger evacuation with reduced crude gas transit time.

The abbreviation of the crude gas transit time leads to a preservation of the gaseous coal by-products. That means that, for example, the methane portion of the gas increases while the hydrogen fraction reduces. As a result of this, the combustion value, the crude gas density and the Wobbe index of the gas increases. Further, by lowering collecting main pressure, a more expeditious crude gas evacuation is effected. By this, the carbon humidity is evacuated more quickly from the retort charge and by this the specific energy use in coking is reduced.

Between the control conditions as specified every desired water submersion can be set and controlled. If gas pressure lessens in the oven retort as a result of changed crude gas release, the chamber pressure reduces itself to a gas pressure that can be set individually for each retort. If this prior determined chamber pressure is reached or is wanting, a servomotor activates the pivotable cup and the open cross section in the gas path is thereby reduced. The pivotable cup does need not then be closed via a servomotor controlled by minimum retort pressure when, given an annular gap design, the pivotable cup is closed directly following the filling procedure. Water reaches the pivotable cup through the constantly flowing coal water of the collecting main trickler. The water in the pivotable cup rises up to a certain submersion height dependent on water off-flow through the outflow cross-section of the cup and dependent on the supplying water. By this, gas pressure in the coke oven increases in dependence upon submersion height.

Submersion height can be regulated via the volume of water such that the pressure of the individual oven retorts is individually adjustable.

5 A submersion height limitation takes place through the rim height of the pivotable cup, i.e. when the coal water flows unregulated into the pivotable cup, and the superfluous water flows over the pivotable cup rim into the collecting main. By controlling the water supply volume each desired submersion height can be continuously adjusted such that, in a simple manner, the retort pressure for each individual coke oven is individually adjustable. The respectively present gas
10 pressure is constantly measured and serves as a command variable for control over submersion. With this, the pressure in each retort is measured such that no ambient air can be drawn into the oven, i.e. that also on the furnace bottom a slight over pressure in the retort prevails.

15 The regulation of water submersion according to the invention can be used with advantage for operation of coke ovens with a double collecting main. The crude gas stream in the one or other collecting main is controlled via differing submersion heights; through this, collecting main pressure of both the collecting mains can be different and adjusted independent of retort height. As a result of
20 this independence of collecting main pressure from retort height, a lower collecting main pressure than previously absolutely necessary can be set or even a vacuum can prevail in the collecting main. Through this, additional suction

over both collecting mains, e.g. a press water suction, is superfluous.

5 An increased crude gas evacuation can be reached via a collecting main pressure which is adjustable independent of retort pressure according to the invention and no longer requires the detour over an enlargement of the suction cross-section as with the previously unchangeable collecting main pressure. In spite of continual crude gas evacuation, it is always possible to maintain a minimum gas pressure in the oven and to securely prevent air penetrations into the oven retort in case of too little gas development.

10 The pressure in the coke oven retort can be regulated such that the pressure lies constant at the level of the retort minimum pressure which is known per se. By this method, opposite the conventional method, emissions from all oven leakages can be significantly reduced. In contrast to the usual method, in the method according to this invention, the danger does not persist that the coke oven retort comes into vacuum and thus the danger of air penetration be present.

15 The pivotable cup according to the invention can be variously formed, exactly as is the case for the ascending pipe elbow extension which serves as a submersion pipe, opposite the above mentioned design form. Water supply can likewise be achieved in various manners. The different design forms of the invention are explained following using the drawing.

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The drawing shows in Figure 1 a design of the pivotable cup according to the invention, in Figure 2 a further design form of the pivotable cup according to the invention, in Figure 3 a design in which the throttling member is formed as a plate, in Figure 4 the principle of gas pressure regulation of a coke oven retort with the pivotable cup according to the invention, in Figure 5 the principle of a water immersed double collecting main operation of a coke oven, in further design forms of cups according to the invention, in

Figure 8 various possibilities of ascending pipe elbow extension, in Figure 9 a design of water submersion according to invention, in Figure 10 a further possibility of retort pressure regulation according to invention, in
5 Figure 11 a special design form of water regulation for water submersion according to invention, and in Figure 12 the dependence of retort pressure on the coking period.

Figure 1 shows a pivotable cup 1 with an axis 2 with which
10 pivotable Cup 1 can be turned. In horizontal position a submersion pipe 4 projects into pivotable cup 1 such that a submersion up to cup rim 5 of pivotable cup 1 is possible. In dependence upon supplied water volume, the water runs off either only via Gap 3 or via Gap 3 and upper cup rim 5. The
15 water volume can be regulated such that every submersion height can be set between gap 3 and cup rim 5.

Figure 2 shows a pivotable cup 6 with a floor 8 formed as a cone and run-off gaps 7 interrupted by teeth 9.

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Figure 3 shows a plate 10 which can be pivoted with an axis 11 with an adjustable stop 12 beneath a submersion pipe 13. By means of a water supply not depicted, an arbitrary water level 14 in submersion pipe 13 can be set.

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In Figure 4 is depicted the process for regulation of the gas pressure of a coke oven retort. From Figure 4 proceeds that pivotable cup 1 according to invention is arranged in a

