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Declaration under Rule 4.17:

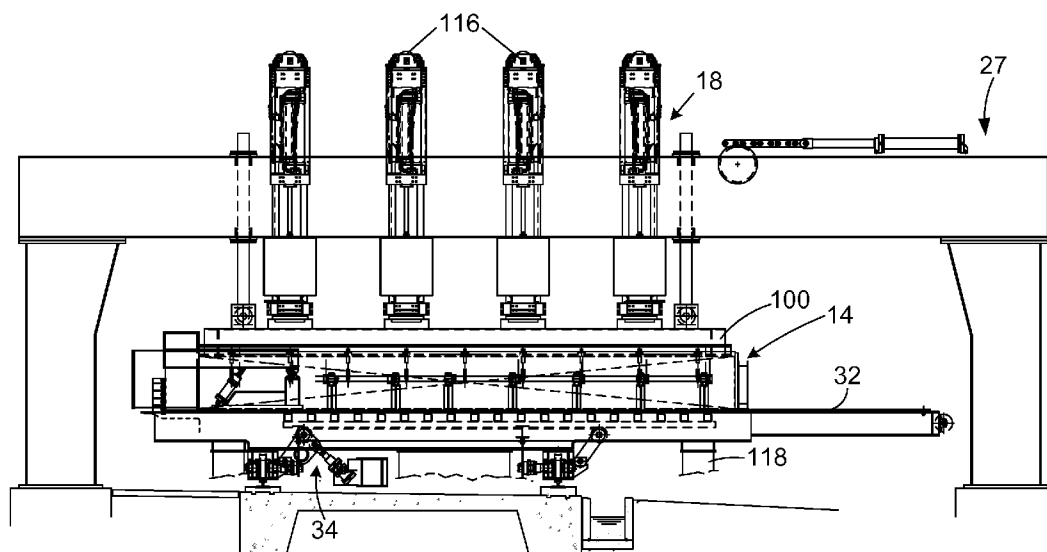
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR COMPACTING COAL FOR A COAL COKING PROCESS



(57) Abstract: Relatively high speed methods for increasing the bulk density of coal particles, apparatus for increasing the bulk density of coal particles and methods for making metallurgical coke. Once such method includes depositing coal particles onto a charging plate external to a coking oven to provide an elongate bed of dry, uncompacted coal having an upper surface of the charging plate. The charging plate has side walls, and at least one movable end wall. An impact pressure is applied to the upper surface of the bed of dry, uncompacted coal while degassing the coal to provide a dry, compacted coal bed having a bulk density ranging from about 960 to about 1200 kilograms per cubic meter.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US07/68222

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC: **C10B 47/10** (2006.01)

USPC: 201/44,35;414/160;202/262,227

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)

U.S. : 201/44, 35; 414/160; 202/262,227

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 practicable, search terms used)
Please See Continuation Sheet

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6,290,494 A (BARKDOLL) 18 September 2001, abstract, column 7, lines 28-65.	1,5-8, 17, 20, 23-24
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Y		2-4, 9-16,18-19,21-22
Y	US 6,139,692 A (TAMURA et al.) 31 October 2000 (31.10.2000), Column 3, lines 39-67, Column 10, lines 58 to Column 11, line 12.	2-4,9-16,18-19, 21-22
A	US 6,059,932 A (STURGULEWSKI) 09 May 2000 (09.05.2000).	1-24
A	US 4,067,462 A (THOMPSON) 10 January 1978 (10.01.1978).	1-24

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

☐ See patent family annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

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Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:
USPAT, USPGPUB, DERWENT, JPO, EPO

search terms: charging, pressure, vacuum, compacting, compression, coal, coke, degas, entrain\$5