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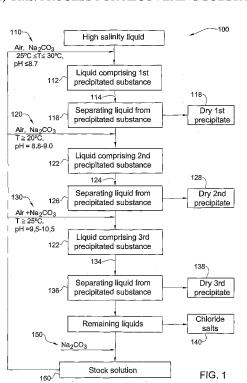
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### **Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))

[Continued on next page]

#### (54) Title: PROCESS FOR RECOVERING SUBSTANCES FROM HIGH SALINITY LIQUIDS



(57) Abstract: The present disclosure provides a process for recovering from high salinity liquid a substance comprising a selected alkaline earth carbonate salt, the process comprises (i) adding to said high salinity liquid a reagent comprising a solution of an alkali metal carbonate in an amount sufficient to allow precipitation of said substance in said liquid, while continuously introducing into the liquid a gas whereby a high degree of precipitate is formed in the liquid; and (ii) isolating said precipitate from the liquid, wherein said precipitate comprising the alkaline earth carbonate comprising substance in an essentially purified form (at least 95%w/w degree of purity). Also provided are a unit and a system constructed and operative for performing the process, preferably continuously.



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#### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER INV. C01F5/24 C01F1 C01D3/06 CO1F11/18 C01B31/24 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) CO1F 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, CHEM ABS Data C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. X US 4 115 219 A (GANCY ALAN B ET AL) 1-36 19 September 1978 (1978-09-19) the whole document X US 3 128 248 A (HIDETOMO SUZUKI) 1 - 367 April 1964 (1964-04-07) the whole document X US 2006/105082 A1 (ZEIGLER ARTHUR W [US] 33 - 36ZEIGLER ARTHUR WILLIAM [US]) 18 May 2006 (2006-05-18) cited in the application paragraph [0043] - paragraph [0048]; figure 1 X Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex. Special categories of cited documents: '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 "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention citation or other special reason (as specified) cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 23 July 2009 10/08/2009 Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Gumann, Sina Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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International application No
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