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(54) Title: SUPERCRITICAL FLUID-ASSISTED NEBULIZATION AND BUBBLE DRYING

(57) Abstract: A method of making fine dry particles of substances is provided by forming a composition comprising a substance of interest and a supercritical or near critical fluid; rapidly reducing the pressure on said composition, whereby droplets are formed; and passing said droplets through a flow of heated gas. The process does not require any organic solvent.

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US00/15957

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

IPC(7) : A61K 9/14; B05B 7/14, 7/16

US CL : 264/ 5, 13; 425/6,7; 424/489

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. : 264/ 5,11,12,13;425/6,7; 424/489

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)

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,833,891 A (SUBRAMANIAM et al) 10 November 1998, entire document.	1-49
Y	US 5,851,453 A (HANNA et al) 22 December 1998, entire document.	1-49
Y	US 5,639,441 A (SIEVERS et al ) 17 June 1997, entire document.	1-49

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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
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