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(54) **Use of elevated pressure nitrogen rich gas streams to perform work**

(57) The nitrogen rich stream produced by a cryogenic air separation unit is heated indirectly by burning low grade fuel gas in a burner (20) at low pressure and

the heated, elevated pressure nitrogen rich stream produced is expanded in a turbine (24) to obtain useful work prior to the discharge of the nitrogen rich stream at an outlet (28).

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
A	US 3 950 957 A (ZAKON TSADOK) 20 April 1976 * the whole document *	1,7,14, 16,23	F25J3/04
D,A	US 5 040 370 A (RATHBONE THOMAS) 20 August 1991 * the whole document *	1,13, 15-20, 23,26, 27,30	
D,A	US 5 076 837 A (RATHBONE THOMAS ET AL) 31 December 1991 * the whole document *	1,5,7, 15-20, 23,26, 27,30	
D,A	US 5 268 019 A (RATHBONE THOMAS) 7 December 1993 * the whole document *	1,5,6, 15,23, 24,26,27	
A	US 5 501 078 A (PAOLINO GERALD A) 26 March 1996 * the whole document *	1,8,14, 15,23, 25,26, 29,30	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6) F25J F01K
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 16 June 1998	Examiner Lapeyrere, J
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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