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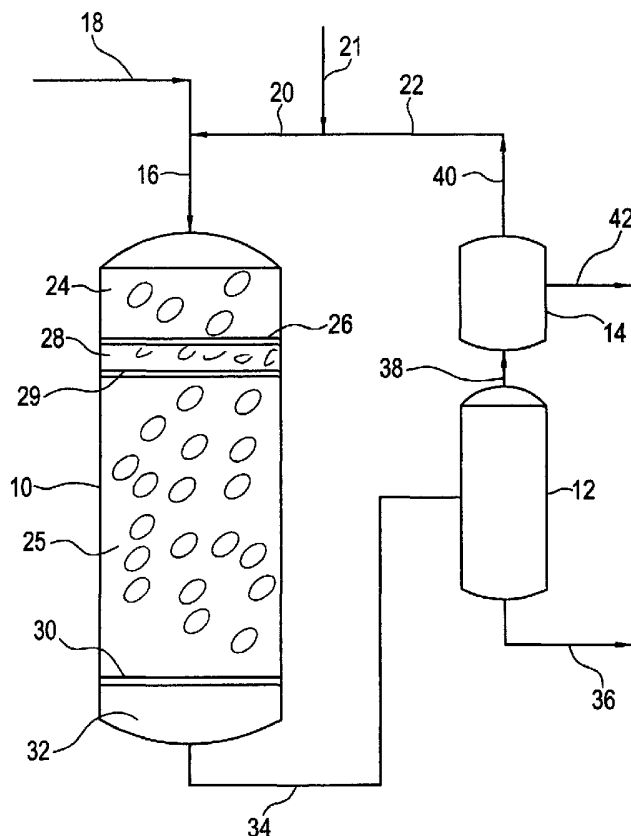
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: HYDROFINING PROCESS



(57) Abstract: A hydrofining process in which a sulfur- and hydrocarbon-containing processing stream is supplied to a multi-stage hydrotreating reactor incorporating separate stages of cobalt molybdenum catalysts. Hydrogen may be supplied concurrently or counter-currently with the hydrocarbon-containing processing stream. The processing stream is passed into contact with an initial catalyst stage comprising a cobalt molybdenum desulfurization catalyst present in a minor amount of the total composite amount of catalysts within the reactor. Thereafter the processing stream is passed through a subsequent catalyst stage comprising a major amount of cobalt molybdenum hydrocracking catalyst. The effluent stream having a reduced sulfur content is then withdrawn from the hydrotreating reactor. The initial and subsequent catalyst stages are separated by an intervening sector within the reactor containing an inert particulate refractory material, specifically silica particles generally spheroidal in shape.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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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, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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X	US 3 528 908 A (BOWLES VERNON O ET AL) 15 September 1970 (1970-09-15) column 7, line 11 - line 26 column 14, line 34 - line 43; claim 1; figure 2 column 11, line 50 - line 52 column 11, line 1 - line 2 column 9, line 54 - line 58 ---	1,2,8-14
Y		1-5, 15-20
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Patent family members are listed in annex.

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