Title: FILTRATION APPARATUS OPERATING FEATURES

Abstract: A pressure-filter apparatus includes at least one filtration chamber coupled with a source of slurry. The filtration chamber is also coupled with a source of fluid at an elevated pressure, which may be arranged in series or in parallel with a source of wash fluid. The pressure-filter apparatus may also include a source of fluid at a conventional pressure. The source of fluid at elevated pressure has a limited volume for initially treating the slurry within the chamber. The source of fluid at conventional pressure has a substantially unlimited volume for completing the treatment of slurry within the chamber. The relative volume capacity of the two fluid sources provides an improved efficiency in the treatment of the slurry and the overall efficiency of the apparatus by limiting the time and capacity of accumulation of elevated pressure fluid while using the conventional pressure for extended treatment of the slurry within the chamber.
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC: B01D 24/04 (2006.01)

USPC: 210/97, 103, 105, 227 AND 400
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.: 210/97, 103, 105, 227 and 400

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>US 6,521,135 A (BENESI) 18 February 2003; see entire document.</td>
<td>1-7</td>
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Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

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Date of the actual completion of the international search
14 April 2008 (14.04.2008)

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