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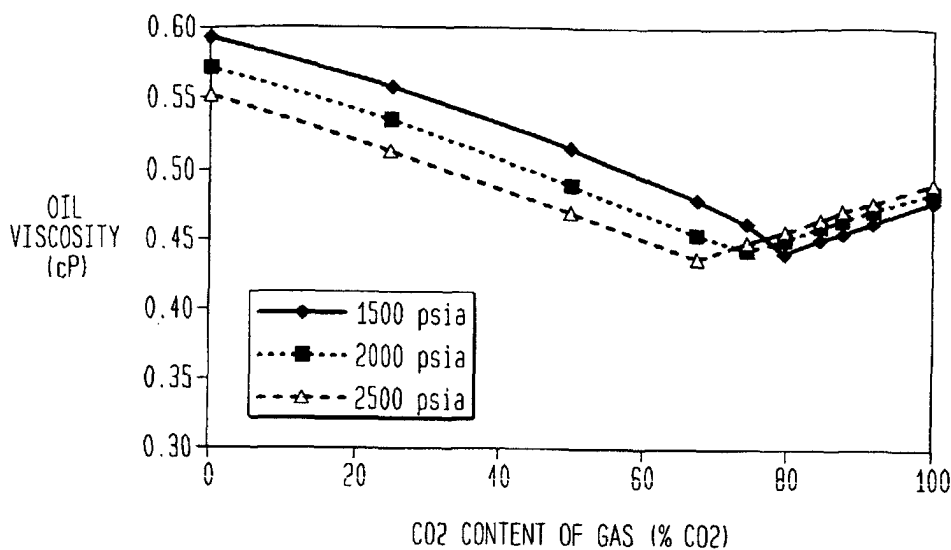
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(54) **Enhanced oil recovery method using CO2 injection**

(57) A method for enhancing the recovery of oil from underground formations is disclosed. A gas mixture which contains greater than 50% by volume carbon dioxide, the remainder typically being an inert gas, is in-

jected in the underground formation to lower the oil viscosity and surface tension and increase the oil swelling. Preferably, the gas mixture contains greater than 60% by volume carbon dioxide with a gas mixture containing greater than 70% by volume carbon dioxide preferred.

FIG. 1





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 02 25 3397

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.7)
X	US 3 084 743 A (WEST ROBERT C ET AL) 9 April 1963 (1963-04-09) * column 3, line 14-22 * * claim 3 *	1-4,7, 10,14,15	E21B43/16
X	US 5 046 561 A (HUANG WANN-SHENG ET AL) 10 September 1991 (1991-09-10) * abstract * * claim 5 *	1,4,6-9, 14,15	
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X,D	US 2 623 596 A (DYES ALVIN B ET AL) 30 December 1952 (1952-12-30) * column 7, line 15-46 * * figures 1-3 *	1-4,7, 10,14,15	
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X	US 5 285 848 A (CHANG HARRY L) 15 February 1994 (1994-02-15) * column 4, line 36-41 * * claim 1 *	1,4,6-9, 14,15	E21B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		8 January 2004	Schouten, A
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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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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08-01-2004

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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82