(54) Title: PROCESS FOR ESTIMATING AND REDUCING COST OF CYCLING

(57) Abstract: The present invention is a method, system and apparatus for estimating the cost of cycling in power plant operation. The present invention is integrated into the power plant data acquisition and control systems (DACS), and computes damage accumulation rates and dollar costs for specific types of power plant operation including cycling operation. The present invention collects real-time measurements from the power plant DACS and calculates actual damage and ultimately cost accumulation present in the power plant.
(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
   22 June 2006

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
   IPC(7) : F23N 3/00
   US Cl. : 705/412, 400, 1
   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. : 705/412, 400, 1

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>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>US 4,455,614 (MARTZ et al) 19 June 1984, see entire document.</td>
<td>1-40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>US 4,843,575 (CRANE) 27 June 1989, see entire document.</td>
<td>1-40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>US 3,919,623 (REUTHER) 11 November 1975, see entire document.</td>
<td>1-40</td>
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</table>

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

Date of the actual completion of the international search
09 January 2006 (09.01.2006)

Date of mailing of the international search report
12 JAN 2006

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US
Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
Facsimile No. (703) 273-3021

Authorized officer
Igor Borissov
Telephone No. 571-272-3600

Authorized officer
D. W. Libermann
Telephone No. 571-272-3600

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (April 2005)