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(54) Title: GRANULATION METHOD AND DEVICE USING FOCUSED ACOUSTIC ENERGY

(57) Abstract: A method and device for generating solid particles using focused acoustic energy are provided. A solution of a compound of interest is provided in a solvent, which may be an aqueous fluid, a nonaqueous fluid, or a supercritical fluid. Focused acoustic energy is used to eject a droplet of the solution, which is then directed into or through an antisolvent that upon admixture with the solution droplet causes the compounds in the droplet to precipitate. In a preferred embodiment, the solvent is an aqueous or organic liquid, and the antisolvent is a supercritical fluid.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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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)
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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

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>WO 97 31691 A (SAID SAID ;UNIV KANSAS (US); RAJEWSKI ROGER A (US); STELLA VALENTI) 4 September 1997 (1997-09-04)</p> <p>page 5, line 29 -page 6, line 30 page 7, line 6 - line 29 page 7, line 36 - line 37 page 13, line 1 - line 30 page 25, line 8 -page 26, line 20; claims 1-57; figures 2,14</p> <p style="text-align: center;">--- -/--</p>	<p>1, 3-11, 15-21, 26-44, 50,51, 55, 61-66, 71,72,82</p>

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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P,X	WO 02 24325 A (PICOLITER INC) 28 March 2002 (2002-03-28) claims 1-98; figures 1-3D ----	50-84
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