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- (71) **Applicant:** KOCH-GLITSCH, LP [US/US]; 4111 E. 37 Street North, Wichita, Kansas 67220 (US).
- (72) **Inventors:** NIEUWOUDT, Izak; 4111 E. 37 Street North, Wichita, Kansas 67220 (US). ESCOBAR, Sergio; 4111 E. 37 Street North, Wichita, Kansas 67220 (US).
- (74) **Agent:** MACKENZIE, Stephen J.; KCPS Legal-Intellectual Property, C2SE-412E, 4111 E. 37 Street North, Wichita, Kansas 67220 (US).

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(54) **Title:** COUNTERCURRENT CONTACTING DEVICES

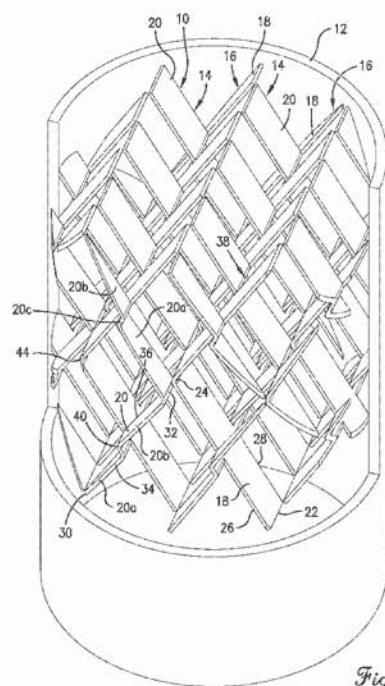


Fig. 1.

(57) **Abstract:** The contacting device 10 for countercurrent contacting of fluid streams and having a first pair of intersecting grids 14 of spaced-apart and parallel deflector blades 20 and a second pair of intersecting grids 16 of spaced-apart and parallel deflector blades 18. The deflector blades in each one of the grids are interleaved with the deflector blades in the paired intersecting grid and may have uncut side portions that join them together along a transverse strip 38 where the deflector blades cross each other or adjacent opposed ends of the deflector blades and cut side portions that extend from the uncut side portions to the ends of the deflector blades. At least some of the deflector blades have directional tabs and associated openings to allow portions of the fluid streams to pass through the deflector blades to facilitate mixing of the fluid streams.

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))*
- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))*

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