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(71) Applicant: OWENS-BROCKWAY GLASS CONTAINER INC. [US/US]; One Michael Owens Way, Perrysburg, OH 43551 (US).

(72) Inventors: PINC, William; 6945 Silverbrook Ct., Water-ville, OH 43566 (US). VEMPATI, Udaya; 11 Cottage Grn., Ottawa, IL 61350 (US).

(74) Agent: SCHARF, Stephen, L.; Owens-Brockway Glass Container Inc., One Michael Owens Way, Perrysburg, OH 43551 (US).

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(54) Title: UTILIZATION OF SULFATE IN THE FINING OF SUBMERGED COMBUSTION MELTED GLASS

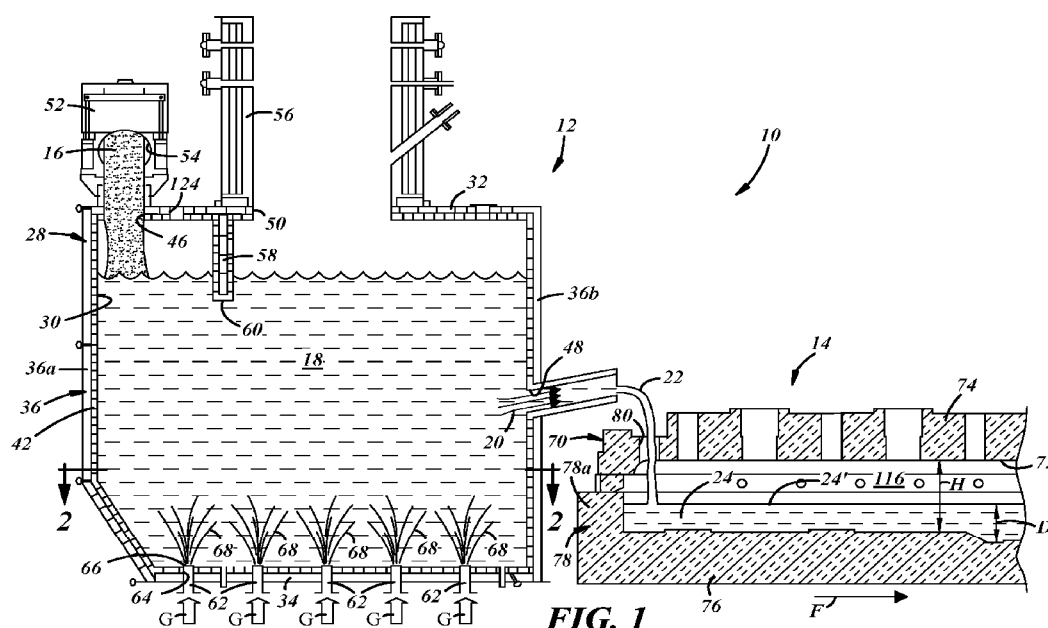


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: A method of producing and fining glass includes monitoring a temperature of a molten glass bath (24) contained within a fining chamber (72) of a fining vessel (14) and, based on the monitored temperature, controlling an amount, of a sulfate chemical fining agent, added into a glass melt (18) contained within an interior reaction chamber (30) of an upstream submerged combustion melter (12) that feeds the fining vessel (14). The temperature of the molten glass bath (24) may be determined within a temperature indication zone (118) that encompasses a subsurface portion (120) of the molten glass bath (24) that lies adjacent to a floor (76) of a housing (70) of the fining vessel (14). By monitoring the temperature of the molten glass bath (24) and controlling the amount of the sulfate chemical fining agent added to the glass melt (18) of the submerged combustion melter (12), the wasteful use of the sulfate chemical fining agent can be minimized and the fining process rendered more efficient.

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