

[12] Patent

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[21] Application No.: GCC/P/2001/1725 [22] Filing Date: 17/11/2001 [30] Priority: [31] Priority No. [32] Priority date [33] State 0028108.9 17/11/2000 GB [72] Inventors: 1- Michael Hilton, 2- John Wilson Kippax [73] Owner: Kvaerner Process Technology Limited, 20 Eastbourne Terracs, W2 6LE London, United Kingdom [74] Agent: Suleiman Ibrahim Al-Ammar	[51] Int. Cl. ⁷ : C01B 3/38; F27D 23/00 [56] Cited Documents: - US 5811065 A (D. J. STERENBERG) 22 September 1998 - US 6136279 A (H. O. STAHL) 24 October 2000 - GB 1037094 A (THE POWER-GAS CORP) 27 July 1966 - US 5310334 A (SPIRO SPIROS) 10 May 1994

[54] METHOD OF OPERATION OF A FURNACE

[57] Abstract: The method of the invention concerns operation of a furnace (1) utilising a hydrogen-rich gas as furnace fuel. The furnace (1) has a multiplicity of burners (17) for burning fuel supplied thereto. The method comprises providing ignition means for lighting a flame at at least one burner of the multiplicity of burners. An oxygen-containing gas and a combustible gas comprising a hydrocarbon gas are supplied to each of the multiplicity of burners (17) in amounts capable of forming an ignitable mixture. A flame is ignited at the predetermined one burner which is then allowed to propagate from the at least one predetermined burner to the other burners of the multiplicity of burners (17). Then the composition of the combustible gas is altered over a period of time so as to replace at least a major part of the hydrocarbon gas by a hydrogen-rich gas until a hydrogen flame is established at each of the multiplicity of burners (17).

No. of claims: 14

No. of figures: 2

