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McClure et al.

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(54) **PARTS WASHING SYSTEM**

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1995, now abandoned, which is a continuation of application
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210/611; 435/264

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Provided is a "parts washer" that includes a fluid that
performs a cleaning function and maintains the viability of
microorganisms in the fluid which biodegrade organic material
in contact with a biological component, the parts.
"Parts" include objects befouled with organic material and/
or particulate matter. The cleaning fluid includes a surfactant
that functions to separate organic waste from the parts being
washed. A multi-tiered basin houses the cleaning fluid and
the biological component living within the fluid that breaks
down organic wastes produced by the cleaning fluid. The
multi-tiered basin which forms the mechanical component of
the washer, includes a sink member with a false bottom,
and a support grid and filter to support microorganisms
interposed between the false bottom and a bottom panel of
the sink member. The tank is partially filled with the
cleaning fluid and a pump and conduit assembly directs a
flow of the cleaning fluid to the basin and aerates the
cleaning fluid. Recirculation is facilitated by discharge of the
cleaning fluid into the basin to flow through a drain hole in
the false bottom, through the filter and support grid, and then
through a drain hole in the bottom panel of the sink member
back into the tank for reuse. A heater, thermostat, and a level
control assembly function to maintain the cleaning fluid
within a certain temperature range so as to maintain a proper
environment for the microorganisms.

14 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets

