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Vernier

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(54) **USE OF AN AQUEOUS NEUTRAL CLEANING SOLUTION AND METHOD FOR REMOVING ROUGHING FROM STAINLESS STEEL SURFACES**

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(52) **U.S. Cl.** **134/2**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** **134/2**
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

The invention relates to a method for removing films and deposits from stainless surfaces, especially from stainless metallic surfaces such as they are used in process stations and production units in the pharmaceutical, food and biotechnological industries, and to an aqueous cleaning solution comprising a reducing agent, in particular dithionite and/or disulfite, and at least two different complexing agents, wherein one of these complexing agents is a compound comprising diacetic acid groups or a salt thereof, for removing rouging on surfaces of stainless steels that come into contact with media selected from the group of chromium/nickel and chromium/nickel/molybdenum steels in the neutral pH range.

29 Claims, No Drawings

The
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**The Director of the United States
Patent and Trademark Office**

Has received an application for a patent for a new and useful invention. The title and description of the invention are enclosed. The requirements of law have been complied with, and it has been determined that a patent on the invention shall be granted under the law.

Therefore, this

United States Patent

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