



(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(43) Date of publication: **06.07.2005 Bulletin 2005/27** (51) Int Cl.7: **F26B 25/00**

(21) Application number: **04106813.1**

(22) Date of filing: **21.12.2004**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
**AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR
HU IE IS IT LI LT LU MC NL PL PT RO SE SI SK TR**
Designated Extension States:
AL BA HR LV MK YU

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(30) Priority: **30.12.2003 IT TO20031052**

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(54) **Loading/discharge device for process apparatus**

(57) The loading/discharge device (26, 26a) comprises a duct (28) including a portion which is formed as a flexible coupling (32) that is provided with actuator means (34) for performing extension/contraction movements and selective closure means disposed in a cross-section of the duct. The ends of the duct (28) are provided

with means for leaktight coupling with respective openings (12, 20) of the process apparatus and of a storage container (18, 18a). Moreover, a portion of the duct (28) which is intended to be directed towards the process apparatus in operation is provided with washing means.

Fig. 3

