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Melnyczuk

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(54) **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR THE PREPARATION OF A CRISP FOOD PRODUCT**

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See application file for complete search history.

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 1 day.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

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(2013.01); **A23B 7/0205** (2013.01);

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A crisp food product is prepared in a first phase from thin food pieces of raw fruit, vegetable or gelatinizable proteins, by blanching them (if necessary) and drying them. A second phase takes place in a vacuum chamber, where the dried thin food pieces are exposed to heat to expand them, are quickly removed from the heat source and are cooled, before being removed from the vacuum.

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

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28 Claims, 34 Drawing Sheets

