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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/21547 (22) International Filing Date: 12 October 1998 (12.10.98) (30) Priority Data: 08/962,426 31 October 1997 (31.10.97) US (71) Applicant: CELANESE INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION [US/US]; 1601 West LBJ Freeway, Dallas, TX 75234 (US). (72) Inventors: WARNER, R., Jay; 7402 Bourget, Corpus Christi, TX 78413 (US). GARZA, Martiniano, Jr.; 16206 Dunmoor Drive, Houston, TX 77059-3902 (US). PEDRAZA, Her- melinda; 502 Cheyenne, Corpus Christi, TX 78405 (US). SUPPLEE, Carolyn; 4901 Saratoga #628, Corpus Christi, TX 78413 (US). (74) Agents: SPIERING, M., Susan et al.; Celanese Ltd., 1901 Clarkwood Road, Corpus Christi, TX 78409 (US).		(81) Designated States: BR, CA, CN, CZ, ID, JP, KR, MX, SG, SK, European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>With amended claims and statement.</i>
(54) Title: SULFUR REMOVAL PROCESS FROM AN ACRYLATE STREAM		
(57) Abstract The present application relates to a process for the removal of sulfur from an acrylate reaction product stream comprising: (a) contacting in a reactor (meth)acrylic acid with an alcohol in the presence of a sulfonic acid catalyst and solvent to form a reaction mixture containing the corresponding ester reaction product, water, solvent, and residue byproducts; (b) allow the reaction mixture of (a) sufficient time to form a two phase system comprising as phase (1) acid catalyst/water, and as phase (2) reaction product, acrylic ester, solvent, heavy ends, and oligomers; and (c) recycling phase (1) of (b) containing acid catalyst to the reactor of (a). Preferably, the acid catalyst is selected from the group consisting of methanesulfonic acid, benzenesulfonic acid, toluenesulfonic acid and xylenesulfonic acid.		