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(54) Title: CATALYST AND PROCESS FOR PREPARING 1,3–PROPANEDIOL

(57) Abstract

A solid, particulate catalyst composition comprising an active nickel component in which the nickel constitutes from 25 to 60 wt% of the catalyst composition; a molybdenum component in which the molybdenum constitutes from 5 to 20 wt% of the catalyst composition; and from 10 to 50 wt% of a binder material comprising at least one of oxides of silicon, and silicates and oxides of zinc, aluminium, zirconium, magnesium and calcium, each of the aluminium, calcium and zinc present in an amount no greater than 2 wt%; and a process for the selective hydrogenation of 3–hydroxypropanal to 1,3–propanediol in aqueous solution, using said catalyst composition.