

Abstract of the Disclosure

DEHYDRATION METHOD

5 Disclosed is a dehydration method for removing water from a hydrolysis mixture containing unreacted water that is generated during the production of a phenol by hydrolysis of a monochlorobenzene. The method comprises the steps of feeding a hydrolysis mixture into a distillation column, 10 feeding a solution containing a monochlorobenzene into the top section of the distillation column, and distilling off and removing substantially all of the water in the hydrolysis mixture from the top section together with the monochlorobenzene.

15 Figure 1