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(71) Applicant: JOHNSON MATTHEY PUBLIC LIMITED
COMPANY [GB/GB]; 5th Floor, 25 Farringdon Street,
London EC4A 4AB (GB).(72) Inventors: CARLSSON, Mikael; Johnson Matthey PLC,
PO Box 1, Belasis Avenue, Billingham Cleveland TS23
1LB (GB). RICHARDSON, Andrew Edward; Johnson

Matthey PLC, PO Box 1, Belasis Avenue, Billingham
Cleveland TS23 1LB (GB).

(74) Agent: RIDLAND, John; Johnson Matthey PLC, PO Box
1, Belasis Avenue, Billingham Cleveland TS23 1LB (GB).

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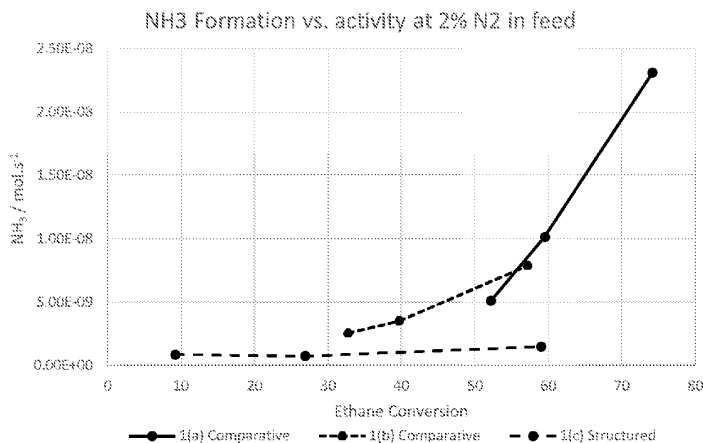


Figure 1

(57) Abstract: A process is described for steam reforming a hydrocarbon feedstock containing one or more nitrogen compounds, comprising passing a mixture of the hydrocarbon feedstock and steam through a catalyst bed consisting of one more nickel steam reforming catalysts disposed within a plurality of externally heated tubes in a tubular steam reformer, wherein each tube has an inlet to which the mixture of hydrocarbon and steam is fed, an outlet from which a reformed gas containing hydrogen, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, steam, ammonia and methane is recovered, and the steam reforming catalyst at least at the outlet of the tubes is a structured steam reforming catalyst comprising nickel dispersed over the surface of a porous metal oxide present as a coating on a non-porous metal or ceramic structure, wherein the nickel content of the metal oxide coating is in the range of 5 to 50% by weight and the thickness of the coating is in the range of 5 to 150 micrometres.

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