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| <b>(51) International Patent Classification <sup>7</sup> :</b><br><b>C07D 307/89, 209/48, C07B 37/04, C07C 279/04</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>A1</b> | <b>(11) International Publication Number:</b> <b>WO 00/35897</b><br><b>(43) International Publication Date:</b> 22 June 2000 (22.06.00)                                                                  |
| <b>(21) International Application Number:</b> PCT/US99/24416<br><b>(22) International Filing Date:</b> 18 October 1999 (18.10.99)<br><br><b>(30) Priority Data:</b><br>09/210,707      14 December 1998 (14.12.98)      US<br><br><b>(71) Applicant:</b> GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY [US/US]; 1 River Road, Schenectady, NY 12345 (US).<br><br><b>(72) Inventors:</b> BRUNELLE, Daniel, Joseph; 4 Woods Edge, Burnt Hills, NY 12027 (US). GUGGENHEIM, Thomas, Link; 3401 Upton Road, Mount Vernon, IN 47620 (US).<br><br><b>(74) Agents:</b> SNYDER, Bernard et al.; General Electric Company, 3135 Easton Turnpike W3C, Fairfield, CT 06431 (US).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |           | <b>(81) Designated States:</b> IN, JP, SG, European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE).<br><br><b>Published</b><br><i>With international search report.</i> |
| <b>(54) Title:</b> PHASE TRANSFER CATALYZED METHOD FOR PREPARING OXYBISPHTHALIC COMPOUNDS<br><br><b>(57) Abstract</b><br><p>Oxybisphthalic compounds such as 4,4'-oxybis(N-methylphthalimide) and 4,4'-oxybis(phthalic anhydride) are prepared from the corresponding nitro- or halo-substituted phthalic compounds by reaction with an alkanoate or carbonate salt in a substantially non-polar solvent and in the presence of a hexaalkylguanidinium salt as phase transfer catalyst. A carboxylic acid such as 4-chlorobenzoic acid may be used as an additional catalyst. Reaction rates and yields are higher than with other phase transfer catalysts.</p> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 200px;"> <br/>       *162162*<br/> <br/> <br/>       *G000002*     </div> |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |