

A B S T R A C T

PROCESS FOR THE PURIFICATION OF A
WATER- ϵ -CAPROLACTAM MIXTURE

5

Process for the purification of ϵ -caprolactam, which involves hydrogenation of a water- ϵ -caprolactam mixture with hydrogen of the mixture in the presence of a heterogeneous hydrogenation catalyst, wherein first the ϵ -
10 caprolactam-water mixture is contacted with gaseous hydrogen, upon which hydrogen dissolves in the ϵ -caprolactam-water mixture, and subsequently this hydrogen-containing mixture is contacted with the hydrogenation catalyst and that 90-100% of the hydrogen present during
15 hydrogenation has been dissolved in the water- ϵ -caprolactam mixture.