

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

METHOD OF PRODUCING CARBOXYLIC ACIDS

5 The method comprises (1) a carboxylic acid salt
providing step comprising permitting a strain of
microorganism or a preparation derived from the
microorganism to act upon a nitrile to thereby (a)
provide at least the corresponding amide which is then
10 hydrolyzed in the presence of a base to provide a salt
of the corresponding carboxylic acid or (b) provide a
salt of the corresponding carboxylic acid and (2) an
electrodialysis step comprising subjecting the
carboxylic acid salt provided in the step (1) to
15 electrodialysis to provide the corresponding carboxylic
acid and base. Carboxylic acids can be produced without
formation of ammonium hydrogen sulfate and other
byproducts. The microorganism includes microorganisms
of the genera Pantoea and Gordona. The ammonia formed
20 in the step (1) can be reused as a nitrogen source in a
nitrile production line.

FIGURE 1