

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A process for continuously producing an aromatic carboxylic acid comprising oxidizing an aromatic compound substituted with alkyl groups with molecular oxygen gas in the liquid phase in a solvent containing a lower aliphatic carboxylic acid in the presence of a catalyst comprising heavy metal compounds and a bromine compound, wherein a mother liquor which is obtained after removal of crystals from a reaction liquid of the liquid phase oxidation and contains heavy metal ions and bromine ion as catalyst components is brought into contact with a chelate resin of an anion exchange type to recover the catalyst components.

The catalyst components are efficiently recovered, and auxiliary agents in an amount exceeding the equivalent amount and excessive labor are not necessary.

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