

A B S T R A C T

PROCESS FOR THE CATALYTIC PARTIAL OXIDATION OF
HYDROCARBONS

A process for the catalytic partial oxidation of a hydrocarbon feedstock comprises contacting a feed mixture comprising the hydrocarbon feedstock and an oxygen-containing gas, which feed mixture also comprises nitrogen, with a catalyst capable of catalysing the partial oxidation of the hydrocarbon feedstock, wherein the feed mixture also comprises a sulphur-containing compound. This process allows sulphur-containing hydrocarbon feedstocks to be processed without first undergoing a sulphur removal treatment. Accordingly, a process for the preparation of carbon monoxide and/or hydrogen from a hydrocarbon feedstock comprising subjecting the hydrocarbon feedstock in a first stage to a catalytic partial oxidation process as described above and subjecting at least a portion of the product of the first stage in a second stage to a desulphurisation process.

This Sheet Has Been Replaced

