We Claim:

1. A process for the preparation of bis(chloromethyl)dichlorosilane comprising reacting bis(chloromethyl)diarylsilane and one or more chloride compounds in the presence of one or more Lewis acids in an inert solvent and under an inert atmosphere.

2. The process of claim 1, wherein the aryl of the bis(chloromethyl)dichlorosilane is independently selected from the group consisting of phenyl, tolyl, xylyl, mesityl, naphthyl, biphenyl and anthracenyl.

3. The process of claim 1, wherein the one or more chloride compounds are selected from the group consisting of acid chlorides, chloroformates, sulfonyl chlorides, thionyl chloride, hydrocarbyl chlorides, and heterohydrocarbyl chlorides.

4. The process of claim 1, wherein the one or more Lewis acids are selected from the group consisting of boron chloride, aluminum chloride, zinc chloride, magnesium chloride, zirconium chloride, hafnium chloride, and titanium chloride.

5. The process of claim 1, wherein the inert solvent comprises one or more hydrocarbon solvents selected from the group consisting of pentane, hexane, heptane, octane, dichloromethane, chloroform, chlorobenzene, dichlorobenzene, dichloroethane, trichloroethane, tetrachloroethane, and tetrachloroethylene.

6. The process of claim 1, wherein the process is carried out in an initial first temperature range and in an at least one additional temperature range, wherein the first temperature range is lower than the at least one additional temperature range.

7. A process for the preparation of bis(chloromethyl)(aryl)chlorosilane comprising reacting bis(chloromethyl)diarylsilane and one or more chloride compounds in the presence of one or more Lewis acids in an inert solvent and under an inert atmosphere.

8. The process of claim 7, wherein the aryl is independently selected from the group consisting of phenyl, tolyl, xylyl, mesityl, naphthyl, biphenyl and anthracenyl.

9. The process of claim 7, wherein the one or more chloride compounds are selected from the group consisting of acid chlorides, chloroformates, sulfonyl chlorides, thionyl chloride, hydrocarbyl chlorides, and heterohydrocarbyl chlorides.

10. The process of claim 7, wherein the one or more Lewis acids are selected from the group consisting of boron chloride, aluminum chloride, zinc chloride, magnesium chloride, zirconium chloride, hafnium chloride, and titanium chloride.

11. The process of claim 7, wherein the inert solvent comprises one or more hydrocarbon solvents selected from the group consisting of pentane, hexane, heptane, octane, dichloromethane, chloroform, chlorobenzene, dichlorobenzene, dichloroethane, trichloroethane, tetrachloroethane, and tetrachloroethylene.

12. The process of claim 7, wherein the process is carried out in an initial first temperature range and in an at least one additional temperature range, wherein the first temperature range is lower than the at least one additional temperature range.

13. A process for the preparation of bis(chloromethyl)dichlorosilane comprising reacting bis(chloromethyl)(aryl)chlorosilane and one or more chloride compounds in the presence of one or more Lewis acids in an inert solvent and under an inert atmosphere.

14. The process of claim 13, wherein the aryl of the bis(chloromethyl)(aryl)chlorosilane is independently selected from the group consisting of phenyl, tolyl, xylyl, mesityl, naphthyl, biphenyl and anthracenyl.

15. The process of claim 13, wherein the one or more chloride compounds are selected from the group consisting of acid chlorides, chloroformates, sulfonyl chlorides, thionyl chloride, hydrocarbyl chlorides, and heterohydrocarbyl chlorides.

16. The process of claim 13, wherein the one or more Lewis acids are selected from the group consisting of boron chloride, aluminum chloride, zinc chloride, magnesium chloride, zirconium chloride, hafnium chloride, and titanium chloride.

17. The process of claim 13, wherein the inert solvent comprises one or more hydrocarbon solvents selected from the group consisting of pentane, hexane, heptane, octane, dichloromethane, chloroform, chlorobenzene, dichlorobenzene, dichloroethane, trichloroethane, tetrachloroethane, and tetrachloroethylene.

18. The process of claim 13, wherein the process is carried out in an initial first temperature range and in an at least one additional temperature range, wherein the first temperature range is lower than the at least one additional temperature range.