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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/12780 (22) International Filing Date: 16 June 1998 (16.06.98) (71) Applicant: CATALYTIC DISTILLATION TECHNOLOGIES [US/US]; 10100 Bay Area Boulevard, Pasadena, TX 77507 (US). (72) Inventors: LAWSON, Keith, Henry; 12 Fitzpatrick Street, 9570 Sasolburg (ZA). NKOSI, Bongani; 1 Waterkant, 9570 Sasolburg (ZA). (74) Agent: JOHNSON, Kenneth, H.; P.O. Box 630708, Houston, TX 77263 (US).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, GM, GW, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i>
(54) Title: PRODUCTION OF MIBK USING CATALYTIC DISTILLATION TECHNOLOGY		
(57) Abstract A process for the production of methyl isobutyl ketone from acetone and hydrogen utilizing a catalytic distillation column reactor. The reactions take place in a reaction zone with the reaction products being removed from the reaction zone and unreacted acetone being refluxed. The equilibrium is thus continuously disturbed allowing for greater than equilibrium conversion of acetone.		