APPENDIX B
CLEAN VERSION OF CLAIMS INCORPORATING AMENDMENTS

1. A method for testing structures for suitability for use in an epoxidation process comprising:

Conducting at least one repetition comprising:

Causing a plurality of intact structures having a total weight to contact a surface by releasing the plurality of structures at a distance above the surface;

Determining the weight percent of the nonintact structures generated by contact with the surface and/or other structures relative to the total weight of the plurality of intact structures, wherein the structures are carriers comprising at least 80 weight percent alpha-alumina and/or catalysts based upon carriers comprising at least 80 weight percent alpha-alumina.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising selecting structures for further use for which the test method generates less than 3 wt% nonintact structures and wherein the structures comprise carriers comprising at least 80 weight percent alpha alumina and the selected carriers are used to prepare catalysts.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the structures comprise catalysts and the selected catalysts are used in the epoxidation process.

4. The method of claim 1, comprising conducting at least two repetitions, comparing the weight percent of nonintact structures obtained in each repetition, and selecting those structures for further use for which the weight percent of the nonintact structures obtained in one repetition and the weight percent of the nonintact structures obtained in another repetition do not differ by more than 5 wt% and wherein in each repetition, the structures comprise carriers comprising at least 80 weight percent alpha alumina and the selected carriers are used to prepare catalysts.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the selected carriers are used in the manufacture of ethylene oxide catalysts.

6. The method of claim 1, comprising conducting at least two repetitions, comparing the weight percent of nonintact structures obtained in each repetition, and selecting those structures for further use for which the weight percent of the nonintact structures obtained in one repetition and the weight percent of the nonintact structures obtained in another repetition do not differ by more than 5 wt% and wherein in each repetition, the structures comprise_catalysts and the selected catalysts are used in a chemical process.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the selected catalysts are used in a process for the production of ethylene oxide.

8. The method of claim 1, comprising conducting at least two repetitions, comparing the weight percent of nonintact structures obtained in each repetition, and selecting those structures for further use for which the weight percent of the nonintact structures obtained in one repetition and the weight percent of the nonintact structures

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obtained in another repetition do not differ by more than 5 wt% and wherein in a first repetition, the structures comprise carriers comprising at least 80 weight percent alpha alumina and in a second repetition the structures comprise catalysts and the selected carriers are used to prepare catalysts, and/or the selected catalysts are used in a chemical process.

9. The method of claim 4, wherein the distance from which the structures are released differs between at least two repetitions.

10. A process for the production of an alkylene oxide comprising:

Selecting catalysts for use in the process according to the method of claim 1, wherein the structures comprise catalysts; and

Contacting an alkylene and oxygen in the presence of the selected catalysts to generate alkylene oxide.

11. A structure suitable for use in an epoxidation process that exhibits a weight percent drop test result of less than 5 weight percent, wherein the structure is a carrier comprising at least 80 weight percent alpha alumina and/or a catalyst based upon a carrier comprising at least 80 weight percent alpha alumina.

12. The structure of claim 11, comprising a carrier.

13. The structure of claim 12, wherein the carrier comprises total porosity of greater than 0.4 cc/g.

14. The structure of claim 11, comprising a catalyst.

15. The structure of claim 14, wherein the catalyst is used in a process for the epoxidation of olefins.

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CLAIMS:

1. A method for testing structures for suitability for use in an epoxidation process comprising:

Conducting at least one repetition comprising:

Causing a plurality of intact structures having a total weight to contact a surface by releasing the plurality of structures at a distance above the surface;

Determining the weight percent of the nonintact structures generated by contact with the surface and/or other structures relative to the total weight of the plurality of intact structures, wherein the structures are carriers comprising at least 80 weight percent alpha-alumina and/or catalysts based upon carriers comprising at least 80 weight percent alpha-alumina.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising selecting structures for further use for which the test method generates less than 3 weight percent nonintact structures and wherein the structures comprise carriers comprising at least 80 weight percent alpha alumina and the selected carriers are used to prepare catalysts.

3. The method of claim 1, comprising conducting at least two repetitions, comparing the weight percent of nonintact structures obtained in each repetition, and selecting those structures for further use for which the weight percent of the nonintact structures obtained in one repetition and the weight percent of the nonintact structures obtained in another repetition do not differ by more than 5 weight percent and wherein in each repetition the structures comprise carriers and the selected carriers are used in the manufacture of ethylene oxide catalysts.

4. The method of claim 1, comprising conducting at least two repetitions, comparing the weight percent of nonintact structures obtained in each repetition, and selecting those structures for further use for which the weight percent of the nonintact structures obtained in one repetition and the weight percent of the nonintact structures obtained in another repetition do not differ by more than 5 weight percent and wherein in each repetition the structures comprise catalysts and the selected catalysts are used in a process for the production of ethylene oxide.

5. The method of claim 1, comprising conducting at least two repetitions, comparing the weight percent of nonintact structures obtained in each repetition, and selecting those structures for further use for which the weight percent of the nonintact structures obtained in one repetition

and the weight percent of the nonintact structures obtained in another repetition do not differ by more than 5 weight percent and wherein in a first repetition, the structures comprise carriers comprising at least 80 weight percent alpha alumina and in a second repetition the structures comprise catalysts and the selected carriers are used to prepare catalysts, and/or the selected catalysts are used in a chemical process.

6. The method of claim 3, wherein the distance from which the structures are released differs between at least two repetitions.

7. A process for the production of an alkylene oxide comprising:

Selecting catalysts for use in the process according to the method of claim 1, wherein the structures comprise catalysts; and

Contacting an alkylene and oxygen in the presence of the selected catalysts to generate alkylene oxide.

8. A structure for use in an epoxidation process that exhibits a weight percent drop test result of less than 5 weight percent, wherein the structure is a carrier comprising at least 80 weight percent alpha alumina and/or a catalyst based upon a carrier comprising at least 80 weight percent alpha alumina and wherein, when the structure is a carrier it comprises a total porosity of greater than 0.4 cc/g.

9. The structure of claim 8, comprising a catalyst.

10. The structure of claim 9, wherein the catalyst is used in a process for the epoxidation of olefins.