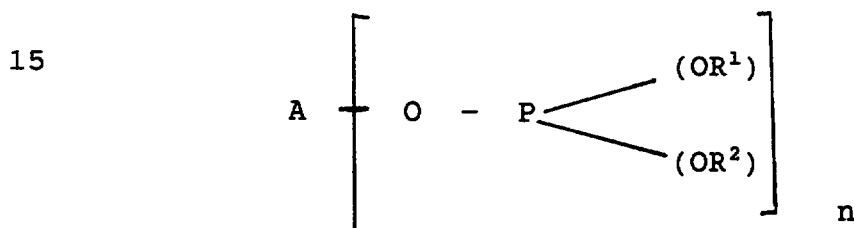


A B S T R A C T

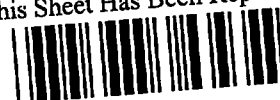
PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF 5-FORMYLVALERIC ACID AND 5-FORMYLVALERATE

The invention relates to a process for the preparation of 5-formylvaleric acid or the corresponding 5-formylvalerate by hydroformylation of 3-pentenoic acid or 3-pentenoate ester with carbon monoxide and hydrogen in the presence of a catalyst comprising of rhodium and a phosphite ligand, wherein the phosphite ligand is represented by the following general formula



where R^1 and R^2 are the same or different aromatic organic groups and where A is an n-valent group or atom and where n is an integer chosen upwards of 2 and where the respective $[-O-P(OR^1)(OR^2)]$ group may be the same group or different groups and where the phosphite forms a chelate-type complex with rhodium.

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