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(71) Applicant: SHELL INTERNATIONALE RESEARCH MAATSCHAPPIJ B.V. [NL/NL]; Carel van Bylandtlaan 30, NL-2596 HR The Hague (NL).

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(72) Inventors: BAKKUM, Jacobus, Adrianus; Badhuisweg 3, NL-1031 CM Amsterdam (NL). BRADFORD, Arleen, Marie; Badhuisweg 3, NL-1031 CM Amsterdam (NL). BOYS, Andre; Badhuisweg 3, NL-1031 CM Amsterdam (NL). BRENT, Eit; Badhuisweg 3, NL-1031 CM Amsterdam (NL). PELLO, Dennis, Humphrey, Louis; Badhuisweg 3, NL-1031 CM Amsterdam (NL). WINGAARDEN, Rudolf, Jacobus; Badhuisweg 3, NL-1031 CM Amsterdam (NL).

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(54) Title: CATALYST SYSTEM AND PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF COPOLYMERS OF CARBON MONOXIDE AND OLEFINICALLY UNSATURATED COMPOUNDS

(57) Abstract

A catalyst system suitable for the copolymerization of carbon monoxide with an ethylenically unsaturated compound which catalyst system is based on (a) a source of palladium cations, and (b) a bidentate ligand of the general formula $R^1R^2P-CH_2-CH_2-PR^3R^4$ wherein R^1 represents a phenyl group substituted with a polar group at one or both ortho-positions and/or the para-position with respect to the phosphorus atom to which the said phenyl group is linked, and R^2 , R^3 and R^4 independently represent a substituted or non-substituted hydrocarbyl group; and a process for the preparation of copolymers of carbon monoxide and an ethylenically unsaturated compound by reacting the monomers in the presence of said catalyst system.

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