

**PROCESS FOR PRODUCING DIESEL FUEL
WITH INCREASED CETANE NUMBER**

ABSTRACT

A process is provided for selectively producing diesel fuel with increased cetane number from a hydrocarbon feedstock. The process includes contacting the feedstock with a catalyst which has a large pore crystalline molecular sieve material component having a faujasite structure and alpha acidity of less than 1, preferably 0.3 or less. The catalyst also contains a dispersed Group VIII noble metal component which catalyzes the hydrogenation/hydrocracking of the aromatic and naphthenic species in the feedstock.