

Abstract

It is an object of the present invention to provide, in the case of producing an aromatic carbonate through a reactive distillation system using a continuous multi-stage distillation column from a dialkyl carbonate and an aromatic monohydroxy compound, a specific process that enables the aromatic carbonate to be produced stably for a prolonged period of time on an industrial scale of not less than 1 ton / hr, while efficiently separating out a by-produced alcohol. Although there have been various proposals regarding processes for the production of aromatic carbonates by means of a reactive distillation method, these have all been on a small scale and short operating time laboratory level, and there have been no disclosures whatsoever on a specific process or apparatus enabling mass production on an industrial scale. Moreover, there have been no disclosures on a specific process or apparatus enabling a large amount of an alcohol by-produced when producing the aromatic carbonate on an industrial scale using a reactive distillation system to be separated out efficiently and stably for a prolonged period of time. According to the present invention, there is proposed a continuous multi-stage distillation column A and a continuous multi-stage distillation column B which have specified structure, and a specific method in which these continuous multi-stage distillation columns are combined together, enabling the aromatic carbonate to be produced stably for a prolonged period of time on an industrial scale of not less than 1 ton / hr, while efficiently separating out a by-produced alcohol, preferably on an industrial scale of not less than 200 kg / hr.