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SG 9701504-4

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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6 :

C07C 45/58, 45/80, 47/19, 31/20, 29/141

A1

(11) International Publication Number:

WO 96/10552

(43) International Publication Date:

11 April 1996 (11.04.96)

(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP95/03870

(22) International Filing Date: 28 September 1995 (28.09.95)

(30) Priority Data:

316,660	30 September 1994 (30.09.94)	US
316,669	30 September 1994 (30.09.94)	US
316,677	30 September 1994 (30.09.94)	US
316,679	30 September 1994 (30.09.94)	US
316,680	30 September 1994 (30.09.94)	US

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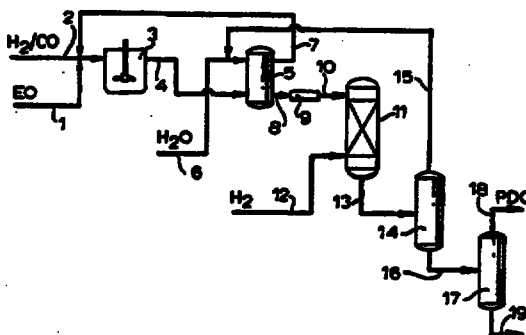
(81) Designated States: AM, AT, AU, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LK, LR, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG), ARIPO patent (KE, MW, SD, SZ, UG).

Published

With international search report.

Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

(54) Title: PROCESS FOR PREPARING 1,3-ALKANEDIOLS AND 3-HYDROXYALDEHYDES



(57) Abstract

A process for preparing 1,3-alkanediols and 3-hydroxyaldehydes by hydroformylating an oxirane with carbon monoxide and hydrogen in the presence of one or more Group VIII metal-based hydroformylation catalysts, which may contain up to 50 mole % based on the metal of phosphine-modified catalysts, wherein the concentration of the oxirane at the start of the reaction is less than 15 wt.% based on the weight of the total liquid reaction mixture. The process enables the production of 1,3-propanediol in high yields and selectivity.