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1. Process for removing an alkanol impurity from a stream containing a dialkyl carbonate and the alkanol impurity, comprising contacting the stream with an aryl group containing ester and a catalyst to effect reaction of the alkanol impurity with the aryl group containing ester.

2. Process according to claim 1, wherein the aryl group containing ester is diphenyl carbonate.

3. Process according to claim 2, wherein the dialkyl carbonate is a di(C_1-C_5)alkyl carbonate, preferably diethyl carbonate.

4. Process according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the alkanol impurity is an ether alkanol, more specifically an alkoxy alkanol, most specifically 2-ethoxyethanol.

5. Process according to claim 4, wherein the dialkyl carbonate is diethyl carbonate and the alkanol impurity is 2-ethoxyethanol.

6. Process according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the stream containing the dialkyl carbonate and the alkanol impurity is contacted with a stream originating from a process for producing diphenyl carbonate from a dialkyl carbonate and phenol and/or purifying crude diphenyl carbonate, the latter stream containing a catalyst, preferably a titanium containing catalyst, and an aryl group containing ester, comprising preferably diphenyl carbonate and optionally one or more derivatives of diphenyl carbonate, comprising preferably phenyl salicylate and optionally one or more derivatives of phenyl salicylate.

7. Process according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the stream containing a dialkyl carbonate and the alkanol impurity is obtained by a process for the preparation of a dialkyl carbonate and an alkanediol comprising:

(a) reacting an alkylene carbonate and an alkanol in the presence of a transesterification catalyst to obtain a product mixture containing unconverted alkylene carbonate, unconverted alkanol, dialkyl carbonate, alkanediol and an alkanol impurity;

(b) separating unconverted alkylene carbonate and alkanediol from the product mixture to obtain a top stream containing unconverted alkanol, dialkyl carbonate and the alkanol impurity;

(c) recovering the alkanediol; and

(d) separating unconverted alkanol from the top stream containing unconverted alkanol, dialkyl carbonate and the alkanol impurity obtained in step (b) to obtain a bottom stream containing dialkyl carbonate and the alkanol impurity,

which process further comprises

(e) contacting the bottom stream containing dialkyl carbonate and the alkanol impurity obtained in step (d) with an aryl group containing ester and a catalyst to effect reaction of the alkanol impurity with the aryl group containing ester.

8. Process according to any one of claims 1-6, wherein the stream containing a dialkyl carbonate and the alkanol impurity is obtained by a process for the preparation of a dialkyl carbonate and an alkanediol comprising:

(a) reacting an alkylene carbonate and an alkanol in the presence of a transesterification catalyst to obtain a product mixture containing unconverted alkylene

carbonate, unconverted alkanol, dialkyl carbonate, alkanediol and an alkanol impurity;

(b) separating unconverted alkylene carbonate and alkanediol from the product mixture to obtain a top stream containing unconverted alkanol, dialkyl carbonate and the alkanol impurity;

(c) recovering the alkanediol; and

(d) contacting the top stream containing unconverted alkanol, dialkyl carbonate and the alkanol impurity obtained in step (b) with an aryl group containing ester and a catalyst to effect reaction of the alkanol impurity with the aryl group containing ester, and separating unconverted alkanol to obtain a bottom stream containing dialkyl carbonate.

9. Process according to claim 7 or 8, wherein the alkylene carbonate is ethylene carbonate, the unconverted alkanol is ethanol, the dialkyl carbonate is diethyl carbonate, the alkanediol is monoethylene glycol and the alkanol impurity is 2-ethoxyethanol.

10. Process according to any one of the preceding claims, further comprising the step of removing the impurities resulting from the reaction of the alkanol impurity with the aryl group containing ester, from the stream containing the dialkyl carbonate.

11. Process for making a diaryl carbonate, comprising contacting a stream containing a dialkyl carbonate and an alkanol impurity with an aryl group containing ester and a catalyst to effect reaction of the alkanol impurity with the aryl group containing ester in accordance with the process of any one of claims 1-10, and then contacting, in the presence of a transesterification catalyst, an aryl alcohol with the stream containing the dialkyl carbonate.

12. Process according to claim 11, wherein the diaryl carbonate is diphenyl carbonate and the aryl alcohol is phenol.

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1. Process for removing an alkanol impurity from a stream containing a dialkyl carbonate and the alkanol impurity, wherein the dialkyl carbonate is a di(C_1-C_5)alkyl carbonate and the alkanol impurity is an ether alkanol, comprising contacting the stream with an aryl group containing ester and a catalyst to effect reaction of the alkanol impurity with the aryl group containing ester, wherein the aryl group containing ester contains one or more ester moieties of formula –(C=O)O– and contains one or more aryl groups wherein the aryl group or at least one of the aryl groups is attached directly to the non-carbonyl oxygen atom of the ester moiety of formula –(C=O)O– through one of the carbon atoms which constitute the aromatic ring of the aryl group.

2. Process according to claim 1, wherein the aryl group containing ester is diphenyl carbonate.

3. Process according to claim 2, wherein the dialkyl carbonate is diethyl carbonate.

4. Process according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the alkanol impurity is an ether alkanol which is an alkoxy alkanol, more specifically 2-ethoxyethanol.

5. Process according to claim 4, wherein the dialkyl carbonate is diethyl carbonate and the alkanol impurity is 2-ethoxyethanol.

6. Process according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the stream containing the dialkyl carbonate and the alkanol impurity is contacted with a stream originating from a process for producing diphenyl carbonate from a dialkyl carbonate and phenol and/or purifying crude diphenyl carbonate, the latter stream containing a catalyst, preferably a titanium containing

catalyst, and an aryl group containing ester, comprising preferably diphenyl carbonate and optionally one or more derivatives of diphenyl carbonate, comprising preferably phenyl salicylate and optionally one or more derivatives of phenyl salicylate.

7. Process according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the stream containing a dialkyl carbonate and the alkanol impurity is obtained by a process for the preparation of a dialkyl carbonate and an alkanediol comprising:

(a) reacting an alkylene carbonate and an alkanol in the presence of a transesterification catalyst to obtain a product mixture containing unconverted alkylene carbonate, unconverted alkanol, dialkyl carbonate, alkanediol and an alkanol impurity;

(b) separating unconverted alkylene carbonate and alkanediol from the product mixture to obtain a top stream containing unconverted alkanol, dialkyl carbonate and the alkanol impurity;

(c) recovering the alkanediol; and

(d) separating unconverted alkanol from the top stream containing unconverted alkanol, dialkyl carbonate and the alkanol impurity obtained in step (b) to obtain a bottom stream containing dialkyl carbonate and the alkanol impurity,

which process further comprises

(e) contacting the bottom stream containing dialkyl carbonate and the alkanol impurity obtained in step (d) with an aryl group containing ester and a catalyst to effect reaction of the alkanol impurity with the aryl group containing ester.

8. Process according to any one of claims 1-6, wherein the stream containing a dialkyl carbonate and the alkanol

impurity is obtained by a process for the preparation of a dialkyl carbonate and an alkanediol comprising:
(a) reacting an alkylene carbonate and an alkanol in the presence of a transesterification catalyst to obtain a product mixture containing unconverted alkylene carbonate, unconverted alkanol, dialkyl carbonate, alkanediol and an alkanol impurity;
(b) separating unconverted alkylene carbonate and alkanediol from the product mixture to obtain a top stream containing unconverted alkanol, dialkyl carbonate and the alkanol impurity;
(c) recovering the alkanediol; and
(d) contacting the top stream containing unconverted alkanol, dialkyl carbonate and the alkanol impurity obtained in step (b) with an aryl group containing ester and a catalyst to effect reaction of the alkanol impurity with the aryl group containing ester, and separating unconverted alkanol to obtain a bottom stream containing dialkyl carbonate.

9. Process according to claim 7 or 8, wherein the alkylene carbonate is ethylene carbonate, the unconverted alkanol is ethanol, the dialkyl carbonate is diethyl carbonate, the alkanediol is monoethylene glycol and the alkanol impurity is 2-ethoxyethanol.

10. Process according to any one of the preceding claims, further comprising the step of removing the impurities resulting from the reaction of the alkanol impurity with the aryl group containing ester, from the stream containing the dialkyl carbonate.

11. Process for making a diaryl carbonate, comprising contacting a stream containing a dialkyl carbonate and an alkanol impurity with an aryl group containing ester and a catalyst to effect reaction of the alkanol impurity

with the aryl group containing ester in accordance with the process of any one of claims 1-10, and then contacting, in the presence of a transesterification catalyst, an aryl alcohol with the stream containing the dialkyl carbonate.

12. Process according to claim 11, wherein the diaryl carbonate is diphenyl carbonate and the aryl alcohol is phenol.