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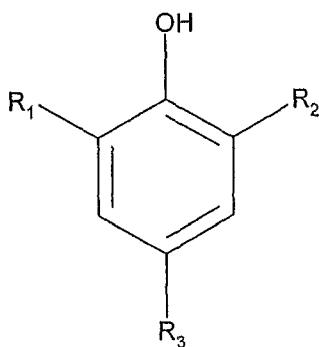
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(54) Title: SULFONATED NITROPHENOLS AS POLYMERIZATION INHIBITORS



(57) Abstract: Disclosed herein is a method for inhibiting and retarding the premature poly-
merization and the polymer growth of ethylenically unsaturated monomers comprising adding
to said monomers an effective amount of at least one inhibitor that is a sulfonated nitrophenol
of the formula: (I) wherein: R₁, R₂, and R₃ are independently selected from the group con-
sisting of hydrogen, alkyl, NO₂, and SO₃H, provided that at least one of R₁, R₂, and R₃ is NO₂
and at least one of R₁, R₂, and R₃ is SO₃H. In a preferred embodiment, at least one additional
inhibitor selected from the group consisting of nitroxyl compounds, nitrosoanilines, nitrophe-
nols, amines, and mixtures thereof is also added.