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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF ϵ -CAPROLACTAM

(57) Abstract: A process for the preparation of ϵ -caprolactam starting from 6-aminocaproic acid, 6-aminocaproamide, 6-aminocaproic ester, 6-aminocapronitrile, oligomers or polymers of these compounds or mixtures comprising at least two of these compounds, which process is performed in the presence of N-(5-carboxypentyl)- ϵ -caprolactam and/or derivative thereof in an amount of less than 50 wt.% and more than 0.1 wt.% (based on the total reaction mixture).

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