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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US96/01818 (22) International Filing Date: 9 February 1996 (09.02.96) (30) Priority Data: 08/386,892 10 February 1995 (10.02.95) US (71) Applicant: MOBIL OIL CORPORATION [US/US]; 3225 Gallows Road, Fairfax, VA 22037 (US). (72) Inventors: BUCHANAN, John, Scott; 663 Paxson Avenue, Trenton, NJ 08619 (US). CHESTER, Arthur, Warren; 517 Country Club Drive, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003-3009 (US). FUNG, Shiu, Lun, Anthony; 3 Crenshaw Drive, Wilmington, DE 19810-3620 (US). KINN, Timothy, Frederick; 120-F Hemlock Court, Narraticon, Deptford, NJ 08096 (US). MIZRAHI, Sadi; 204 Sheffield Road, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034 (US). (74) Agents: ROBERTS, Peter, W. et al.; Mobil Oil Corporation, 3225 Gallows Road, Fairfax, VA 22037 (US).		(81) Designated States: AU, BR, CA, CN, JP, KR, MX, RU, SG, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published <i>With international search report.</i>
(54) Title: HEAVY AROMATICS PROCESSING		
(57) Abstract A heavy aromatics feed is converted to lighter aromatics products, such as benzene, toluene and xylenes by contacting a C₉+ aromatics fraction and benzene and/or toluene over a catalyst comprising a zeolite, such as ZSM-12, and hydrogenation component, preferably platinum. The catalyst, complete with hydrogenation component, is treated to reduce aromatics loss. Treatment includes exposure to steam and/or sulfur after incorporation of the hydrogenation component. For additional stability and aromatics retention the steamed and/or sulfur treated catalyst is sulfided by cofeeding a source of sulfur. A low hydrogen partial pressure is preferably employed to assist in aromatics retention.		