

CATALYST COMPOSITION FOR THE
PREPARATION OF POLYESTERS, AND
RELATED PROCESSES

ABSTRACT

5 A catalyst composition for use in the preparation of a
polyester or copolyester is disclosed. The catalyst composition
comprises the combination of (a) a titanium-based compound or
zirconium-based compound, and (b) a lanthanide series compound or
hafnium. Various titanium-based compounds and lanthanide-based
10 compounds are described. Moreover, in some embodiments, the
catalyst composition may further comprise a phosphate-forming
compound. Another aspect of this invention is an improved method for
preparing a polyester, based, for example, on the two-stage process of
ester interchange and polycondensation. The method is carried out in
15 the presence of the catalyst composition described above.