

ABSTRACT

FLUID BED PROCESS FOR THE ACETOXYLATION OF ETHYLENE
IN THE PRODUCTION OF VINYL ACETATE

A fluid bed process for the manufacture of vinyl acetate from ethylene, acetic acid and oxygen comprising feeding ethylene and acetic acid into a fluid bed reactor through one or more inlets, introducing the oxygen into the reactor through at least one further inlet, co-joining the oxygen, ethylene and acetic acid in the reactor in contact with a fluid bed catalyst to produce vinyl acetate. The particle size diameter of the particulate catalyst material preferably has a range of 60% of the particles being below 200 microns (0.2 mm) with no more than 40% of the particles being below 40 microns (0.04 mm).

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