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(54) Title: IMPROVED PRECIOUS METAL CATALYST FOR DEBENZYLATION

(57) Abstract: One aspect of the invention relates to catalyst composite containing a metal catalyst and a specifically defined carbon support containing a carbonaceous material. For example, the carbon support may have a total pore surface area of about 800 m^2/g or more and about 2,000 m^2/g or less where about 20% or less of the total pore surface area is micro pore surface area. Alternatively the carbon support may have a total pore volume of at least about 0.75 cc/g where about 15% or less of the total pore volume is micro pore volume. In yet another aspect of the invention, the carbon support may have a phosphorus content of about 0.75% by weight or less. In still yet another aspect of the invention, methods of making and using the catalyst composite are disclosed.