

Abstract**Chromium-free hydrogenation of hydroformylation mixtures**

- The invention relates to a process for the preparation of alcohols by hydrogenation of aldehydes, in which use mixture comprising at least one aldehyde and at least one accompanying component is brought into contact, in the presence of hydrogen, with a heterogeneous catalyst, giving a product mixture which comprises at least the alcohol corresponding to the hydrogenated aldehyde, and at least one by-product, where the catalyst comprises a support material, and nickel and copper applied thereto. The object of the invention is to indicate a chromium-free catalyst suitable for such a process. Moreover, the catalyst should be suitable for hydrogenating aldehyde mixtures with different chain lengths, in particular those which originate from different hydroformylations and can also comprise substances with C=C double bonds. Surprisingly, this object is achieved by omitting the chromium during the preparation of a classic Cu/Ni/Cr system, such that a catalyst is obtained on whose support material only copper and nickel occur as hydrogenation-active components, but not chromium.
- 15 No figure to be published.