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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/22184 (22) International Filing Date: 24 September 1999 (24.09.99) (30) Priority Data: 09/167,154 6 October 1998 (06.10.98) US (71) Applicant: EXXON RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING COMPANY [US/US]; P.O. Box 390, 180 Park Avenue, Florham Park, NJ 07932-0390 (US). (72) Inventors: SARTORI, Guido; 73 Meadowview Drive, Annandale, NJ 08801-1516 (US). SAVAGE, David, William; 5 Fieldstone Drive, Lebanon, NJ 08833 (US). BLUM, Saul, Charles; 4 Watson Court East, Edison, NJ 08820-2307 (US). DALRYMPLE, David, Craig; 19 Statts Road, Bloomsbury, NJ 08804 (US). WALES, William, Edward; 91 Buttonwood Lane, Phillipsburg, NJ 08865 (US). (74) Agents: BAKUN, Estelle, C. et al.; Exxon Research and Engineering Company, P.O. Box 390, Florham Park, NJ 07932-0390 (US).		(81) Designated States: AL, AU, BA, BB, BG, BR, CA, CN, CU, CZ, EE, GE, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KP, KR, LC, LK, LR, LT, LV, MG, MK, MN, MX, NO, NZ, PL, RO, SG, SI, SK, SL, TR, TT, UA, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i>
(54) Title: METAL COMPOUNDS AS ACCELERATORS FOR PETROLEUM ACID ESTERIFICATION (57) Abstract The present invention relates to a process for reducing the acidity of a petroleum oil containing organic acids comprising treating said petroleum oil containing organic acids with an effective amount of an alcohol at a temperature and under conditions sufficient to form the corresponding ester of said alcohol and wherein said treatment is conducted in the presence of a metal carboxylate.		