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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/07879 (22) International Filing Date: 17 April 1998 (17.04.98) (30) Priority Data: 08/844,051 18 April 1997 (18.04.97) US (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): EXXON CHEMICAL PATENTS INC. [US/US]; 5200 Bayway Drive, Baytown, TX 77520-5200 (US). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): KAO, Jar-lin [US/US]; 16507 Craighurst, Houston, TX 77059 (US). DEMARTIN, Greg [US/US]; 25 Elmwood Avenue, Bogota, NJ 07603 (US). SOLED, Stuart [US/US]; 21 Cooks Cross Road, Pittstown, NJ 08867 (US). (74) Agents: SHERER, Edward, F. et al.; Exxon Chemical Com- pany, P.O. Box 2149, Baytown, TX 77522-2149 (US).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, GM, GW, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, 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, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i>
(54) Title: XYLENE ISOMERIZATION PROCESS (57) Abstract A process for isomerizing a non-equilibrium xylene feed mixture is disclosed. The isomerization is conducted in the presence of hydrogen and at pressures in excess of 75 psig (517 kPa) over a ZSM-5 type catalyst containing about 0.1 to 5 wt.% of at least one metal selected from the group consisting of zinc, copper, silver and gallium. In another embodiment, the catalyst may further contain an oxide of at least one element selected from silicon, germanium and tin. The process produces a product containing about or above equilibrium quantities of para-xylene with low xylene loss.		