

ABSTRACT**OLEFIN HYDRATION PROCESS**

This invention relates to a method for the hydration of olefins to the corresponding alcohols in the presence of a catalyst system comprising phosphoric acid catalyst supported on a siliceous support. One of the features of the invention is the use of a support which has a high crush strength, a high porosity and low metallic impurities. Using such a support, the catalyst system and the reaction conditions specified not only increase the life of the catalyst system by preventing loss of the crush strength of the support but also the improve the space-time-yield of the alcohol produced.