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(54) Title: NICKEL-CONTAINING ETHYLENE OLIGOMERIZATION CATALYST AND USE THEREOF

(57) Abstract: A process for the oligomerization of ethylene to a mixture of olefinic products having high linearity is provided, by using a catalyst comprising a reaction product of a simple divalent nickel salt; a boron hydride reducing agent; a water soluble base; a ligand selected from an o-dihydrocarbylphosphinobenzoic acid and alkali metal salt thereof; and, a phosphite.