

Process for the polymerisation of cyclic olefins and photopolymerisable composition

Abstract of the Disclosure

A process for photocatalytic polymerisation of a cyclic olefin or of at least two different cyclic olefins in the presence of a metal compound as catalyst, which process comprises carrying out a photochemically induced ring-opening metathesis polymerisation in the presence of a catalytic amount of at least one thermostable molybdenum (VI) or tungsten (VI) compound which contains at least two methyl groups or two monosubstituted methyl groups lacking β -hydrogen atoms in the substituent and which are bonded to the metal atom. The process may be carried out by first irradiating and terminating the polymerisation by heating. The process is suitable for fabricating moulded articles, coatings and relief images.