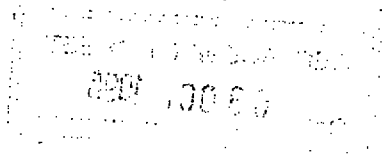


PROCESS FOR PURIFYING ACRYLIC ACID TO HIGH PURITY IN THE
PRODUCTION OF ACRYLIC ACID

Abstract

A process for producing acrylic acid is described, which process comprising providing a mixed gas of acrylic acid and by-products produced by catalytic gas phase oxidation of propylene and/or acrolein, contacting the mixed gas with water to obtain an aqueous solution, and adding an azeotrope solvent to the aqueous solution for distillation to obtain a mixture of the by-products, water and the azeotrope solvent from a tower top and acrylic acid from a tower bottom. Highly pure acrylic acid is obtained by using, as the azeotrope solvent, a mixed solvent of solvent A selected from diethyl ketone, methyl propyl ketone, methyl isobutyl ketone, methyl-tert-butyl ketone, n-propyl acetate and mixtures thereof and solvent B selected from toluene, heptane, methyl cyclohexane and mixtures thereof.

(Selected Drawing : Fig. 1)



0-8823082