

Preparation of caprolactam

Abstract

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- 5 A process for the preparation of caprolactam is provided, wherein
- 10 a) a mixture (I) containing 6-aminocapronitrile and water is reacted in the gas phase, in the presence of a catalyst, to give a mixture (II) containing caprolactam, ammonia, water, high-boiling components and low-boiling components,
- 15 b) ammonia is then removed from the mixture (II) to give a mixture (III) containing caprolactam, water, high-boiling components and low-boiling components,
- 20 c) water is then removed from the mixture (III) to give a mixture (IV) containing caprolactam, high-boiling components and low-boiling components, and
- 25 d) a solid (V) containing caprolactam is then obtained from the mixture (IV) by crystallization, the proportion by weight of caprolactam in the solid (V) being greater than in the mixture (IV).