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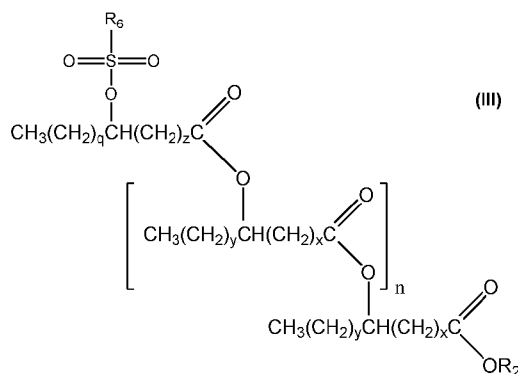
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(54) Title: PROCESSES OF PREPARING ESTOLIDE COMPOUNDS THAT INCLUDE REMOVING SULFONATE RESIDUES



(57) Abstract: Provided herein are processes of preparing sulfonated estolide compounds, and the removal of sulfonate residues from those compounds to provide desulfonated estolide base oils. Exemplary sulfonated estolide compounds include those selected from Formula (III); wherein z is an integer selected from 0 to 15; q is an integer selected from 0 to 15; x is, independently for each occurrence, an integer selected from 0 to 20; y is, independently for each occurrence, an integer selected 0 to 20; n is equal to or greater than 0; R₆ is selected from -OH, optionally substituted alkyl, and optionally substituted aryl; and R₂ is selected from hydrogen and optionally substituted alkyl that is saturated or unsaturated, and branched or unbranched, wherein each fatty acid chain residue of said compounds is independently optionally substituted.