(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
19 December 2002 (19.12.2002)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 02/100980 A3

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: C10G 65/10, B01J 35/10, C10G 65/02

(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP02/06665

(22) International Filing Date: 10 June 2002 (10.06.2002)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
2001-174073 8 June 2001 (08.06.2001) JP

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(81) Designated States *(national)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States *(regional)*: ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:
— *with international search report*

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
10 April 2003

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: TWO-STAGE HEAVY FEED HPC PROCESS

(57) Abstract: The present invention pertains to a method for hydroprocessing a heavy hydrocarbon oil, comprising bringing a heavy hydrocarbon oil into contact with hydroprocessing catalyst I in the presence of hydrogen in a first stage, after which the effluent of the first stage is contacted in whole or in part with hydroprocessing catalyst II in the presence of hydrogen, wherein catalyst I comprises 7 to 20 wt.% of a Group VIB metal component, calculated as trioxide on the weight of the catalyst, and 0.5 to 6 wt.% of a Group VIII metal component, calculated as oxide on the weight of the catalyst, on a porous inorganic carrier, said catalyst having a specific surface area of at least 100 m^2/g, a total pore volume of at least 0,55 ml/g, at least 50 % of the total pore volume in pores with a diameter of at least 20 nm (200 Å), and 10-30% of the total pore volume in pores with a diameter of at least 200 nm (2000 Å), and catalyst II comprises 7 to 20 wt.% of a group VIB metal component, calculated as trioxide on the weight of the catalyst, and 0.5 to 6 wt.% of a Group VIII metal component, calculated as oxide on the weight of the catalyst, on a porous inorganic carrier, said catalyst having a specific surface area of at least 100 m^2/g, a total pore volume of at least 0.55 ml/g, at least 75% of the total pore volume in pores with a diameter of 10-120 nm (100-1200 Å), 0-2% of the total pore volume in pores with a diameter of at least 400 nm (4000 Å), and 0-1% of the total pore volume in pores with a diameter of at least 1000 nm (10000 Å). The method according to the invention combined efficient contaminant removal with high cracking rate and low sediment formation. The invention also pertains to the combination of catalysts.

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