

ABSTRACT

HOMOGENEOUS PROCESS FOR THE HYDROGENATION OF DICARBOXYLIC ACIDS AND/OR ANHYDRIDES THEREOF

A homogeneous process for the hydrogenation of dicarboxylic acids and/or anhydrides in the presence of a catalyst comprising: (a) ruthenium, rhodium, iron, osmium or palladium; and (b) an organic phosphine; wherein the hydrogenation is carried out in the presence of at least about 1 % by weight water and wherein the reaction is carried out at a pressure. of from about 500 psig to about 2000 psig and a temperature of from about 200 °C to about 300 °C such that from about 1 mol to about 10 mol of hydrogen are used to strip 1 mole of product from the reactor.

No Figure



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