

< AMENDED SHEET >
ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A process for producing dialkyl carbonates, such as dimethyl carbonate, from the reaction of a primary alcohol with urea in the presence of a novel catalyst which is a complex of organotin with a high boiling electron donor compound acting as solvent which are bidentate ligands which form 1:1 bidentate and/or 1:2 monodentate adducts with R'_2SnX_2 ($X = Cl, R'O, R'COO$ or $R'COS$), R'_3SnX , R'_2SnO , $Ph_{3-n}R'SnX_n$ or $Ph_{4-n}SnX_n$ (wherein $R' = C_qH_{2q+1}$ $n = 0, 1$ or 2 and $q = 1$ to 12) and mixtures thereof, such as materials having the general formula $RO[CH_2(CH_2)_kCH_2O]_mR$, wherein each R is independently selected from C_{1-12} alkyl, alkaryl or aralkyl moieties, $k = 0, 1, 2$ or 3 and $m = 1, 2, 3, 4$ or 5 .



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