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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : C07C 5/22, 4/12	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 99/32421 (43) International Publication Date: 1 July 1999 (01.07.99)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/26587 (22) International Filing Date: 15 December 1998 (15.12.98) (30) Priority Data: 08/995,270 19 December 1997 (19.12.97) US (71) Applicant: MOBIL OIL CORPORATION [US/US]; 3225 Gallows Road, Fairfax, VA 22037 (US). (72) Inventors: HELLRING, Stuart, Damon; 130 Oak Park Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15243 (US). STERN, David, Lawrence; 3906 Tarnbrook Drive, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054 (US). (74) Agents: ROBERTS, Peter, W. et al.; Mobil Oil Corporation, 3225 Gallows Road, Fairfax, VA 22037 (US).		(81) Designated States: AU, CA, JP, KR, SG, European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published <i>With international search report.</i>
(54) Title: META-XYLENE PRODUCTION PROCESS (57) Abstract In a process for producing <i>meta</i>-xylene, a hydrocarbon feedstream comprising at least 5 wt.% ethylbenzene and at least 20 wt.% <i>meta</i>-xylene is contacted with a molecular sieve catalyst under ethylbenzene conversion conditions sufficient to provide a primary product stream depleted of more than 50 % of the ethylbenzene present in the feedstream. The primary product stream is then stripped benzene and/or toluene by-products to provide a secondary product stream comprising at least 75 wt.% mixed <i>ortho</i>-xylene and <i>meta</i>-xylene. The secondary product stream is then split to remove substantially all of the <i>ortho</i>-xylene present therein to provide a tertiary product stream comprising at least 95 wt.% <i>meta</i>-xylene.		