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(54) Title: CONTROLLING VINYL ACETATE MONOMER CATALYST DEACTIVATION WITH CARBON DIOXIDE

(57) Abstract: A process for improving catalyst lifetime in the production of vinyl acetate monomer comprises reacting ethylene, acetic acid, and oxygen in the presence of carbon dioxide and a palladium-containing catalyst to produce vinyl acetate monomer. The carbon dioxide is present in an amount ranging from greater than 5 mol% to 20 mol% based on the total amount of ethylene, acetic acid, oxygen, and carbon dioxide.

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