

HYDROCARBON CONVERSION PROCESS

Abstract of the Disclosure

A method is provided for putting a fresh bed of solid phosphoric acid catalyst into service to catalyze a hydrocarbon conversion process. The method involves

5 establishing hydrocarbon conversion conditions of temperature and pressure in the catalyst bed while it is immersed in a in a hydrocarbon liquid which is substantially free of water and compounds which can yield water upon contact with the catalyst. Thereafter, the catalyst bed is used to catalyze the conversion of a hydrocarbon feedstock which contains a minor amount of a hydrating agent which is effective to

10 provide a desired level of catalyst hydration. The method permits the catalyst to be rapidly brought to an optimum level of activity for the specific hydrocarbon conversion process.