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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE CATALYTIC VAPOUR PHASE OXIDATION OF ETHYLENE

(57) Abstract

A process for the catalytic vapour-phase oxidation of ethylene with a molecular oxygen-containing gas, in a single-compartment reactor comprising a multitude of reaction tubes containing a supported silver catalyst and surrounded by a heat-exchange fluid which enters the reactor in liquid form and leaves the reactor in vapour form, characterized in that between 5 and 100 wt.% of the liquid heat-exchange fluid is introduced to the reactor at its downstream end, at a temperature which is at least 20 °C below the temperature of the heat-exchange fluid on leaving the reactor.