

THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
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Process for the production of 3-aminomethyl-3,5,5-trimethylcyclohexyl amine

5 **A b s t r a c t**

The invention relates to an improved process for producing 3-aminomethyl-3,5,5-trimethylcyclohexyl amine (= isophorone diamine) from isophorone nitrile.

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It is known, for the production of isophorone diamine, to iminize isophorone nitrile in a first stage and to subject the reaction mixture to aminizing hydrogenation in a second stage in the presence of a fixed bed hydrogenation catalyst
15 based on Raney cobalt.

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By the use according to the invention of a fixed bed hydrogenation catalyst produced in a special manner - mixing of a powdery Co-containing Raney alloy with powdery cobalt, sintering of the powdery mixture to mouldings and activation of the latter by leaching out by means of alkali hydroxide solution -, the yield and/or space-time yield in isophorone diamine were able to be increased.

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