

A B S T R A C T

PROCESS FOR THE CARBONYLATION OF ACETYLENICALLY
UNSATURATED COMPOUNDS

A process for the carbonylation of acetylenically unsaturated compounds in the presence of a nucleophilic compound having one or more removable hydrogen atoms and a catalyst system based on

- (a) a source of platinum
- (b) a bisphosphine of the general formula



wherein each of R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 independently represents a hydrocarbyl group, which may be unsubstituted or substituted with one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, cyano, alkoxy, acyl, alkylamino and dialkylamino groups, and R represents a bivalent bridging group containing 2 to 5 atoms in the bridge, and

- (c) a source of anions being the conjugated base of an acid having a pKa of less than 4.