

A B S T R A C T

PREPARATION OF COPOLYMERS OF CARBON MONOXIDE
AND OLEFINICALLY UNSATURATED COMPOUNDS

A process for the preparation of copolymers of carbon monoxide and olefinically unsaturated compounds in the presence of an aprotic solvent and a catalyst system based on

- (a) a Group VIII metal,
- (b) an acid or an anion thereof having a pK_A of less than 2, and
- (c) a phosphorus bidentate ligand of the general formula $R^1R^2P-R-P-R^1R^2$, wherein R^1 and R^2 represent identical or different aliphatic alkyl groups, and R is a divalent organic bridging group containing at least two carbon atoms in the bridge connecting the two phosphorus atoms,

characterized in that the copolymerization is carried out in the additional presence of hydrogen, while the molar ratio of catalyst component (c) to catalyst component (a) is in the range of from 1 to 10.