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(21) International Application Number: PCT/GB98/02028 (22) International Filing Date: 10 July 1998 (10.07.98) (30) Priority Data: 9714632.8 12 July 1997 (12.07.97) GB (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): IMPERIAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES PLC [GB/GB]; Imperial Chem- ical House, Millbank, London SW1P 3JF (GB). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): STUART, Joseph, Youngblood [US/US]; 10423 N. Carriage House Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70815-5524 (US). MARTIN, John, Stuart [GB/GB]; 127 Mornant Avenue, Hartford, Northwich, Cheshire CW8 2SG (GB). PARTEN, David, William [GB/GB]; Northolme, Tamebridge, Nr. Stokesley, North Yorkshire TS9 5LQ (GB). HARRISON, Stephen, Patrick [GB/GB]; 17 Hugill Close, Yarn, Cleveland TS15 9SS (GB). (74) Agents: GIBSON, Sara, Hillary, Margaret et al.; ICI Group Intellectual Property, P.O. Box 90, Wilton, Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS90 8JE (GB).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i>
(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF METHYL METHACRYLATE		
(57) Abstract A process for the manufacture of methyl methacrylate includes a process for separating the methyl methacrylate from certain impurities, at least one of which has a freezing point of greater than -50 °C, by a fractional crystallisation process.		