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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US97/09574 (22) International Filing Date: 29 May 1997 (29.05.97) (30) Priority Data: 60/018,550 29 May 1996 (29.05.96) US (71) Applicant: EXXON CHEMICAL PATENTS INC. [US/US]; 5200 Bayway Drive, Baytown, TX 77520-5200 (US). (72) Inventors: MOHR, Gary, D.; 2018 Caravel Drive, League City, TX 77573 (US). VERDUIJN, Johannes, P.; Vlieguit 28, B- 3061 Leefdaal (BE). (74) Agents: SHERER, Edward, F. et al.; Exxon Chemical Com- pany, P.O. Box 2149, Baytown, TX 77522-2149 (US).		(81) Designated States: AL, AU, BA, BB, BG, BR, CA, CN, CU, CZ, EE, GE, GH, HU, IL, IS, JP, KP, KR, LC, LK, LR, LT, LV, MG, MK, MN, MX, NO, NZ, PL, RO, SG, SI, SK, TR, TT, UA, UZ, VN, YU, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>With amended claims and statement.</i>
(54) Title: PROCESS FOR ISOMERIZATION OF ALKYLAROMATIC HYDROCARBONS (57) Abstract A process for isomerizing a feed containing alkylaromatic hydrocarbons, e.g., monocyclic alkylaromatic hydrocarbons and/or bicyclic alkylaromatic hydrocarbons. The process is carried out by contacting the feed under conversion conditions with a zeolite bound zeolite catalyst which comprises first crystals of an intermediate pore size first zeolite and a binder which comprises second crystals of a second zeolite. The process finds particular application in isomerizing a feed containing ethylbenzene and less than equilibrium amounts of xylenes with ethylbenzene and can produce a product containing above equilibrium quantities of para-xylene with low aromatics ring loss and xylene loss.		