

VINYL ACETATE CATALYST PREPARATION METHOD

ABSTRACT

A method of preparing a catalyst particularly useful in the reaction of ethylene, oxygen and acetic acid in the vapor phase to form vinyl acetate comprises impregnating a porous support with water soluble salts of palladium and gold, fixing the palladium and gold on the support as water insoluble compounds by contacting the salt-impregnated support with a reactive solution in two separate fixing stages wherein the treated support is dried and allowed to stand prior to treatment in the second stage to precipitate the insoluble compounds on the support and reducing the insoluble compounds to free palladium and gold. The catalysts prepared in this manner have been shown to provide improvement with respect to reduced selectivity to CO_2 during the vinyl acetate forming reaction.