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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF AN ALKANEDIOL AND A DIALKYL CARBONATE

(57) Abstract: A process for the preparation of an alkanediol and a dialkyl carbonate is provided, which process comprises: (a) contacting an alkylene carbonate with an alkanol feedstock under transesterification conditions in a reactive distillation column to obtain an upwardly moving stream comprising dialkyl carbonate and the alkanol and a downwardly moving stream comprising the alkanediol; (b) recovering the alkanediol at the bottom of the column; (c) withdrawing a dialkyl carbonate- and alkanol-containing product stream at the upper part of the column, which upper part is below the top of the column; and (d) removing lower-boiling compounds at the top of the column.



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