

A B S T R A C T

PREPARATION OF COPOLYMERS OF CARBON MONOXIDE WITH ETHYLENICALLY UNSATURATED COMPOUNDS, COMPOSITION AND METHOD FOR MELT PROCESSING

A process for the preparation of linear alternating copolymers of carbon monoxide and an ethylenically unsaturated compound by polymerizing the monomers in the presence of a suitable catalyst system, one or more components present in the reaction mixture being contaminated with alkali(ne earth) metal salt(s), which process involves a treatment by which at least part of the alkali(ne earth) metal salt is removed such that the total amount of alkali(ne earth) metals present in the copolymerization product is less than 1 part per million by weight; a copolymer composition comprising said copolymer, an alkali(ne earth) metal salt contaminant and a stabilizing quantity of a substance which is able to bind at least part of the alkali(ne earth) metal salt, the substance being other than a hydroxyapatite or a zeolite-type trivalent metal silicate; and a method for melt processing said copolymer, wherein the copolymer which contains an alkali(ne earth) metal salt contaminant is mixed with a stabilizing quantity of a substance which is able to bind at least part of the alkali(ne earth) metal salt, the substance being other than a hydroxyapatite or a zeolite-type trivalent metal silicate, and wherein the resulting mixture is melt processed.

MG1/T1879FF

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