ABSTRACT

PROCESS FOR THE CARBONYLATION OF ALKYL ALCOHOLS AND/OR REACTIVE DERIVATIVES THEREOF.

In a process for the liquid phase carbonylation of an alkyl alcohol such as methanol, and/or a reactive derivative thereof to produce the corresponding carboxylic acid and/or ester, in the presence of an iridium catalyst, an alkyl halide and water, the reaction is promoted by the presence of at least one promoter selected from cadmium, mercury, zinc, gallium, indium and tungsten, optionally with a co-promoter selected from ruthenium, osmium and rhenium.