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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR MAXIMIZING 371°+ PRODUCTION IN A FISCHER-TROPSCH PROCESS

(57) Abstract: A hydrocarbon synthesis (HCS) process wherein a Fisher-Tropsch reactor is operated to maximize the selectivity to 371°C+ boiling fraction while minimizing the production of less valuable products such as light gases (C_1-C_4), naphtha and diesel fractions. Inventive modes of operation to offset the effects of catalyst deactivation and maximize selectivity to 371°C+ boiling fraction are utilized including (a) reducing gas inlet velocity to maintain an optimal CO conversion level, (b) introducing additional active catalyst until a maximum loading is reached, and (c) increasing reactor temperature until productivity reaches a predetermined cut-off level.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 C10G2/00 C07C1/04

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 C10G C07C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X Y	GB 676 635 A (HYDROCARBON RESEARCH INC) 30 July 1952 (1952-07-30) page 2, line 69 - line 84 page 4, line 3 - line 9; claim 1 page 3, line 114 - line 129	1 1-10
Y	US 6 284 807 B1 (HSIA STEPHEN J ET AL) 4 September 2001 (2001-09-04) column 4, line 47 - line 55 column 5, line 48 - line 55; claims 4,5 column 5, line 37 - line 38	1-10
Y	US 2 610 200 A (ALFRED CLARK) 9 September 1952 (1952-09-09) column 1, line 32 - line 36	1-10

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[X] Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

[X] Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
1 August 2003	08/08/2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA	Authorized officer
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Deurinck, P

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication,where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 2 271 259 A (WILHELM HERBERT) 27 January 1942 (1942-01-27) the whole document	1-10
A	US 2 479 999 A (ALFRED CLARK) 23 August 1949 (1949-08-23) claim 1	1-10

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