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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF ALKYLENE GLYCOLS

(57) Abstract: A process for the conversion of an alkylene oxide to the corresponding alkylene glycol in the presence of carbon dioxide, water and a catalytic composition comprising a mixture of in the range of from 10 to 90 mol% (based on the mixture) of an organic base and in the range of from 10 to 90 mol% (based on the mixture) of salt of the organic base and a hydrogen halide, wherein the organic base comprises a carbon-based compound comprising one or more nitrogen atoms with at least one free electron pair and/or one or more phosphorous atoms with at least one free electron pair, and has a pKa high enough that it is capable of binding carbon dioxide under the reaction conditions.



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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4 982 021 A (BEST ROBERT D [US] ET AL) 1 January 1991 (1991-01-01) claims	1-11
X	EP 0 776 890 A2 (MITSUBISHI CHEM CORP [JP]) 4 June 1997 (1997-06-04) column 6, line 30 to column 7, line 50; column 11, line 54 - column 12, line 7; claims	1-11
Y	US 3 535 342 A (EMMONS ALBERT H) 20 October 1970 (1970-10-20) column 1, line 56 - column 2, line 12; column 3, Table; claims	1-11
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/ 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	Authorized officer <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Sen, Alina</p>	

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C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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Y	----- US 6 124 508 A (VAN KRUCHTEN EUGENE MARIE GODF [NL]) 26 September 2000 (2000-09-26) the whole document -----	1-11

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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