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(57) Abstract: A process for the reactivation of an acidic ion exchange resin is described. The invention relates to the treatment of an at least partially deactivated resin which has been deactivated by contact with an impure ethylenically unsaturated acid or ester containing target impurities. The reactivation includes the step of contacting the at least partially deactivated resin with an alcohol to thereby increase the activity thereof. The invention extends to reactivating a resin deactivated by contact with an impure ethylenically unsaturated acid, ester or nitrile containing target impurities by contacting the at least partially deactivated resin with an alcohol and a carboxylic acid to thereby increase the activity thereof. A reactivated resin and a process for preparing and purifying an ethylenically unsaturated acid or ester of the following formula: - R¹-C(=(CH₂)_m) -COOR² are also described.

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PCT/GB2010/050510 CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
VV. B01J49/00 C07C6 A. CLA C07C67/343 C07C51/47 C07C51/353 C07C67/56 C07C69/54 C07C57/04 ADD. 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) C07C B01J 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 C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category* Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. X US 3 146 258 A (LEACH HARRY S) 1.3 - 5.925 August 1964 (1964-08-25) 10,16-19 column 2, line 25 Α column 2, line 41 column 2, line 27 X DATABASE WPI Week 200872 1,3-5,9,Thomson Scientific, London, GB; AN 10.18 2008-M32253 XP002607793 & WO 2008/078769 A1 (LION CORP) 3 July 2008 (2008-07-03) * abstract 2 X EP 0 343 583 A2 (MITSUBISHI RAYON CO [JP]) 1.3-5.9.29 November 1989 (1989-11-29) 10,18 page 3, line 55 - line 58 -/--X X Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex. Special categories of cited documents : 'T' later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone filing date document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention citation or other special reason (as specified) cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed *&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report

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