

**WE CLAIM**

1. A process for synthesis of pure Sodium 2-ethylhexanoate salt comprising of reaction between ethylhexanoic acid and aqueous solution of sodium hydroxide

5                   -   Wherein the dehydration of aqueous solutions of Sodium 2-ethylhexanoate salt is done by the exothermic heat generated during the reaction itself under controlled conditions of pH 7.2-7.6 and at atmospheric or reduced pressure.

10                   -   Wherein subsequent drying of this concentrated salt containing about 70% weight of Sodium 2-ethylhexanoate salt is done in an open pan at a product temperature below 150°C to obtain lumps of Sodium 2-ethylhexanoate salt which are powdered by multi milling operation.

15                   2. The process for synthesis of pure Sodium 2-ethylhexanoate salt as claimed in claim 1 wherein concentrated Sodium 2-ethylhexanoate salt is pan dried to obtain moisture content as low as 1.5-2.0%.

20                   3. A process for the synthesis of pure Sodium 2-ethylhexanoate salt as described herein with reference to the detailed description.

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Jitin Talwar

Advocate and patent Agent (IN/PA-1117)

Agent for the Applicant

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**CLAIMS**

**WE CLAIM:**

[Original Claims] 1. The process of synthesis of pure Sodium 2-ethylhexanoate salt comprising of reaction between ethylhexanoic acid and aqueous solution of sodium hydroxide.

- Wherein the dehydration of aqueous solution of Sodium 2-ethylhexanoate salt is done by the exothermic heat generated during the reaction itself under controlled conditions of PH 7.2-7.6 and at atmospheric and reduced pressure.

- Wherein subsequent drying of this concentrated salt containing about 70% of weight of sodium 2-ethylhexanoate salt is done in an open pan at a product temperature below 150°C to obtain lumps of Sodium 2-ethylhexanoate salt which are powdered by multi milling operation.

[Original Claims] 2. The process of synthesis of pure Sodium 2-ethylhexanoate salt as claimed in claim 1 wherein concentrated Sodium 2-ethylhexanoate salt is pan dried to obtain moisture content as low as 1.5 to 2.0%.

[Currently Amended] 3. The process for the synthesis of pure Sodium 2-ethylhexanoate salt characterized in the steps comprising:

- a) Reacting ethylhexanoic acid with an aqueous solution of sodium hydroxide maintaining the pH at 7.2-7.6 to obtain the Sodium 2-ethylhexanoate salt;
- b) Dehydrating the water present in reaction mixture by exothermic heat generated during the reaction in step(a) to get concentrated salt containing about 70% of weight of sodium 2-ethylhexanoate salt;

- c) Subsequent drying of the obtained sodium 2-ethylhexanoate concentrated salt in an open pan at a temperature below 150°C to obtain lumps of Sodium 2-ethylhexanoate salt with moisture content as low as 1.5 to 2.0%; and
- d) Multi-milling the lumps of sodium 2-ethylhexanoate salt to obtain pure powdered form of Sodium 2-ethylhexanoate salt.

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Jitin Talwar

Advocate and patent Agent (IN/PA-1117)

Agent for the Applicant