
Question 24: What is the maximum oxygen content you allow for the platinum redistribution step in a fixed bed reformer? What sets the maximum oxygen concentration?

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Directionally the higher O₂ level is better for metal dispersion during oxidization. UOP recommends a minimum of 5% with typical maximum O₂ content of 8-10 mol% based on the seal oil combustion limits. Dry seals or nitrogen purge seals allow higher O₂ content without explosive conditions. If there is a history of coke ball formation or damage to reactor internals, maintaining a maximum of 3 mol% oxygen during the oxidation step should be considered and should be determined on case-by-case basis. When O₂ level is lower than desirable level, extending the hold time during the oxidization step will directionally improve metal dispersion.

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