

## **cyanohydrins**

*Alcohols* substituted by a cyano group, most commonly, but not limited to, examples having a cyano and a hydroxy group attached to the same carbon atom, formally derived from *aldehydes* or *ketones* by the addition of hydrogen cyanide. An individual cyanohydrin can systematically be named as a hydroxy nitrile, e.g.  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{C}(\text{OH})\text{C}\equiv\text{N}$  'acetone cyanohydrin' (2-hydroxy-2-methylpropanenitrile),  $\text{H O C H}_2\text{C H}_2\text{C}\equiv\text{N}$  'ethylene cyanohydrin' (3-hydroxypropanenitrile).

See *halohydrins*.

1995, 67, 1329