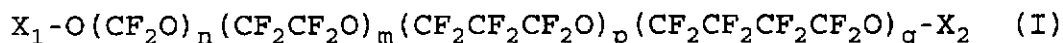


PERFLUOROPOLYETHERS

ABSTRACT

Use in optical systems as liquids to transmit light at wave lengths lower than 250 nm, in particular at 157 nm, of perfluoropolyethers having the following formula:



wherein:

- the repeating units $-CF_2O-$, $-CF_2CF_2O-$, $-CF_2CF_2CF_2O-$, $-CF_2CF_2CF_2CF_2O-$ are statistically distributed along the chain;
- $-X_1$ and $-X_2$ are perfluoroalkyl chain end groups equal to or different from each other, having formula $-(CF_2)_zCF_3$ wherein z is 0 or an integer from 1 to 3;
- n , m , p , q are 0 or integers comprised between 1 and 100, with the proviso that:
 - at least one among n , m , p and q is different from zero;
 - the ratio between the oxygen atoms and the carbon atoms (O/C) is higher than 0.33;

wherein the chlorine atoms, determined by ^{19}F -NMR are substantially absent.