CLAIMS

1. An aqueous sizing composition for insulating products based on mineral wool, comprising

(a) at least one carbohydrate chosen from hydrogenated sugars, reducing sugars, non-reducing sugars and mixtures thereof,

(b) at least one polycarboxylic acid or a salt or anhydride of such an acid,

(c) from 1% to 25% by weight, relative to the sum of the components (a) and (b), of at least one aliphatic, cycloaliphatic or aromatic monoalcohol free of acid or base functions and having an octanol/water partition coefficient (Log Kow) of between 1 and 3

2. the component (a) and the component (b) each representing independently from 30 to 70% by weight of solids of the sizing composition. The composition as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the concentration of the monoalcohol (c) is between 1.5% and 10% by weight and preferably between 2% and 8% by weight, relative to the sum of components (a) and (b).

3. The composition as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the octanol/water partition coefficient is between 1.05 and 2.0 and preferably between 1.1 and 1.5.

4. The composition as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the monoalcohol is chosen from aliphatic and cycloaliphatic monoalcohols.

5. The composition as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the monoalcohol comprises at least one aromatic ring.

6. The composition as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the monoalcohol is 2-phenoxyethanol.

7. The composition as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the polycarboxylic acid is a polycarboxylic acid monomer.

8. The composition as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the polycarboxylic acid is citric acid.

9. The composition as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the proportion of hydrogenated sugars in the carbohydrate is between 25% and 100% by weight.

10. The composition as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that the carbohydrate contains at least 30% by weight, preferably at least 50% by weight and in particular at least 70% by weight of hydrogenated sugars.

11. The composition as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the hydrogenated sugar is chosen from the hydrogenation products of monosaccharides, disaccharides, oligosaccharides and polysaccharides, and mixtures thereof.

12. The composition as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the hydrogenated sugar is a product of hydrogenation of a starch hydrolyzate.

13. A process for manufacturing an insulating product based on mineral wool, comprising

- the application of an aqueous sizing composition as claimed in any one of the preceding claims to mineral wool fibers,
- evaporation of the solvent phase of the aqueous sizing composition and thermal hardening of the non-volatile residue of the composition.