That which claimed is:

1. A composition comprising:

a) an epoxy resin; and

b) a hardener comprising a copolymer of: i) an ethylenically unsaturated anhydride, and ii) a vinyl compound, wherein said vinyl compound is styrene or a styrene derivative and wherein said copolymer has an anhydride content of less than 15 weight percent, based on the total weight of said copolymer;

wherein said composition is prepared from a halogen-containing compound;

~~2. A composition in accordance with claim 1~~ wherein said copolymer is present in an amount in the range of from about 10 weight percent to about 90 weight percent, based on the total weight of said composition.

2~~3~~. A composition in accordance with claim 1 further comprising a solvent in an amount in the range of from 30 to 60 weight percent, based on the total weight of said composition.

3~~4~~. A composition in accordance with claim 1 wherein said halogen-containing compound is selected from the group consisting of tetrabromobisphenol-A (TBBA) and tetrabromobisphenol F.

4~~5~~. A composition in accordance with claim 1 wherein said epoxy resin is produced by contacting a glycidyl ether with a bisphenol compound to form oxazolidinone moieties.

5~~6~~. A composition in accordance with claim 4~~5~~ wherein said epoxy resin is produced by contacting a glycidyl ether with a bisphenol compound and a polyisocyanate.

6~~7~~. A composition in accordance with claim 1 wherein said epoxy resin is selected from the group consisting of a phenolic epoxy resin, a novolac epoxy resin, a benzoxazine resin, an aryl cyanate resin, an aryl triazine resin, a maleimide resin, and combinations of any two or more thereof.

7~~8~~. A varnish produced from the composition of claim 1.

8~~9~~. A prepreg prepared from the varnish of claim 7~~8~~.

9~~10~~. An electrical laminate prepared from the varnish of claim 7~~8~~.

10~~11~~. A printed circuit board prepared from the varnish of claim 7~~8~~.

11~~12~~. A coating prepared from the varnish of claim 7~~8~~.

123. A composite prepared from the varnish of claim 78.

134. A casting prepared from the varnish of claim 78.

145. An adhesive prepared from the varnish of claim 78.