CLAIMS

1. A carpet cleaning detergent comprising:

a) 0.001% to 40%w/v of a bactericidally active cationic compound in its salt form;

b) 0.001 to 40%w/v of an anionic surfactant;

c) 0.1 to 10wt% bleach;

d) a resoil prevention polymer; and

e) up to 98%w/v of water, which additionally comprises 0.001 percent to 15 percent of a water-miscible organic solvent.

2. A detergent composition as claimed in claim 1, which additionally comprises 0.001 to 30%w/v of a non-ionic surfactant.

3. A detergent composition as claimed in claim 1, or 2 which additionally comprises 0.001 to 10%w/v of a superwetting agent.

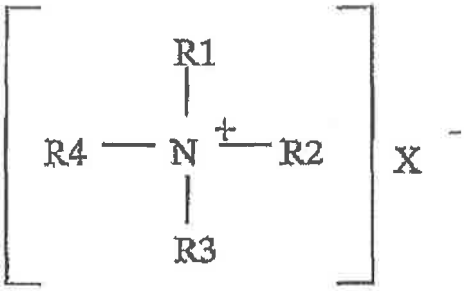
4. A detergent composition as claimed in claim 3 wherein the super wetting agent is able to lower the surface tension of water to below 25 mN/m at concentrations of 0.0001 to 1%w/v.

~~5. A detergent composition as claimed in claims from 1 to 4 which additionally comprises 0.001% to 15% of a water-miscible organic solvent.~~

~~6~~5. A detergent composition as claimed in claims 1 to ~~5~~ 4 which additionally comprises 0.01-5%w/v of a chelating agent, 0.01-30%w/v of a polymer and up to 2%w/v of minor ingredients selected from perfumes, dyes, preservatives and antifoaming agents.

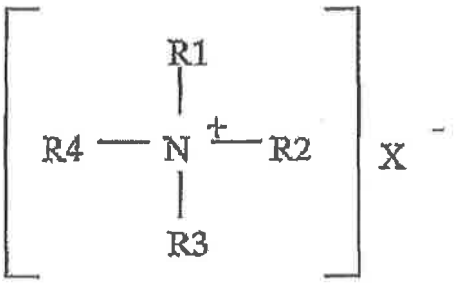
~~7~~6. A detergent composition described in claims 1 to ~~7~~ 5 additionally comprises from 0.001 to 1 %w/v of an additional bactericidally active product selected from essential oils (tea tree oil, citronella oil and thyme oil), phenols, alcohols, halogens, aldehydes and acids.

~~8~~7. A detergent composition as claimed in any claim from 1 to ~~7~~ 6 wherein the cationic compound is



wherein R1, R2, R3 and R4 are independently selected from alkyl, aryl or alkylaryl substituent of from 1 to 26 carbon atoms straight chained or branched and may include one or more amide, ether or ester linkates, and the entire cation portion of the molecule has a molecular weight of at least 165 and X is the counterion anion.

~~9~~8. A detergent composition as claimed in claim ~~8~~ 7 wherein the cationic compound is



wherein R2 and R3 are each independently the same or different C_{8-12} alkyl; or R2 is selected from C_{12-16} alkyl, C_{8-18} alkylethoxy or C_{8-18} alkylphenoxyethoxy and R3 is benzyl and X is the counterion anion.

~~10~~9. A detergent composition as claimed in claim ~~8~~ 7 or claim ~~9~~ 8 wherein X is selected from saccharinate, alkyl and alkyl benzene sulfate, sulfonate and fatty acid.