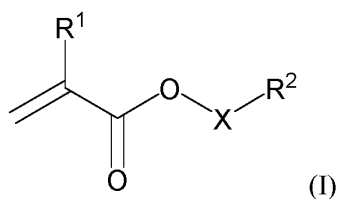
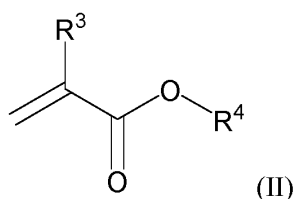


Claims

1. An antifouling coating composition comprising:
(A) a binder comprising:
- 5 (i) 30 to 80 wt% of a silyl ester copolymer comprising triisopropylsilyl methacrylate monomers;
- (ii) 20 to 55 wt% of a monocarboxylic acid or derivative thereof; and
- 10 (iii) 5 to 20 wt% of an acrylic copolymer having a glass transition temperature (T_g) of less than 25 °C;
- wherein components (i) and (iii) are different; and
- (B) tralopyril.
2. An antifouling coating composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the silyl ester copolymer (i) is present in an amount of 30 to 70 wt%.
- 15 3. An antifouling coating composition as claimed in claim 1 or 2 wherein the silyl ester copolymer (i) further comprises at least one hydrophilic monomer.
- 20 4. An antifouling coating composition as claimed in claim 3, wherein the silyl ester copolymer comprises as monomers:
- (a) triisopropylsilyl methacrylate;
- (b) a compound of Formula (I)

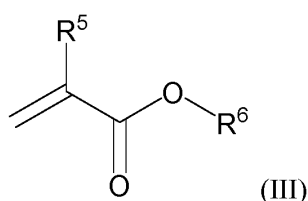


- 25 wherein R¹ is hydrogen or methyl, R² is a cyclic ether (such as oxolane, oxane, dioxolane, dioxane optionally alkyl substituted) and X is a C1-C4 alkylene; and/or a compound of Formula (II)



wherein R^3 is hydrogen or methyl, and R^4 is a C3-C18 substituent with at least one oxygen or nitrogen atom, preferably at least one oxygen atom; and optionally

- 5 (c) one or more monomers of Formula (III)



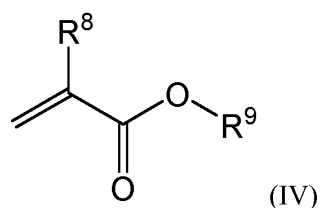
wherein R^5 is hydrogen or methyl, and R^6 is a C1-C8 hydrocarbyl.

5. An antifouling coating composition as claimed in claim 4 wherein in
 10 Formula (II), R^4 is a group of formula $-(CH_2CH_2O)_m-R^7$ where R^7 is a C1-C10 alkyl or a C6-C10 aryl substituent and m is an integer in the range of 1 to 6, preferably 1 to 3.
6. An antifouling coating composition as claimed in claim 5 wherein R^4 is a
 15 group of formula $-(CH_2CH_2O)_m-R^7$ where R^7 is a C1-C10 alkyl substituent, preferably methyl or ethyl, and m is an integer in the range of 1 to 3, preferably 1 or 2.
7. An antifouling coating composition as claimed in any of claims 4 to 6
 20 wherein component (b) comprises one or more of 2-methoxyethyl acrylate, 2-methoxyethyl methacrylate, 2-ethoxyethyl methacrylate, 2-(2-ethoxyethoxy)ethyl acrylate, 2-(2-ethoxyethoxy)ethyl methacrylate, tetrahydrofurfuryl acrylate, and tetrahydrofurfuryl methacrylate.

8. An antifouling coating composition as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the acrylic copolymer (iii) comprises 0.5-10 wt% of a carboxylic acid-containing monomer, based on the total weight of the acrylic copolymer.

5 9. An antifouling coating composition as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the acrylic copolymer (iii) comprises as monomers:

a) at least one (meth)acrylate of Formula (IV):



wherein R^8 is hydrogen or methyl, and R^9 is a C1-C20 hydrocarbyl

10 substituent; and

b) 0.5-10 wt% of at least one carboxylic acid-containing monomer, based on the total weight of the acrylic copolymer.

10. An antifouling coating composition as claimed in any preceding claim,
15 wherein the monocarboxylic acid or derivative thereof (ii) is gum rosin.

11. An antifouling coating composition as claimed in any preceding claim further comprising one or more biocides selected from zinc pyrithione, copper pyrithione, zineb and 4,5-dichloro-2-octyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one.

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12. An antifouling coating composition as claimed in any preceding claim, comprising 2 to 40 wt% (dry solids) of the silyl ester copolymer (i) based on the total weight of the antifouling coating composition.

25 13. An antifouling coating composition as claimed in any preceding claim, comprising 2 to 30 wt% (dry solids) of the monocarboxylic acid (ii) based on the total weight of the antifouling coating composition.

14. An antifouling coating composition as claimed in any preceding claim, comprising 1.0 to 15 wt% (dry solids) of the acrylic copolymer (iii) based on the total weight of the antifouling coating composition.
- 5 15. An antifouling coating composition as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the coating composition contains less than 0.2 wt% inorganic antifouling copper compounds.
- 10 16. A process for protecting an object from fouling, said process comprising coating at least a part of said object which is subject to fouling with an antifouling coating composition as claimed in any of claims 1 to 15.
- 15 17. An object coated with the antifouling coating composition as claimed in any of claims 1 to 15.