

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
25 September 2008 (25.09.2008)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2008/115261 A1

(51) International Patent Classification:

C07C 17/12 (2006.01) C08K 5/03 (2006.01)
C07C 25/18 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2007/076183

(22) International Filing Date: 17 August 2007 (17.08.2007)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:

60/895,383 16 March 2007 (16.03.2007) US

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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,

AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))
- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))
- of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv))

Published:

- with international search report

(54) Title: PREPARATION AND PROVISION OF HIGH ASSAY DECABROMODIPHENYLETHANE

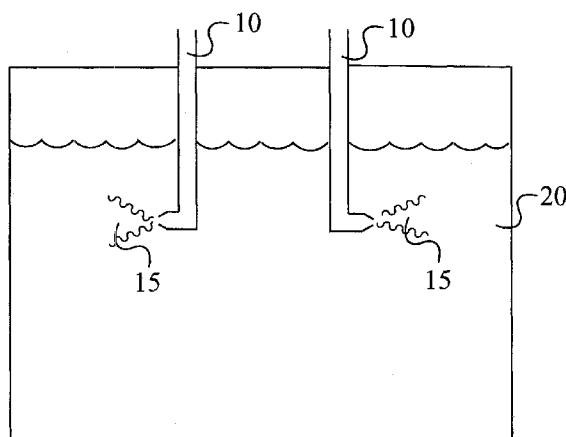


Fig. 1

(57) Abstract: High assay, reaction-derived decabromodiphenylethane product is prepared by feeding (i) diphenylethane or (ii) partially brominated diphenylethane having an average bromine number less than about two, or (iii) both of (i) and (ii), into the liquid confines of a reaction mixture. Such reaction mixture is (a) formed from components comprised of excess liquid bromine and aluminum-based Lewis acid bromination catalyst, and (b) maintained at one or more elevated reaction temperatures of from about 45°-90°C, and at least when elevated pressure is needed to keep a liquid state in the reaction mixture at the temperature(s) used, the reaction mixture is at such an elevated pressure, whereby arborination occurs. The feeding is conducted at a rate slow enough to form high assay reaction-derived decabromodiphenylethane product, which is an effective flame retardant.

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