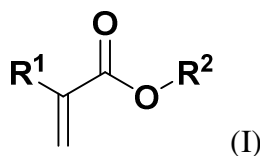


Abstract

Antifouling Composition

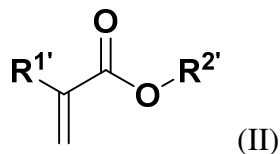
5 A binder for an antifouling coating composition comprising:

(i) a hydrophilic copolymer having a glass transition temperature of at least 0°C comprising at least 10 wt% of at least one monomer of Formula (I)



10 wherein R¹ is H or CH₃, and R² is a C3-C18 substituent with at least one oxygen or nitrogen atom, preferably at least one oxygen atom or R² is a poly(alkylene glycol) chain;

and at least one monomer of Formula (II),



15 wherein R^{1'} is H or CH₃, and R^{2'} is a C1-C20 hydrocarbyl;

said hydrophilic copolymer comprising less than 15 wt% comonomers other than those of Formula (I) or (II);

(ii) a cyclic monocarboxylic acid such as rosin or a derivative thereof

(iii) a silyl ester copolymer comprising at least 15 wt% of silyl ester

20 monomer and/or a non-hydrophilic (meth)acrylic polymer which comprises less than 10 wt% of a monomer of Formula (I).

[No suitable figure]