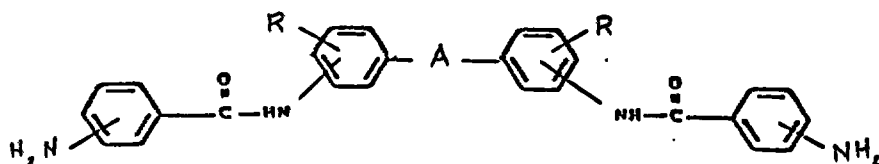


ABSTRACT

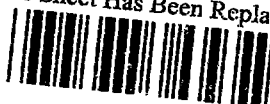
The present invention provides polyamide-polyimide and polybenzoxazole-polyimide polymers derived therefrom with improved processing and film characteristics having incorporated into the polymeric backbone the polymeric condensation residuum of novel aromatic diamino compounds having the formula:



wherein A is selected from the group consisting of SO₂, O, S, CO, C₁ to C₆ alkyl, perfluoroalkyl or perfluoroarylalkyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms and a carbon-carbon double bond directly linking the two aromatic groups, and R is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy and C₁ to C₄ alkoxy.

The polyamide-polyimide polymers of this invention are prepared by reacting compounds of the above formula, alone or admixed with other aromatic diamines, with one or more aromatic tetracarboxylic acids or anhydrides thereof. Polybenzoxazole-polyimide derivatives of such polyamide-polyimide polymers are prepared utilizing compounds of the above formula wherein R is hydroxy or C₁ to C₄ alkoxy, and by subjecting the resulting alkoxy or hydroxy-substituted polyamide-polyimide to a dehydrating and cyclizing reaction to form the oxazole linkage which gives rise to polybenzoxazole-polyimide polymer.

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