

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
23 April 2009 (23.04.2009)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2009/051605 A1

(51) International Patent Classification:
C08L 93/00 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2007/083463

(22) International Filing Date:
2 November 2007 (02.11.2007)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
11/873,013 16 October 2007 (16.10.2007) 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).

Declaration under Rule 4.17:

— as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))

Published:

— with international search report

(54) Title: GUAYULE RESIN MULTIPOLYMER

(57) Abstract: A method for preparing multipolymers of guayule resin with methacrylic, acrylic, vinyl and styrenic monomers and the resultant compositions are disclosed. As a result of the multipolymerization, the physical and chemical properties of the resin are improved. The primary advantage of multipolymerization over mixtures of resin with homopolymers is that it leads to a homogeneous material, the properties of which can be regulated by adjusting the ratio of the concentration of monomers in the feed. One attractive feature is the production of low viscosity resins with reactive groups that can compete directly with oligomers and macro-monomers used in solventless inks, coatings and adhesives. The low cost of the resin, a byproduct from the extraction of hypoallergenic rubber from guayule and other plants bearing rubber or rubber-like hydrocarbons provides for hybrid low molecular weight copolymers that are cost competitive with state-of-the-art oligomers.

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