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(54) Title: ALUMINUM CONTAINING POLYESTER POLYMERS HAVING LOW ACETALDEHYDE GENERATION RATES

(57) Abstract: A polyester polymer composition containing polyester polymers such as polymers having repeating ethylene terephthalate units, aluminum atoms in an amount of at least 3 ppm based on the weight of the polymer, the polyester polymers having an It.V. of at least 0.72 dL/g obtained through a melt phase polymerization and a residual acetaldehyde level of 10 ppm or less. Also provided are polyester polymer compositions containing polyester polymers and : (i) aluminum atoms (ii) alkaline earth metal atoms or alkali metal atoms or alkali compound residues, and (iii) a catalyst deactivator such as a phosphorus compound. The phosphorus compound is added to the polyester melt either late in the polycondensation or upon remelting a solid polyester polymer. The polyester polymer exhibits good L* brightness, clarity, and low levels of acetaldehyde generated upon melting.



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