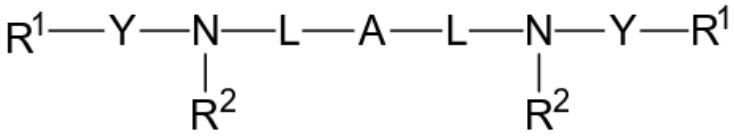
CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula I



I

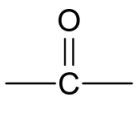
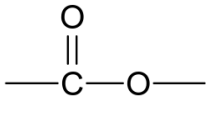
wherein:

A represents a bivalent polysiloxane moiety having a number average molecular weight of from 500 to 10,000 Daltons;

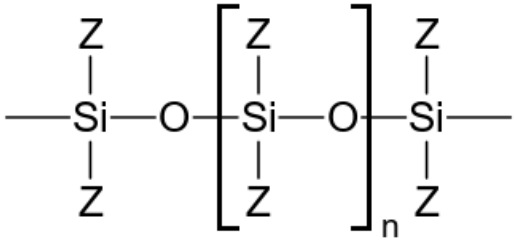
each L independently represents a linear alkylene linker group having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms;

each R^1 independently represents a linear or branched C_{5-8} alkyl group;

each R^2 independently represents hydrogen or a C_{1-4} alkyl group;

each Y independently represents a covalent bond,  , or  where the carbonyl carbon is bonded to the nitrogen atom.

2. The compound according to Claim 1, wherein A represents a polysiloxane moiety of the following formula:



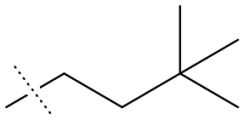
wherein each Z independently represents a C_{1-5} alkyl group.

3. The compound according to Claim 2, wherein each Z independently represents methyl, ethyl, i-propyl or n-propyl, optionally wherein each Z independently represents methyl or ethyl.

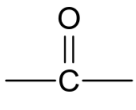
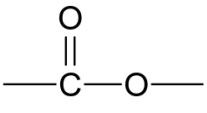
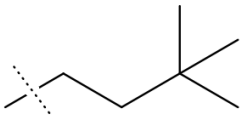
4. The compound according to Claim 1, wherein the polysiloxane moiety A has a number average molecular weight of from 1000 to 5000 Daltons, optionally from 1500 to 3500 Daltons, further optionally from 2000 to 3000 Daltons.

5. The compound according to Claim 1, wherein L represents an alkylene group having from 1 to 5 carbon atoms, optionally from 2 to 4 carbon atoms, such as 3 carbon atoms.

6. The compound according to Claim 1, wherein each R^1 is independently selected from one of the group consisting of:

a) a linear C_5 alkyl group;
b) a linear C_6 alkyl group;
c) a linear C_8 alkyl group; and
d) a group of formula:  , where the dashed line represents the point of attachment to the rest of the molecule.

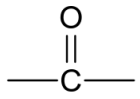
7. The compound according to Claim 1, wherein:

a) Y is  , or  and each R^1 is a linear C_5 alkyl group;
b) Y is a covalent bond and each R^1 is a linear C_6 alkyl group;
c) Y is a covalent bond and each R^1 is a linear C_8 alkyl group;
d) Y is a covalent bond and each R^1 is a group of formula:  , where the dashed line represents the point of attachment to the rest of the molecule.

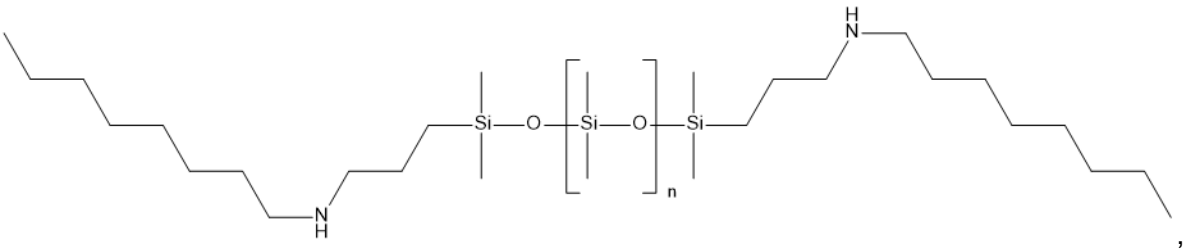
8. The compound according to Claim 1, wherein each R^2 independently represents hydrogen, a methyl group or an ethyl group, optionally wherein R^2 represents hydrogen.

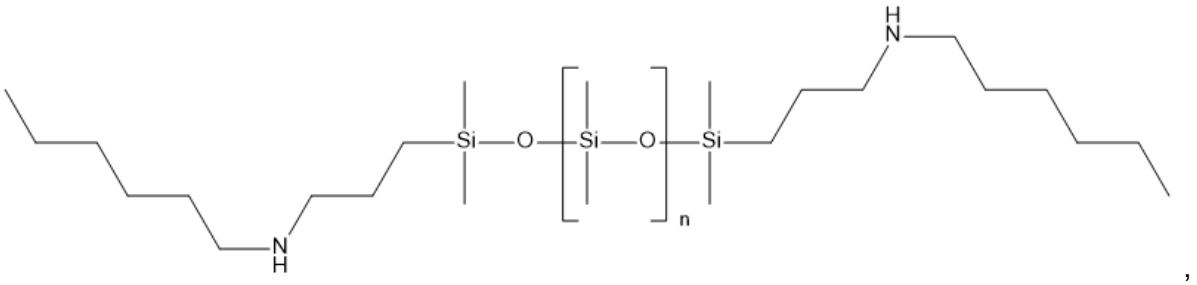
9. The compound according to Claim 1, wherein:
(a) both L groups are the same; and/or
(b) both R^1 are the same; and/or
(c) both R^2 are the same; and/or
(d) both Y groups are the same; and/or
(e) when present, each Z group is the same

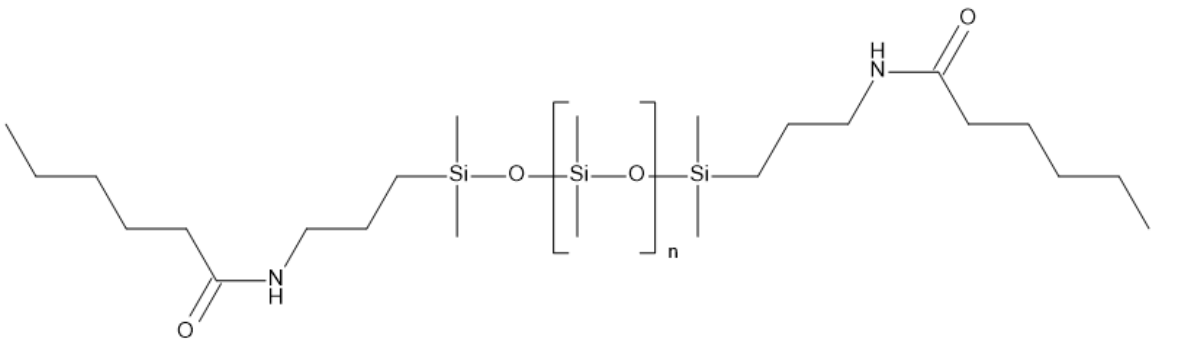
optionally wherein both L groups are the same, both R^1 are the same, both R^2 are the same, both Y groups are the same, and when present, each Z group is the same.

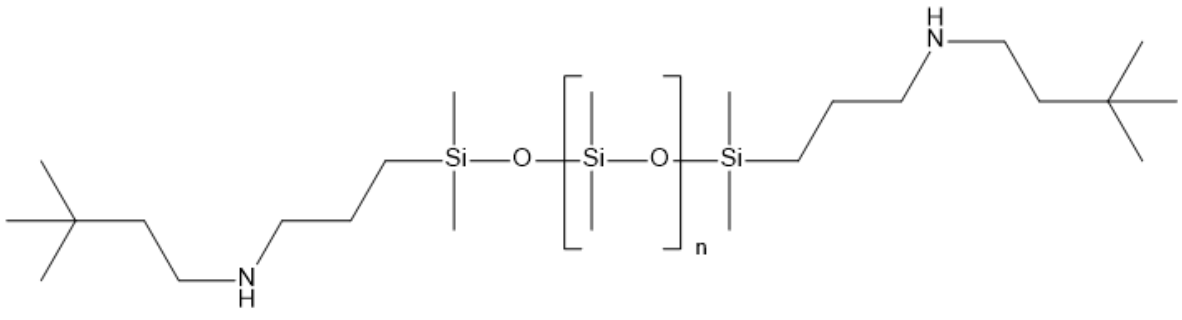
10. The compound according to Claim 1, wherein each Y represents a covalent bond or .

11. The compound according to Claim 1, which has one of the following structures:

,

,

,

,

where the central siloxane polymer moiety has a number average molecular weight of from 2,250 to 2,750 Daltons, optionally from 2,400 to 2,600 Daltons.

12. Use of a compound as described in Claim 1 to prevent or reduce the build-up of foam in a reactor.

13. A method of reducing the build-up of foam in a reactor, said method comprising a step of adding a compound as described in Claim 1 to said reactor.