

CLAIMS:

1. A coating composition, preferably a solvent-free composition, comprising:
- (i) a binder;
 - 5 (ii) optionally a curing agent;
 - (iii) hollow, inorganic, spherical, filler particles; and
 - (iv) hollow, organic, spherical, filler particles;
- wherein the volume ratio of said inorganic, spherical filler particles to said organic, spherical filler particles is at least 1.1:1, preferably 1.1:1.0 to 10.0:1.0.
- 10 2. A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein said binder is selected from epoxy-based, preferably epoxy, acrylic, alkyd, phenolic based, silicone, polysiloxane, polyurethane, polyurea, polyaspartic and hybrids and mixtures thereof, and preferably said binder is epoxy-based, particularly epoxy.
- 15 3. A composition as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein said curing agent is an aliphatic or cycloaliphatic amine or polyamine.
4. A composition as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein said hollow, inorganic, spherical filler particles comprise, preferably consist of, glass.
- 20 5. A composition as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein said hollow, inorganic, spherical filler particles have an average diameter of 10-100 microns.
- 25 6. A composition as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein said hollow, organic, spherical, filler particles have an average diameter of 10-120 microns.
7. A composition as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the average diameter of the hollow, organic, spherical filler particles is greater than the average diameter of the hollow, inorganic, spherical filler particles.
- 30 8. A composition as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the volume ratio of hollow, inorganic, spherical filler particles to hollow, organic, spherical particles is 1.1:1.0 to 10.0:1.0, preferably 5:1:1.0 to 1.2:1.0.

9. A composition as claimed in any preceding claim, further comprising a thickener, preferably an amide wax thickener.

5 10. A composition as claimed in any preceding claim, further comprising an organosilane adhesion promoter.

11. A method for preparing a composition as claimed in any preceding claim, comprising mixing:

- 10 (i) a binder;
(ii) optionally a curing agent;
(iii) hollow, inorganic, spherical, filler particles; and
(iv) hollow, organic, spherical, filler particles.

15 12. A kit for preparing a composition as claimed in any one of claims x to x, comprising:

- (i) a first container containing binder, optionally hollow, inorganic, spherical, filler particles and optionally hollow, organic, spherical, filler particles;
(ii) a second container containing curing agent, optionally hollow, inorganic, spherical, filler particles and optionally hollow, organic, spherical, filler particles,
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wherein each of said hollow, inorganic, spherical, filler particles and said hollow, organic, spherical, filler particles are present in at least one of said containers and wherein the volume ratio of said inorganic, spherical filler particles to said organic, spherical filler particles is at least 1.1:1.

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13. A method of providing a coating on a surface, preferably a metal surface, wherein said method comprises:

- (i) applying a composition as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10; and
(ii) curing said composition to form a coating on the surface.

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14. A coating on a surface, preferably a metal surface, wherein said coating is formed from a composition as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10.

15. Use of a composition as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10 to form a coating, preferably an insulating coating, on at least one surface (e.g. a metal surface) of an article.