

ABSTRACT**DIRT PICKUP RESISTANT COATING BINDER AND COATINGS**

A multi-stage aqueous emulsion-polymer suitable for use in dirt pickup resistant coatings and coatings containing the polymer are provided. The multi-stage aqueous emulsion polymer includes (i) a first polymer including at least one nonionic copolymerized monoethylenically unsaturated monomer, from 0.5% to 7% of a copolymerized monoethylenically unsaturated ionic monomer, based on the weight of the first polymer, and from 0% to 1.0%, based on the weight of the first polymer, of a copolymerized multi-ethylenically unsaturated monomer, the first polymer having a Tg of 15 °C to 105 °C; and (ii) a second polymer comprising at least one nonionic copolymerized monoethylenically unsaturated monomer, from 0% to 2% of a copolymerized monoethylenically unsaturated ionic monomer, and from 0.25% to 6%, based on the weight of the second polymer, copolymerized multi-ethylenically unsaturated monomer, the second polymer having a Tg of -55 °C to 30 °C, the second polymer having a different composition than the first copolymer, and the second polymer being from 25% to 75% of the total weight of the first polymer and the second polymer, based on dry polymer weights.