

ADHESIVE COMPOSITION AND COMPOSITE MATERIALSABSTRACT

A water-resistant adhesive (preferably a carboxylated SBR latex) is rendered water-absorbent by incorporation of a large amount (e.g. 5-7% w/w) of a water-absorbent filler (e.g. fumed silica). It is then suitable for treating a low density flexible open-cell foam (e.g. polyurethane foam of density 10-60, preferably 40-45, kg/m³) to make it suitable for forming insoles and racket handgrips. The treatment may involve the application of pieces of fabric (14) soaked in the adhesive (16,18) to the top and bottom faces of a sheet of the foam (12).

(Fig. 1) soluble. The adhesive composition used herein leads to an adhesive bond which is highly resistant to water but which is still water absorbent, due to the high content of an appropriate filler.