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(71) Applicant: MINNESOTA MINING AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY [US/US]; 3M Center, P.O. Box 33427, Saint Paul, MN 55133-3427 (US).

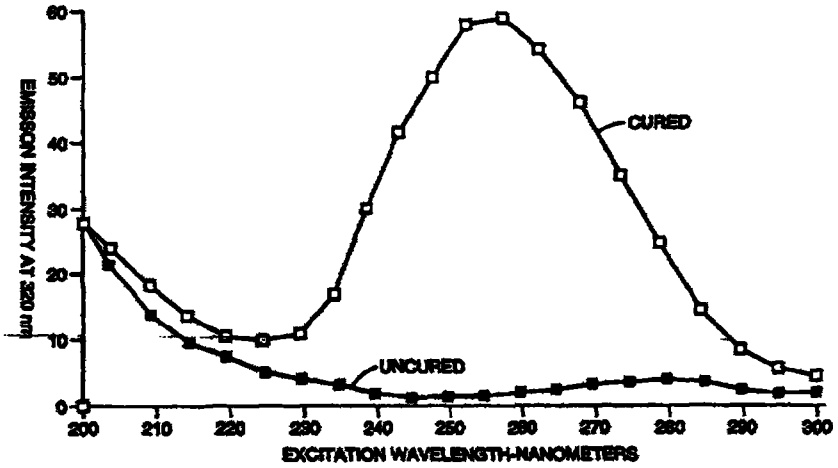
(72) Inventors: HARKLAU, Lanny, L.; P.O. Box 33427, Saint Paul, MN 55133-3427 (US). SIMPSON, J., Thomas; P.O. Box 33427, Saint Paul, MN 55133-3427 (US).

(74) Agents: SCHULTE, Daniel, C. et al.; Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company, Office of Intellectual Property Counsel, P.O. Box 33427, Saint Paul, MN 55133-3427 (US).

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(54) Title: METHOD FOR MEASURING RESIDUAL RADIATION-CURABLE MONOMERS OR OLIGOMERS



(57) Abstract

A method of measuring intensity of radiant energy fluoresced by a fluorescer in a radiation-cured coating. The method comprising the steps of: a) providing a coating (4) comprising: i) a radiation-curable monomer or oligomer; and ii) a fluorescer having an excitation energy at a wavelength λ2, the fluorescer fluorescing radiant energy of a wavelength λ3; b) curing the coating by exposure to radiant energy (14), thereby changing the intensity of radiant energy that would be fluoresced by the fluorescer if exposed to wavelength λ2; c) illuminating the radiation-cured coating with excitation energy (16) of a wavelength λ2, wherein at least 50 % of the excitation energy is absorbed by the upper 75 μm of radiation-cured coating; and d) measuring the intensity (18) of the radiant energy fluoresced by the fluorescer at wavelength λ3. The above method can be used to measure the amount of residual radiation-curable monomer or oligomer present in a radiation-cured coating. This method of measuring residual monomer is especially useful where the intensity of the radiant energy fluoresced by the fluorescer at wavelength λ3 changes with the concentration of unreacted radiation-curable monomer or oligomer in the radiation-cured coating.