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(54) Title: MULTIFUNCTIONAL PARTICULATE ADDITIVE FOR PERSONAL CARE AND COSMETIC COMPOSITIONS, AND THE PROCESS OF MAKING THE SAME

(57) Abstract: Cosmetic and personal care compositions can be manufactured using the multifunctional-additive compositions of the present invention. Such an additive preferably contains one or more particulate-based thickeners, such as a smectite clay, colloidal silica, laponite, and/or alumina, and most preferably one or more smectite clays. According to one important embodiment of the present invention, the thickener particles are co-dispersed with particles of one or more particulate UVR-filters such as titanium dioxide, zinc oxide, or SUNSPHERE (available from International Specialty Chemicals, ISP), and most preferably with the natural particulate sunscreens such as the metal oxides. Another important component of the multifunctional-additive compositions is a dispersant or surface-modifier for the foregoing particulate materials, selected from the family of polyphenolic, natural polymers such as lignosulfonates, lignins, humates, tannates, and derivatives thereof. In addition, these compositions optionally include one or more of the following components: electrolytes, defoamers, humectants, emollients for cosmetics, preservatives, whiteners, and the like.