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(54) Title: BEARING COMPONENTS AND PROCESSES FOR DEPOSITING ADDITIVES, ESPECIALLY FLUOROPOLYMERS, ON CELLULOSE

(57) Abstract: A method for applying an additive, *e.g.* a fluoropolymer, to cellulose. The method comprises a number of steps. First, solid cellulose, a solvent capable of dissolving cellulose, *e.g.* NMMO and a dispersion of the additive are brought into contact with each other. The additive is allowed to diffuse into the dissolved cellulose, which is possible as a result of the dissolution of the surface layer of the solid cellulose. The solubility of cellulose in the solvent is then reduced, whereby the additive that has diffused into the dissolved cellulose is incorporated into the resulting solid cellulose. A method for applying a fluoropolymer to cellulose as a surface coat is also described. Flexible bearing components comprising a mat of cellulose fibres and a fluoropolymer which may be made by the methods described.



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