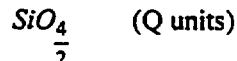
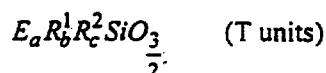
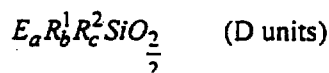
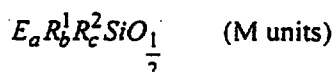




ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention pertains to an epoxy-functional organopolysiloxane resin, and an epoxy-functional organopolysiloxane coating composition comprising the epoxy-functional organopolysiloxane resin. The epoxy-functional organopolysiloxane resin which contains repeating units having the formulae:



wherein E is an epoxy-functional C_{1-18} hydrocarbon group containing one or more oxygen atoms, provided that no oxygen atom is directly bonded to a Si- atom; and

10 R^1 and R^2 are independently a C_{1-20} hydrocarbon, optionally interspersed with a heteroatom linking group,

a is an integer of 0, 1, or 2, preferably 0 or 1;

b is an integer of 0, 1, 2 or 3, preferably 0, 1, or 2;

c is an integer of 0, 1, 2 or 3, preferably 0, 1, or 2; and

15 in M units, $a+b+c=3$,

in D units, $a+b+c=2$,

in T units, $a+b+c=1$,

with the proviso that the molecule, on average, contain at least two E components.

The epoxy-functional organopolysiloxane coating composition comprises the epoxy-functional organopolysiloxane resin of the present invention and a hardener. Preferably, the hardener is an amine hardener. The epoxy-functional organopolysiloxane coating composition may optionally include pigments, a flow additive and a catalyst. The epoxy-functional organopolysiloxane resin is preferably prepared by reacting a silicone resin with a silane having at least one epoxy group per molecule. The coating composition cures through the crosslinking of the epoxy groups in the E group of the resin to provide a coating which is weather and corrosion resistant. The polysiloxane moieties in the resin render the cured coating resistant to U.V. light and heat.

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