



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : C06B 45/00, 47/00, 47/14, 23/00	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 98/51645 (43) International Publication Date: 19 November 1998 (19.11.98)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/AU98/00353 (22) International Filing Date: 15 May 1998 (15.05.98) (30) Priority Data: PO 6792 15 May 1997 (15.05.97) AU (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): ORICA AUSTRALIA PTY. LTD. [AU/AU]; 1 Nicholson Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000 (AU). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): BIGGS, Simon, Richard [AU/AU]; 6 Alfred Street, Newcastle, NSW 2300 (AU). CLEARY, Jennifer, Liane [AU/AU]; 8 Dunlop Close, Rankin Park, NSW 2287 (AU). PALMER, Anthony, Martin [AU/AU]; 33 King Street, Hillsborough, NSW 2290 (AU). SMITH, Jeremy, Guy, Breakwell [GB/AU]; 29 Croft Road, Eleebana, NSW 2282 (AU). (74) Agents: ANGLISS, Michael, L. et al.; Davies Collison Cave, 1 Little Collins Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000 (AU).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, GM, GW, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i>
(54) Title: RHEOLOGY MODIFICATION AND MODIFIERS (57) Abstract We have now found that associative thickeners may be used in emulsions for use in explosive compositions, which associative thickeners provide for rapid and reversible changes in emulsion viscosity. Associative thickeners provide explosives emulsions having the desirable characteristics of (1) significant reduction in viscosity during pumping and (2) reestablishment of relatively high viscosity when pumping is terminated without damage to the emulsion components. It is believed that the associative thickener provides a network of physical linkages throughout the emulsion which network can be reversibly broken down.		