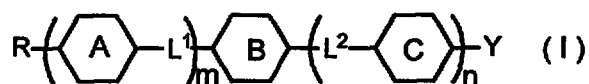


ABSTRACT

FUSED RING COMPOUND

A novel compound represented by the general formula (I),
and a nematic liquid crystal composition incorporating the
5 same.



A compound represented by the general formula (I) can be
produced industrially extremely easily, as shown in the
examples, displays superior compatibility with current general
10 purpose host liquid crystals as a nematic phase, and also
shows little crystal precipitation at low temperatures.
Moreover, by addition of a small amount of such a compound to
a host liquid crystal, the liquid crystal temperature range at
low temperatures can be effectively widened without any
15 significant worsening of the various characteristics of the
liquid crystal material. Consequently, a compound of the
present invention is an extremely useful liquid crystal
material which is suitable for various liquid crystal display
elements which require a broad operating temperature range.