Fused ceramic beads.

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ABSTRACT

The invention relates to ceramic beads, produced by melting a batch of raw materials, converting the molten material obtained into beads of spherical general shape and solidifying them, which have the following chemical composition in % by weight on the basis of the oxides:

40 to 95 % of ZrO_2 and HfO_2;

at least one of Y_2O_3 and CeO_2, with the provisos that Y_2O_3, when present, represents 0.1 to 10 % and CeO_2, when present, represents 1 to 15 %, the total of Y_2O_3 and CeO_2 representing 0.1 to 25 %;

a quantity of SiO_2 representing 10 to 45 % of the composition when CeO_2 is absent from the composition and 0.5 to 45 % when CeO_2 is present in the composition.

Application to grinding and to dispersion in wet medium.

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