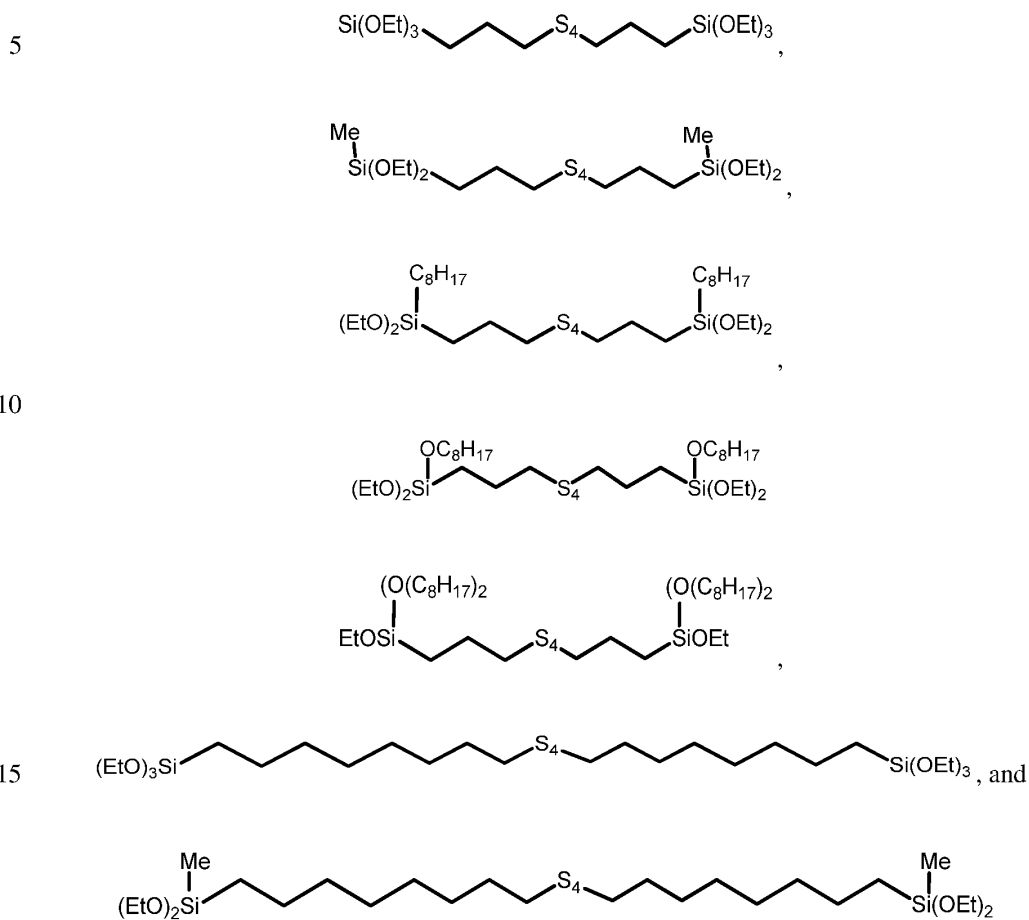


CLAIMS

1. An elastomeric composition comprising, per 100 parts by weight of rubber (phr): about 100 phr of a diene elastomer; 0 to about 80 phr of processing oil; 0 to about 80 phr of a hydrocarbon resin; about 60 to about 140 phr of filler; a curative agent; and about 5 to about
5 30 phr of a silane functionalized propylene-ethylene-diene terpolymer comprising from about 2 to about 40 wt % of ethylene and/or C₄-C₂₀ α -olefins derived units, and from about 0.5 to about 10 wt % of diene derived units.
2. The elastomeric composition of claim 1, wherein the filler is a silica-based filler.
10
3. The elastomeric composition of claim 1, wherein the filler is a carbon black filler.
4. The elastomeric composition of claim 1, wherein the filler is blend of silica-based filler and a carbon black filler.
15
5. The elastomeric composition of any preceding claim, wherein the propylene-ethylene-diene terpolymer contains from 0.5 wt % to 10 wt % ethylidene norbornene based on the terpolymer.
- 20 6. The elastomeric composition of any preceding claim, wherein the propylene-ethylene-diene terpolymer contains from 2 wt % to 20 wt % ethylene based on the terpolymer.
7. The elastomeric composition of any preceding claim, wherein the propylene-ethylene-diene terpolymer contains 60 wt % to 95 wt % propylene based on the terpolymer.
25
8. The elastomeric composition of any preceding claim, wherein the melt flow rate (MFR) at 2.16 kg weight at 230°C of the propylene-ethylene-diene terpolymer is from about 0.2 to about 10 g/10 min.
- 30 9. The elastomeric composition of any preceding claim, wherein the diene elastomer is a styrene-butadiene rubber, a functionalized diene rubber, a styrenic copolymer, a polybutadiene, natural rubber, a polyisoprene, a butadiene copolymer, an isoprene copolymer or blends thereof.

10. The elastomeric composition of any preceding claim, wherein the silane functionalized propylene-ethylene-diene terpolymer is functionalized by a silane coupling agent selected from the group consisting of



11. A tire tread composition comprising the elastomeric composition of any preceding claim.

12. The tire tread composition of claim 11, wherein the tire tread composition further comprises a second silane coupling agent.

13. A method of making the elastomeric composition of claims 1-10, comprising the steps

of:

(a) blending polybutadiene, styrene/butadiene copolymer, natural rubber or polyisoprene, the filler, the processing oil, and the propylene-ethylene diene terpolymer to form a first component at a temperature in the range from about 110°C to about 200°C;

5 (b) blending the curative agent with the first component at a temperature in the range of about less than 110°C; and

(c) recovering the elastomeric composition.

14. A method of balancing the wet traction performance and rolling resistance in a tire tread
10 comprising the elastomeric composition of claims 1-10:

combining at least the filler, polybutadiene, styrene/butadiene copolymer, natural rubber or polyisoprene and the curative agent with one or more of the propylene-ethylene-diene terpolymers to form the tire tread;

effecting a cure of the components to form a tire tread; and

15 wherein the level of the propylene-ethylene-diene terpolymer(s) relative to the other components, and its comonomer content, can be varied to improve the balance of wet traction and rolling resistance of a tire tread.