What is claimed is:

1. A process for preparing an adhesive, sealant, or mastic composition comprising the steps of:

preparing a polymer in solution, wherein the polymer is polymerized in-situ in a solvent or solvent blend and wherein the polymer is not dried prior to incorporation in the finished product;

blending the polymer solution with fillers, additives, and other ingredients to obtain the finished adhesive, sealant or mastic product.

2. An adhesive, sealant or mastic prepared by the process of claim 1

3. The process of claim 1 wherein said step of preparing the polymer in solution includes the step of preparing the polymer in a solution comprised of the solvent or solvent blend to be used in the finished product.

4. The process of claim 1 wherein said step of preparing the polymer in solution includes the step of preparing the polymer in a solution that does not include the solvent or solvent blend to be primarily used in the finished product and includes the step of exchanging the solvent or solvent blend with a VOC-compliant solvent or solvent blend prior to incorporation of the polymer in solution into the finished product.

5. The process of claim 1 further including the step of selecting a VOC-compliant solvent or solvent blend for said preparation of the polymer in solution.

6. The process of claim 5 wherein said VOC-compliant solvent selecting step further includes the step of selecting a solvent from the group consisting of tertiary butyl acetate, methyl acetate, and acetone or a combination thereof.

7. The process of claim 5 wherein the VOC-compliant solvent is methyl acetate, acetone, or a combination thereof.

8. The adhesive, sealant or mastic of claim 2 wherein the VOC content in the finished product is less than about 100 g/L.

9. The adhesive, sealant or mastic of claim 2 wherein the VOC content in the finished product is less than about 50 g/L.

10. The process of claim 1 wherein the polymer is prepared from monomers capable of free radical polymerization.

11. A process for preparing an adhesive, sealant, or mastic composition comprising the steps of:

preparing a polymer in solution, wherein the polymer is polymerized in-situ in the solvent or solvent blend used in the finished product and wherein the polymer is not dried prior to incorporation in the finished product;

blending the polymer solution with fillers, additives, and other ingredients to obtain the finished adhesive, sealant or mastic product.

12. An adhesive, sealant or mastic prepared by the process of claim 11

13. The process of claim 11 further including the step of selecting a VOC-compliant solvent or solvent blend for said preparation of the polymer in solution.

14. The process of claim 13 wherein said VOC-compliant solvent selecting step further includes the step of selecting a solvent from the group consisting of tertiary butyl acetate, methyl acetate, and acetone or a combination thereof.

15. The process of claim13 wherein the VOC-compliant solvent is methyl acetate, acetone, or a combination thereof.

16. The adhesive, sealant or mastic of claim 12 wherein the VOC content in the finished product is less than about 100 g/L.

17. The process of claim 11 wherein the polymer is prepared from monomers capable of free radical polymerization.

18. The process of claim 11 wherein the steps are completed using a batch process.

19. The process of claim 11 wherein the steps are completed using a continuous or semi-continuous process.

20. An adhesive, sealant or mastic composition compounded from a base comprising vinyl acetate monomer polymerized in methyl acetate.

What is claimed is:

1. A process for preparing an adhesive, sealant, or mastic composition comprising the steps of:

preparing a copolymer of vinyl acetate and an ester of acrylic acid or a copolymer of vinyl acetate and a vinyl ester of versatic acid in solution, wherein the copolymer is polymerized in-situ in a solvent selected from the group consisting of tertiary butyl acetate, methyl acetate and a combination thereof and wherein the copolymer is not dried prior to incorporation in the finished product;

blending the copolymer solution with fillers, additives, and other ingredients to obtain the finished adhesive, sealant or mastic product.

2. An adhesive, sealant or mastic prepared by the process of claim 1.

3. The process of claim 1 wherein said step of preparing the copolymer in solution includes the step of preparing the copolymer in a solution comprised of the solvent or solvent blend to be used in the finished product.

4. The adhesive, sealant or mastic of claim 2 wherein the VOC content in the finished product is less than 100 g/L.

5. The adhesive, sealant or mastic of claim 2 wherein the VOC content in the finished product is less than 50 g/L.

6. A process for preparing an adhesive, sealant, or mastic composition comprising the steps of:

preparing a copolymer of vinyl acetate and an ester of acrylic acid or a copolymer of vinyl acetate and a vinyl ester of versatic acid in solution, wherein the copolymer is polymerized in-situ in a solvent or solvent blend used in the finished product and wherein the copolymer is not dried prior to incorporation in the finished product;

blending the copolymer solution with fillers, additives, and other ingredients to obtain the finished adhesive, sealant or mastic product;

wherein the solvent is tertiary butyl acetate or methyl acetate and the blend of the solvent is a blend of tertiary butyl acetate and methyl

acetate.

7. An adhesive, sealant or mastic prepared by the process of claim 6.

8. The adhesive, sealant or mastic of claim 7 wherein the VOC content in the finished product is less than 100 g/L.

9. The process of claim 6 wherein the steps are completed using a batch process.

10. The process of claim 6 wherein the steps are completed using a continuous or semi-continuous process.