

Stabilizer Compositions for Halogen Containing Polymers

The instant invention relates to a composition and process for the stabilization of halogen containing polymer slurries, in particular polyvinylchloride (PVC). The composition comprises a halogen containing polymer in the form of an aqueous suspension or emulsion, a partially hindered phenolic antioxidant and selected sulfur containing antioxidants, which are both solid at 20° C. A further aspect of the invention is the use of specific antioxidant mixtures for the stabilization of halogen containing polymer suspensions or emulsions, in particular PVC.

The thermal stability of halogen containing polymers, such as PVC, is relatively low compared to many other polymers. Because of its otherwise good overall properties, its versatility, and cost effectiveness, it is nevertheless an extremely favorable material. However, it can only be used, if it is well stabilized against degradation induced by heat, light, mechanical stress, etc. Protection against thermal degradation is especially important.

Protection of PVC compounds and end articles against thermal degradation can be achieved by so-called "heat stabilizers" which are mostly based on metal salts of organic molecules (e.g. metal soaps), as extensively described in the literature (for example H. Zweifel, Handbook of Plastic Additives, 5th edition, Hanser, 2001, pages 427-483).

However, these heat stabilizers can only be added at the compounding stage. This means, that the halogen containing polymer resin after polymerization remains unprotected during the monomer stripping and drying process. Damages occurring at this stage lower the thermal stability of the resin and of the corresponding compounds and end articles.

To improve the heat stability during the compounding stage EP 0 849 314 suggests adding in addition to a Zn carboxylate a phenolic antioxidant and a thiodipropionic acid ester.

The additional use of phenolic antioxidants and thiodipropionic acid esters with conventional PVC stabilizers during the compounding stage, is also described in GB 1 001 344.

In the case of PVC sterically fully or partially hindered phenolic antioxidants may already be added to the reaction mixture. Sometimes small amounts of fully hindered phenolic antioxidants are added at the beginning of the polymerization and often fully or partially

hindered phenolic antioxidants are added towards the end of the polymerization. The thermal stability of the PVC resin, and also of the resulting PVC compound is thereby improved, however, not to a completely satisfactory level.

- 5 It has now been found that combinations of partially hindered phenolic antioxidants with thioethers or thioether-esters, added to the halogen containing polymer reaction mixture, which is in the form of an aqueous suspension or emulsion, preferably towards the end of the reaction, greatly improve the thermal stability of the halogen containing polymer and the resulting polymer compound, compared to the current state of the art.

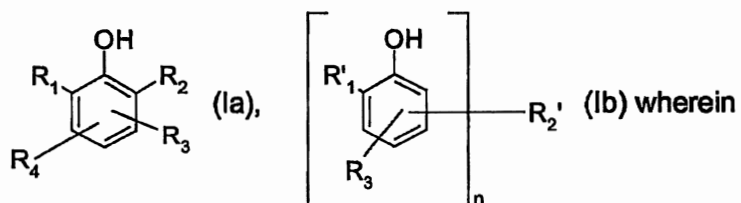
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Additional stabilizers may then be added also during the compounding stage.

For example the halogen containing polymer obtained, in particular the virgin PVC resin, undergoes much less dehydrochlorination (loss of chlorine from the PVC) and discoloration
15 upon thermal treatment than conventionally stabilized PVC.

One aspect of the invention is a composition comprising

- a) a halogen containing polymer or copolymer in the form of an aqueous suspension or emulsion;
20 b) a sterically hindered phenolic antioxidant with a melting point of more than 20° C containing a compound of formula (Ia) or (Ib)



n is 2 or 3

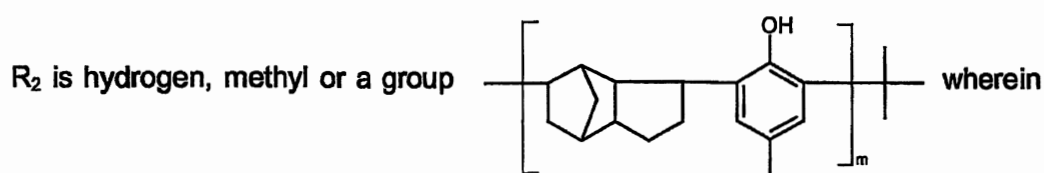
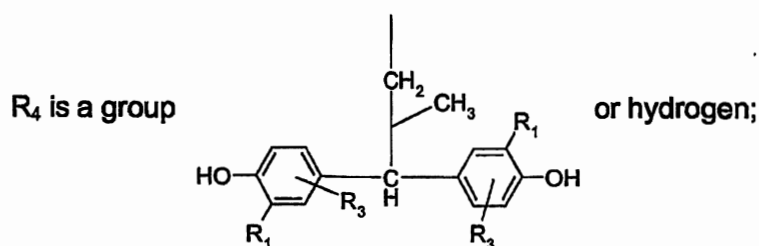
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R₁ is tert.-butyl, secondary bound C₃-C₁₈alkyl or C₅-C₆cycloalkyl;

R'₁ is tert. butyl, primary or secondary bound C₁-C₁₈alkyl, phenyl, C₇-C₉phenyl-alkyl or C₅-C₆cycloalkyl;

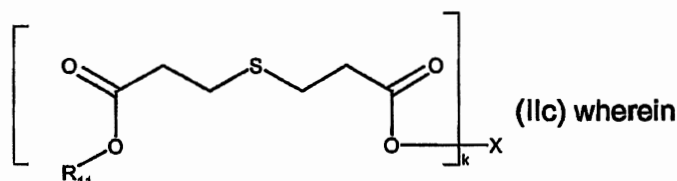
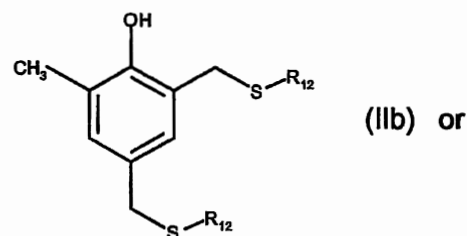
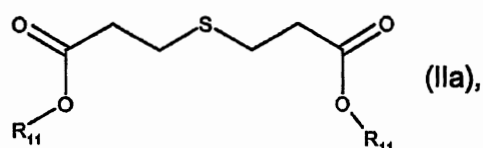
R₃ is C₁-C₁₈ alkyl, C₁-C₁₈alkoxy, C₅-C₆cycloalkyl or -CH₂-CH₂-CO-O-(C₁-C₁₈)alkyl;

R'₂ is a divalent or trivalent bridging group;



m is a number from 1 to 10; and

- 5 c) a thioether or thioether-ester with a melting point of more than 20° C of formula (IIa), (IIb) or (IIc)



R_{11} and R_{12} are independently C_1 - C_{18} alkyl

k is 2-4; and

- 10 X is 2-methyl-1,2,3-propane-triyl- or 1,2,3,4-methane-tetryl-. (Anspruch 1)

The bridging group R_2' is for example in 2 or 4 position relative to the OH group, preferably in 2 position.

- 15 The amount of polymer, in particular PVC, in the suspension or emulsion is typically 30 – 80%, for instance 40 – 70% by weight, based on the aqueous phase.

- 20 Halogen-containing, in particular chlorine-containing, polymeric materials (component (a)) can be for example: polymers of vinyl chloride, vinyl resins containing vinyl chloride units in their structure, such as copolymers of vinyl chloride and vinyl esters of aliphatic acids, prefer-

ably vinyl acetate, copolymers of vinyl chloride with esters of the acrylic and methacrylic acid and with acrylonitrile, copolymers of vinyl chloride with diene compounds and unsaturated dicarboxylic acids or their anhydrides, such as copolymers of vinyl chloride with diethylmaleate, diethylfumarate or maleic acid anhydride, postchlorinated polymers and
 5 copolymers of vinyl chloride, copolymers of vinyl chloride and vinylidene chloride with unsaturated aldehydes, ketones and others, such as acrolein, crotonaldehyde, vinyl methyl ketone, vinyl methyl ether, vinyl isobutyl ether and similar compounds; polymers of vinylidene chloride and copolymers thereof with vinyl chloride and other polymerisable compounds; polymers of vinyl chloroacetate and dichlorodivinyl ether; chlorinated polymers of vinyl
 10 acetate, chlorinated polymeric esters of acrylic acid and of alpha-substituted acrylic acid; polymers of chlorinated styrolenes, typically dichlorostyrene; chlorinated rubbers; chlorinated polymers of ethylene; polymers and postchlorinated polymers of chlorobutadiene and their copolymers with vinyl chloride; as well as mixtures of the cited polymers with themselves or with other polymerisable compounds.

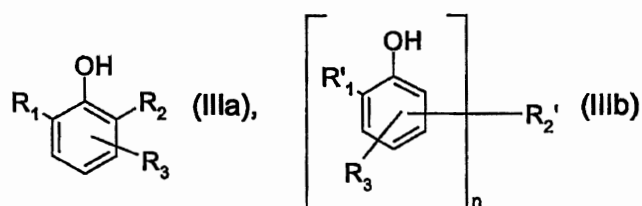
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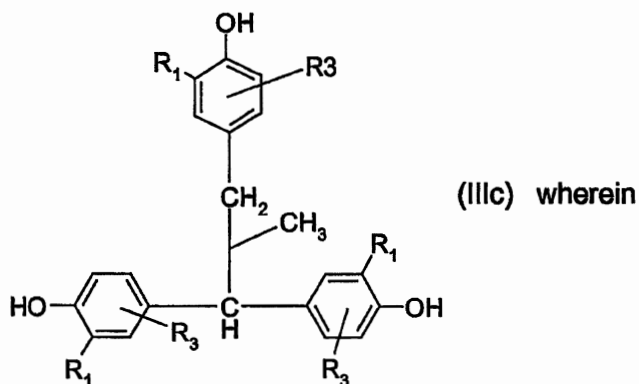
Other examples are graft polymers of PVC with EVA, ABS and MBS. Preferred substrates are also mixtures of the above-mentioned homo- and copolymers, preferably vinyl chloride homopolymers, with other thermoplastic or/and elastomeric polymers, preferably blends with ABS, MBS, NBR, SAN, EVA, CPE, MBAS, PMA, PMMA, EPDM and polyactones.

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Chlorine-containing polymers are particularly preferably polyvinyl chloride as suspension polymers or emulsion polymers. (Anspruch 3)

In a specific embodiment of the invention the sterically hindered phenolic antioxidant
 25 containing a structural element of formula (Ia) or (Ib) is of formulae (IIIa), (IIIb) or (IIIc)





n is 2 or 3

R₁ is tert.-butyl, secondary bound C₃-C₁₈alkyl or C₅-C₆cycloalkyl;

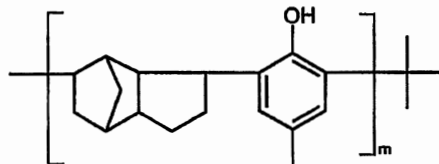
R'₁ is tert. butyl, primary or secondary bound C₁-C₁₈alkyl, phenyl, C₇-C₉phenyl-alkyl or C₅-C₆cycloalkyl;

R₃ is C₁-C₁₈ alkyl, C₁-C₁₈alkoxy, C₅-C₆cycloalkyl or a group
-CH₂-CH₂-CO-O-(C₁-C₁₈)alkyl;

R'₂ is C₁-C₁₂alkylene, -S-, trimethylene-isocyanurate, or a group

-CH₂-CH₂-CO-(OCH₂CH₂)_p-O-CO-CH₂CH₂- wherein p is a number from 1 to 3;

10 R₂ is hydrogen, methyl or a group



wherein m is a

number from 1 to 10. (Anspruch 2)

Alkyl radicals and alkylene radicals, such as those occurring in the general substituent definitions, can be unbranched or branched. Typical examples are methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, pentyl, hexyl, heptyl, octyl, isooctyl, 2-ethylhexyl, nonyl, decyl, undecyl, dodecyl, tridecyl, hexadecyl, octadecyl, eicosyl and heneicosyl. Typical examples of alkylene groups are ethylene, propylene, 2-methylpropylene, 2,2-dimethylpropylene, 2-methyl-2-n-propyl-propylene and 2-ethyl-2-n-butyl-propylene.

20 C₁-C₁₈alkoxy is for example methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, dodecyloxy and octadecyloxy. The alkoxy residues may contain straight chain alkyl or branched alkyl groups.

For example in component c) both R₁₁ are C₁₂alkyl or C₁₈alkyl and the R₁₂ are C₁₂alkyl. (Anspruch 4)

The sterically hindered phenolic antioxidant must have a melting point of above 20° C in order to be a solid at room temperature. Preferably the melting point is above 25° C and in particular above 30° C. Equally the thioether or thioether-ester has a melting point of more than 20° C in order to be a solid at room temperature. Preferably the melting point is above 25° C and in particular above 30° C.

Particularly preferred sterically hindered phenolic antioxidants are:

2-tert-butyl-4,6-dimethylphenol;

2,4-dimethyl-6-(1'-methylundec-1'-yl)phenol, 2,4-dimethyl-6-(1'-methylheptadec-1'-yl)phenol,
2,4-dimethyl-6-(1'-methyltridec-1'-yl)phenol, 2,4-dimethyl-6-(1'-methyltetradec-1'-yl)phenol
and mixtures thereof;

2,2'-methylenebis(6-tert-butyl-4-methylphenol), 2,2'-methylenebis(6-tert-butyl-4-ethylphenol),
2,2'-methylenebis(4,6-di-tert-butylphenol), 2,2'-ethylidenebis(4,6-di-tert-butylphenol), 2,2'-
ethylidenebis(6-tert-butyl-4-isobutylphenol);

or

(ethylenebis(oxyethylene)bis[3-(5-tert-butyl-4-hydroxy-m-tolyl)propionate]. (Anspruch 5)

Specific compositions are for instance wherein in component b) the sterically hindered phenolic antioxidant is 2-tert-butyl-4,6-dimethylphenol, 2,4-dimethyl-6-(1'-methyltetradec-1'-yl)phenol or a mixture thereof and component c) is di-lauryl-thio-di-propionate, di-stearyl-thio-di-propionate or a mixture thereof. (Anspruch 6)

Most preferred is a composition wherein in component b) the sterically hindered phenolic antioxidant is

2,4-dimethyl-6-(1'-methyltetradec-1'-yl)phenol
and component c) is
di-lauryl-thio-di-propionate. (Anspruch 7)

The compounds of formulae Ia, Ib, IIa, IIb, IIc, IIIa, IIIb and IIIc are known and largely items of commerce.

Typically the sterically hindered phenolic antioxidant, component b) is present in an amount from 50 ppm to 2000 ppm, preferably from 100 ppm to 1000 ppm, based on the weight of the halogen containing monomer. (Anspruch 8)

Component c) is, for example, present in an amount from 50 ppm to 2000 ppm, preferably from 100 ppm to 1000 ppm, based on the weight of the halogen containing monomer. (Anspruch 9)

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The ratio of component b) to component c) is, for instance, from 1:10 to 10:1. (Anspruch 10)

In a specific embodiment of the invention the composition contains additionally a sterically hindered phenolic antioxidant different from that of component b), a phosphorous containing stabilizer, a 2-benzofuranone stabilizer, a sterically hindered amine light stabilizer or a UV-absorber. (Anspruch 11)

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Further additives, such as fillers, pigments, optical brighteners etc. may also be present. Examples of stabilizers and further additives are given below.

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1. Antioxidants

1.1. Alkylated monophenols, for example 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-methylphenol, 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-ethylphenol, 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-n-butylphenol, 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-isobutylphenol, 2,6-dicyclopentyl-4-methylphenol, 2,6-dioctadecyl-4-methylphenol, 2,4,6-tricyclohexylphenol, 2,6-dicyclopentyl-4-methylphenol, 2,6-di-nonyl-4-methylphenol, 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-methoxymethylphenol, nonylphenols which are linear or branched in the side chains, for example 2,6-di-nonyl-4-methylphenol.

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1.2. Alkylthiomethylphenols, for example 2,4-dioctylthiomethyl-6-tert-butylphenol, 2,4-dioctylthiomethyl-6-methylphenol, 2,4-dioctylthiomethyl-6-ethylphenol, 2,6-di-dodecylthiomethyl-4-nonylphenol.

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1.3. Hydroquinones and alkylated hydroquinones, for example 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-methoxyphenol, 2,5-di-tert-butylhydroquinone, 2,5-di-tert-amylhydroquinone, 2,6-diphenyl-4-octadecyloxyphenol, 2,6-di-tert-butylhydroquinone, 3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyanisole, 3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl stearate, bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl) adipate.

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1.4. Tocopherols, for example α -tocopherol, β -tocopherol, γ -tocopherol, δ -tocopherol and mixtures thereof (vitamin E).

1.5. O-, N- and S-benzyl compounds, for example 3,5,3',5'-tetra-tert-butyl-4,4'-dihydroxydi-benzyl ether, octadecyl-4-hydroxy-3,5-dimethylbenzylmercaptoacetate, tridecyl-4-hydroxy-3,5-di-tert-butylbenzylmercaptoacetate, tris(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzyl)amine, bis(4-
5 tert-butyl-3-hydroxy-2,6-dimethylbenzyl)dithioterephthalate, bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzyl)sulfide, isooctyl-3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzylmercaptoacetate.

1.6. Hydroxybenzylated malonates, for example dioctadecyl-2,2-bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-2-hydroxybenzyl)malonate, di-octadecyl-2-(3-tert-butyl-4-hydroxy-5-methylbenzyl)malonate, di-
10 dodecylmercaptoethyl-2,2-bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzyl)malonate, bis[4-(1,1,3,3-tetramethylbutyl)phenyl]-2,2-bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzyl)malonate.

1.7. Aromatic hydroxybenzyl compounds, for example 1,3,5-tris(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzyl)-2,4,6-trimethylbenzene, 1,4-bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzyl)-2,3,5,6-tetrame-
15 thylbenzene, 2,4,6-tris(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzyl)phenol.

1.8. Triazine compounds, for example 2,4-bis(octylmercapto)-6-(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyanilino)-1,3,5-triazine, 2-octylmercapto-4,6-bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyanilino)-1,3,5-triazine, 2-octylmercapto-4,6-bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenoxy)-1,3,5-triazine, 2,4,6-tris-
20 (3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenoxy)-1,2,3-triazine, 1,3,5-tris(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzyl)isocyanurate, 2,4,6-tris(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenylethyl)-1,3,5-triazine, 1,3,5-tris(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenylpropionyl)-hexahydro-1,3,5-triazine.

1.9. Benzylphosphonates, for example dimethyl-2,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzylphosphonate, diethyl-3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzylphosphonate, dioctadecyl-3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzylphosphonate, dioctadecyl-5-tert-butyl-4-hydroxy-3-methylbenzylphosphonate, the calcium salt of the monoethyl ester of 3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzylphosphonic acid.

1.10. Acylaminophenols, for example 4-hydroxylauranilide, 4-hydroxystearanilide, octyl N-(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)carbamate.

1.11. Esters of β -(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)propionic acid with mono- or polyhydric alcohols, e.g. with methanol, ethanol, n-octanol, i-octanol, octadecanol, 1,6-hexanediol, 1,9-nonanediol, ethylene glycol, 1,2-propanediol, neopentyl glycol, thiodiethylene glycol, diethy-

lene glycol, triethylene glycol, pentaerythritol, tris(hydroxyethyl)isocyanurate, N,N'-bis(hydroxyethyl)oxamide, 3-thiaundecanol, 3-thiapentadecanol, trimethylhexanediol, trimethylolpropane, 4-hydroxymethyl-1-phospha-2,6,7-trioxabicyclo[2.2.2]octane.

- 5 1.12. Esters of β -(3,5-dicyclohexyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)propionic acid with mono- or polyhydric alcohols, e.g. with methanol, ethanol, octanol, octadecanol, 1,6-hexanediol, 1,9-nonanediol, ethylene glycol, 1,2-propanediol, neopentyl glycol, thiodiethylene glycol, diethylene glycol, triethylene glycol, pentaerythritol, tris(hydroxyethyl)isocyanurate, N,N'-bis(hydroxyethyl)oxamide, 3-thiaundecanol, 3-thiapentadecanol, trimethylhexanediol, trimethylolpropane, 4-hydroxymethyl-1-phospha-2,6,7-trioxabicyclo[2.2.2]octane.
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- 1.13. Esters of 3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl acetic acid with mono- or polyhydric alcohols, e.g. with methanol, ethanol, octanol, octadecanol, 1,6-hexanediol, 1,9-nonanediol, ethylene glycol, 1,2-propanediol, neopentyl glycol, thiodiethylene glycol, diethylene glycol, triethylene glycol, pentaerythritol, tris(hydroxyethyl)isocyanurate, N,N'-bis(hydroxyethyl)oxamide, 3-thiaundecanol, 3-thiapentadecanol, trimethylhexanediol, trimethylolpropane, 4-hydroxymethyl-1-phospha-2,6,7-trioxabicyclo[2.2.2]octane.
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- 1.14. Amides of β -(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)propionic acid e.g. N,N'-bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenylpropionyl)hexamethylenediamide, N,N'-bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenylpropionyl)trimethylenediamide, N,N'-bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenylpropionyl)hydrazide, N,N'-bis[2-(3-[3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl]propionyloxy)ethyl]oxamide (Nau-gard®XL-1, supplied by Uniroyal).
- 20

- 25 1.15. Ascorbic acid (vitamin C)

- 1.16. Aminic antioxidants, for example N,N'-di-isopropyl-p-phenylenediamine, N,N'-di-sec-butyl-p-phenylenediamine, N,N'-bis(1,4-dimethylpentyl)-p-phenylenediamine, N,N'-bis(1-ethyl-3-methylpentyl)-p-phenylenediamine, N,N'-bis(1-methylheptyl)-p-phenylenediamine, N,N'-dicyclohexyl-p-phenylenediamine, N,N'-diphenyl-p-phenylenediamine, N,N'-bis(2-naphthyl)-p-phenylenediamine, N-isopropyl-N'-phenyl-p-phenylenediamine, N-(1,3-dimethylbutyl)-N'-phenyl-p-phenylenediamine, N-(1-methylheptyl)-N'-phenyl-p-phenylenediamine, N-cyclohexyl-N'-phenyl-p-phenylenediamine, 4-(p-toluenesulfamoyl)diphenylamine, N,N'-dimethyl-N,N'-di-sec-butyl-p-phenylenediamine, diphenylamine, N-allyldiphenylamine, 4-isopropoxydiphenyl-
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2.1. 2-(2'-(Hydroxyphenyl)benzotriazoles, for example 2-(2'-hydroxy-5'-methylphenyl)benzotriazole, 2-(3',5'-di-tert-butyl-2'-hydroxyphenyl)benzotriazole, 2-(5'-tert-butyl-2'-hydroxyphenyl)benzotriazole, 2-(2'-hydroxy-5'-(1,1,3,3-tetramethylbutyl)phenyl)benzotriazole, 2-(3',5'-di-tert-butyl-2'-hydroxyphenyl)-5-chlorobenzotriazole, 2-(3'-tert-butyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-methylphenyl)-5-chlorobenzotriazole, 2-(3'-sec-butyl-5'-tert-butyl-2'-hydroxyphenyl)benzotriazole, 2-(2'-hydroxy-4'-octyloxyphenyl)benzotriazole, 2-(3',5'-di-tert-amyl-2'-hydroxyphenyl)benzotriazole, 2-(3',5'-bis(α,α -dimethylbenzyl)-2'-hydroxyphenyl)benzotriazole, 2-(3'-tert-butyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-(2-octyloxycarbonylethyl)phenyl)-5-chlorobenzotriazole, 2-(3'-tert-butyl-5'-[2-(2-ethylhexyloxy)carbonylethyl]-2'-hydroxyphenyl)-5-chlorobenzotriazole, 2-(3'-tert-butyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-(2-methoxycarbonylethyl)phenyl)-5-chlorobenzotriazole, 2-(3'-tert-butyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-(2-methoxycarbonylethyl)phenyl)benzotriazole, 2-(3'-tert-butyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-(2-octyloxycarbonylethyl)phenyl)benzotriazole, 2-(3'-tert-butyl-5'-[2-(2-ethylhexyloxy)carbonylethyl]-2'-hydroxyphenyl)benzotriazole, 2-(3'-dodecyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-methylphenyl)benzotriazole, 2-(3'-tert-butyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-(2-isooctyloxycarbonylethyl)phenyl)benzotriazole, 2,2'-methylenebis[4-(1,1,3,3-tetramethylbutyl)-6-benzotriazole-2-yl]phenol]; the transesterification product of 2-[3'-tert-butyl-

tyl-5'-(2-methoxycarbonylethyl)-2'-hydroxyphenyl]-2H-benzotriazole with polyethylene glycol 300; $\left[\text{R}-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2-\text{COO}-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2 \right]_2$, where R = 3'-tert-butyl-4'-hydroxy-5'-2H-benzotriazol-2-ylphenyl, 2-[2'-hydroxy-3'-(α,α -dimethylbenzyl)-5'-(1,1,3,3-tetramethylbutyl)phenyl]-benzotriazole; 2-[2'-hydroxy-3'-(1,1,3,3-tetramethylbutyl)-5'-(α,α -dimethylbenzyl)phenyl]benzotriazole.

2.2. 2-Hydroxybenzophenones, for example the 4-hydroxy, 4-methoxy, 4-octyloxy, 4-decyloxy, 4-dodecyloxy, 4-benzyloxy, 4,2',4'-trihydroxy and 2'-hydroxy-4,4'-dimethoxy derivatives.

10 2.3. Esters of substituted and unsubstituted benzoic acids, for example 4-tert-butylphenyl salicylate, phenyl salicylate, octylphenyl salicylate, dibenzoyl resorcinol, bis(4-tert-butylbenzoyl)resorcinol, benzoyl resorcinol, 2,4-di-tert-butylphenyl 3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzoate, hexadecyl 3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzoate, octadecyl 3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzoate, 2-methyl-4,6-di-tert-butylphenyl 3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzoate.

15 2.4. Acrylates, for example ethyl α -cyano- β,β -diphenylacrylate, isooctyl α -cyano- β,β -diphenylacrylate, methyl α -carbomethoxycinnamate, methyl α -cyano- β -methyl-p-methoxycinnamate, butyl α -cyano- β -methyl-p-methoxycinnamate, methyl α -carbomethoxy-p-methoxycinnamate and N-(β -carbomethoxy- β -cyanovinyl)-2-methylindoline.

20 2.5. Nickel compounds, for example nickel complexes of 2,2'-thiobis[4-(1,1,3,3-tetramethylbutyl)phenol], such as the 1:1 or 1:2 complex, with or without additional ligands such as n-butylamine, triethanolamine or N-cyclohexyldiethanolamine, nickel dibutyldithiocarbamate, nickel salts of the monoalkyl esters, e.g. the methyl or ethyl ester, of 4-hydroxy-3,5-di-tert-butylbenzylphosphonic acid, nickel complexes of ketoximes, e.g. of 2-hydroxy-4-methylphenylundecylketoxime, nickel complexes of 1-phenyl-4-lauroyl-5-hydroxypyrazole, with or without additional ligands.

30 2.6. Sterically hindered amines, for example bis(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl)sebacate, bis(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl)succinate, bis(1,2,2,6,6-pentamethyl-4-piperidyl)sebacate, bis(1-octyloxy-2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl)sebacate, bis(1,2,2,6,6-pentamethyl-4-piperidyl) n-butyl-3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzylmalonate, the condensate of 1-(2-hydroxyethyl)-2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-hydroxypiperidine and succinic acid, linear or cyclic condensates of

N,N'-bis(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl)hexamethylenediamine and 4-tert-octylamino-2,6-dichloro-1,3,5-triazine, tris(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl)nitritotriacetate, tetrakis(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl)-1,2,3,4-butanetetracarboxylate, 1,1'-(1,2-ethanediyl)-bis(3,3,5,5-tetramethylpiperazinone), 4-benzoyl-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine, 4-stearyloxy-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine, bis(1,2,2,6,6-pentamethylpiperidyl)-2-n-butyl-2-(2-hydroxy-3,5-di-tert-butylbenzyl)-malonate, 3-n-octyl-7,7,9,9-tetramethyl-1,3,8-triazaspiro[4.5]decane-2,4-dione, bis(1-octyloxy-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidyl)sebacate, bis(1-octyloxy-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidyl)succinate, linear or cyclic condensates of N,N'-bis(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl)hexamethylenediamine and 4-morpholino-2,6-dichloro-1,3,5-triazine, the condensate of 2-chloro-4,6-bis(4-n-butylamino-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidyl)-1,3,5-triazine and 1,2-bis(3-aminopropylamino)ethane, the condensate of 2-chloro-4,6-di-(4-n-butylamino-1,2,2,6,6-pentamethylpiperidyl)-1,3,5-triazine and 1,2-bis(3-aminopropylamino)ethane, 8-acetyl-3-dodecyl-7,7,9,9-tetramethyl-1,3,8-triazaspiro[4.5]decane-2,4-dione, 3-dodecyl-1-(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione, 3-dodecyl-1-(1,2,2,6,6-pentamethyl-4-piperidyl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione, a mixture of 4-hexadecyloxy- and 4-stearyloxy-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine, a condensate of N,N'-bis(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl)hexamethylenediamine and 4-cyclohexylamino-2,6-dichloro-1,3,5-triazine, a condensate of 1,2-bis(3-aminopropylamino)ethane and 2,4,6-trichloro-1,3,5-triazine as well as 4-butylamino-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine (CAS Reg. No. [136504-96-6]); a condensate of 1,6-hexanediamine and 2,4,6-trichloro-1,3,5-triazine as well as N,N-dibutylamine and 4-butylamino-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine (CAS Reg. No. [192268-64-7]); N-(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl)-n-dodecylsuccinimide, N-(1,2,2,6,6-pentamethyl-4-piperidyl)-n-dodecylsuccinimide, 2-undecyl-7,7,9,9-tetramethyl-1-oxa-3,8-diaza-4-oxo-spiro[4,5]decane, a reaction product of 7,7,9,9-tetramethyl-2-cycloundecyl-1-oxa-3,8-diaza-4-oxospiro[4,5]decane and epichlorohydrin, 1,1-bis(1,2,2,6,6-pentamethyl-4-piperidyloxycarbonyl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethene, N,N'-bis-formyl-N,N'-bis(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl)hexamethylenediamine, a diester of 4-methoxymethylenemalononic acid with 1,2,2,6,6-pentamethyl-4-hydroxypiperidine, poly[methylpropyl-3-oxy-4-(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl)]siloxane, a reaction product of maleic acid anhydride- α -olefin copolymer with 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-aminopiperidine or 1,2,2,6,6-pentamethyl-4-aminopiperidine.

30

2.7. Oxamides, for example 4,4'-dioctyloxyoxanilide, 2,2'-diethoxyoxanilide, 2,2'-dioctyloxy-5,5'-di-tert-butoxanilide, 2,2'-didodecyloxy-5,5'-di-tert-butoxanilide, 2-ethoxy-2'-ethyloxanilide, N,N'-bis(3-dimethylaminopropyl)oxamide, 2-ethoxy-5-tert-butyl-2'-ethoxanilide and its mixture

with 2-ethoxy-2'-ethyl-5,4'-di-tert-butoxanilide, mixtures of o- and p-methoxy-disubstituted oxanilides and mixtures of o- and p-ethoxy-disubstituted oxanilides.

5 2.8. 2-(2-Hydroxyphenyl)-1,3,5-triazines, for example 2,4,6-tris(2-hydroxy-4-octyloxyphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine, 2-(2-hydroxy-4-octyloxyphenyl)-4,6-bis(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine, 2-(2,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-4,6-bis(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine, 2,4-bis(2-hydroxy-4-propyloxyphenyl)-6-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine, 2-(2-hydroxy-4-octyloxyphenyl)-4,6-bis(4-methylphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine, 2-(2-hydroxy-4-dodecyloxyphenyl)-4,6-bis(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine, 2-(2-hydroxy-4-tridecyloxyphenyl)-4,6-bis(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine, 2-[2-hydroxy-4-(2-hydroxy-3-butyloxypropoxy)phenyl]-4,6-bis(2,4-dimethyl)-1,3,5-triazine, 2-[2-hydroxy-4-(2-hydroxy-3-octyloxypropyloxy)phenyl]-4,6-bis(2,4-dimethyl)-1,3,5-triazine, 2-[4-(dodecyloxy/tridecyloxy-2-hydroxypropoxy)-2-hydroxyphenyl]-4,6-bis(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine, 2-[2-hydroxy-4-(2-hydroxy-3-dodecyloxypropoxy)phenyl]-4,6-bis(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine, 2-(2-hydroxy-4-hexyloxy)phenyl-4,6-diphenyl-1,3,5-triazine, 2-(2-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-4,6-diphenyl-1,3,5-triazine, 2,4,6-tris[2-hydroxy-4-(3-butoxy-2-hydroxypropoxy)phenyl]-1,3,5-triazine, 2-(2-hydroxyphenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-phenyl-1,3,5-triazine, 2-{2-hydroxy-4-[3-(2-ethylhexyl-1-oxy)-2-hydroxypropyloxy]phenyl}-4,6-bis(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine.

20 3. Metal deactivators, for example N,N'-diphenyloxamide, N-salicylal-N'-salicyloyl hydrazine, N,N'-bis(salicyloyl)hydrazine, N,N'-bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenylpropionyl)hydrazine, 3-salicyloylamino-1,2,4-triazole, bis(benzylidene)oxalyl dihydrazide, oxanilide, isophthaloyl dihydrazide, sebacoyl bisphenylhydrazide, N,N'-diacetyl adipoyl dihydrazide, N,N'-bis(salicyloyl)oxalyl dihydrazide, N,N'-bis(salicyloyl)thiopropionyl dihydrazide.

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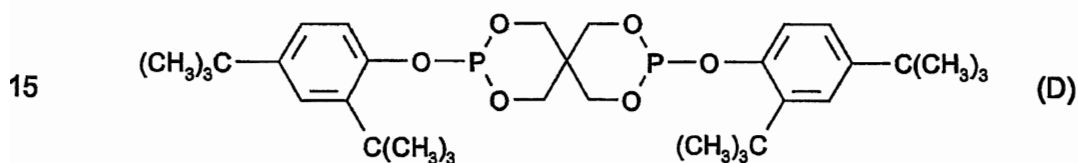
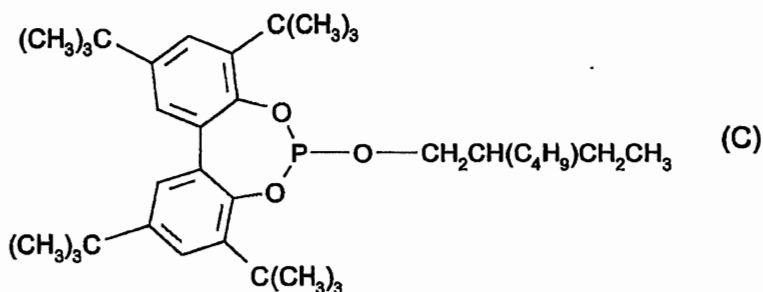
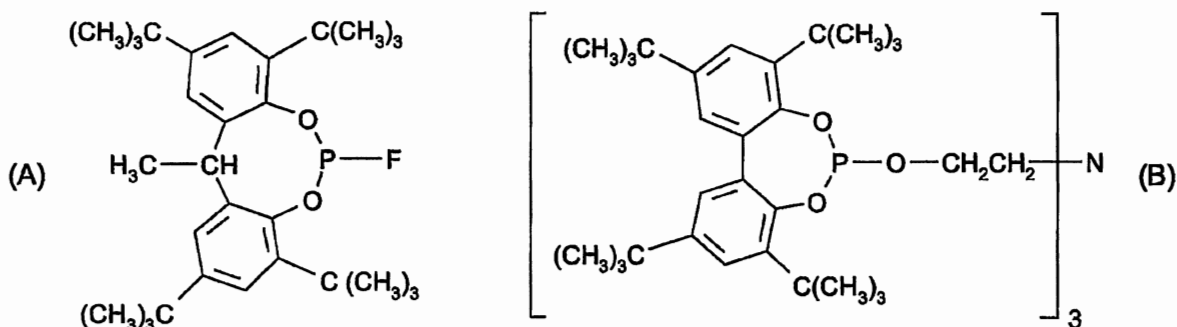
4. Phosphites and phosphonites, for example triphenyl phosphite, diphenylalkyl phosphites, phenyldialkyl phosphites, tris(nonylphenyl) phosphite, trilauryl phosphite, trioctadecyl phosphite, distearyl pentaerythritol diphosphite, tris(2,4-di-tert-butylphenyl) phosphite, diisodecyl pentaerythritol diphosphite, bis(2,4-di-tert-butylphenyl)pentaerythritol diphosphite, bis(2,4-dicumylphenyl)pentaerythritol diphosphite, bis(2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-methylphenyl)pentaerythritol diphosphite, diisodecyloxy pentaerythritol diphosphite, bis(2,4-di-tert-butyl-6-methylphenyl)-pentaerythritol diphosphite, bis(2,4,6-tris(tert-butylphenyl)pentaerythritol diphosphite, tristearyl sorbitol triphosphite, tetrakis(2,4-di-tert-butylphenyl) 4,4'-biphenylene diphosphonite, 6-isooctyloxy-2,4,8,10-tetra-tert-butyl-12H-dibenz[d,g]-1,3,2-dioxaphosphocin, bis(2,4-di-tert-

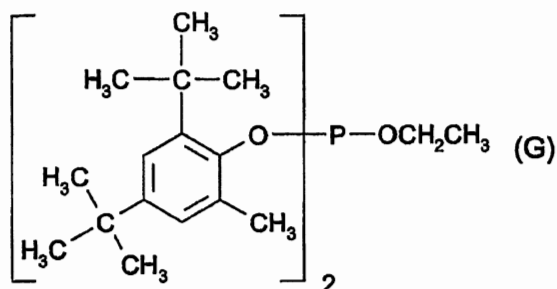
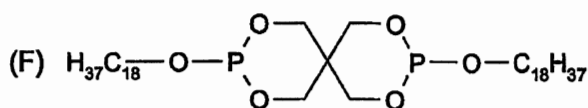
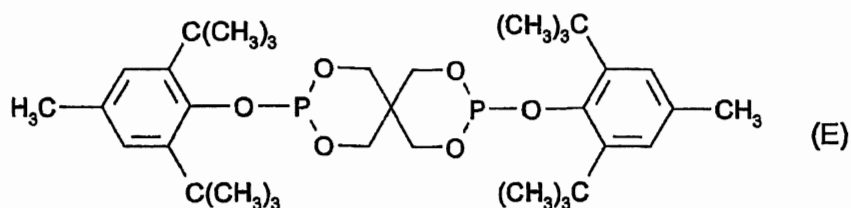
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butyl-6-methylphenyl)methyl phosphite, bis(2,4-di-tert-butyl-6-methylphenyl)ethyl phosphite, 6-fluoro-2,4,8,10-tetra-tert-butyl-12-methyl-dibenz[d,g]-1,3,2-dioxaphosphocin, 2,2',2''-nitrido-
 [triethyltris(3,3',5,5'-tetra-tert-butyl-1,1'-biphenyl-2,2'-diyl)phosphite], 2-ethylhexyl(3,3',5,5'-te-
 5 1,3,2-dioxaphosphirane.

The following phosphites are especially preferred:

10 Tris(2,4-di-tert-butylphenyl) phosphite (Irgafos®168, Ciba-Geigy), tris(nonylphenyl) phosphite,





- 5 5. Hydroxylamines, for example N,N-dibenzylhydroxylamine, N,N-diethylhydroxylamine, N,N-diethylhydroxylamine, N,N-dilaurylhydroxylamine, N,N-ditetradecylhydroxylamine, N,N-dihexadecylhydroxylamine, N,N-dioctadecylhydroxylamine, N-hexadecyl-N-octadecylhydroxylamine, N-heptadecyl-N-octadecylhydroxylamine, N,N-dialkylhydroxylamine derived from hydrogenated tallow amine.

10

6. Nitrones, for example N-benzyl-alpha-phenylnitron, N-ethyl-alpha-methylnitron, N-octyl-alpha-heptylnitron, N-lauryl-alpha-undecylnitron, N-tetradecyl-alpha-tridecynitron, N-hexadecyl-alpha-pentadecynitron, N-octadecyl-alpha-heptadecynitron, N-hexadecyl-alpha-heptadecynitron, N-octadecyl-alpha-pentadecynitron, N-heptadecyl-alpha-heptadecynitron, N-octadecyl-alpha-hexadecynitron, nitron derived from N,N-dialkylhydroxylamine derived from hydrogenated tallow amine.
- 15

7. Peroxide scavengers, for example esters of β -thiodipropionic acid, for example the lauryl, stearyl, myristyl or tridecyl esters, mercaptobenzimidazole or the zinc salt of 2-mercaptobenzimidazole, zinc dibutyldithiocarbamate, dioctadecyl disulfide, pentaerythritol tetrakis(β -dodecylmercapto)propionate.
- 20

8. Polyamide stabilisers, for example copper salts in combination with iodides and/or phosphorus compounds and salts of divalent manganese.

5 9. Basic co-stabilisers, for example melamine, polyvinylpyrrolidone, dicyandiamide, triallyl cyanurate, urea derivatives, hydrazine derivatives, amines, polyamides, polyurethanes, alkali metal salts and alkaline earth metal salts of higher fatty acids, for example calcium stearate, zinc stearate, magnesium behenate, magnesium stearate, sodium ricinoleate and potassium palmitate, antimony pyrocatecholate or zinc pyrocatecholate.

10 10. Nucleating agents, for example inorganic substances, such as talcum, metal oxides, such as titanium dioxide or magnesium oxide, phosphates, carbonates or sulfates of, preferably, alkaline earth metals; organic compounds, such as mono- or polycarboxylic acids and the salts thereof, e.g. 4-tert-butylbenzoic acid, adipic acid, diphenylacetic acid, sodium succinate or sodium benzoate; polymeric compounds, such as ionic copolymers (ionomers). Especially preferred are 1,3:2,4-bis(3',4'-dimethylbenzylidene)sorbitol, 1,3:2,4-di(paramethyldibenzylidene)sorbitol, and 1,3:2,4-di(benzylidene)sorbitol.

15 11. Fillers and reinforcing agents, for example calcium carbonate, silicates, glass fibres, glass bulbs, asbestos, talc, kaolin, mica, barium sulfate, metal oxides and hydroxides, carbon black, graphite, wood flour and flours or fibers of other natural products, synthetic fibers.

20 12. Other additives, for example plasticisers, lubricants, emulsifiers, pigments, rheology additives, catalysts, flow-control agents, optical brighteners, flameproofing agents, antistatic agents and blowing agents.

25 13. Benzofuranones and indolinones, for example those disclosed in U.S. 4,325,863; U.S. 4,338,244; U.S. 5,175,312; U.S. 5,216,052; U.S. 5,252,643; DE-A-4316611; DE-A-4316622; DE-A-4316876; EP-A-0589839 or EP-A-0591102 or 3-[4-(2-acetoxyethoxy)phenyl]-5,7-di-tert-butylbenzofuran-2-one, 5,7-di-tert-butyl-3-[4-(2-stearoyloxyethoxy)phenyl]-benzofuran-2-one, 3,3'-bis[5,7-di-tert-butyl-3-(4-[2-hydroxyethoxy]phenyl)benzofuran-2-one], 5,7-di-tert-butyl-3-(4-ethoxyphenyl)benzofuran-2-one, 3-(4-acetoxy-3,5-dimethylphenyl)-5,7-di-tert-butylbenzofuran-2-one, 3-(3,5-dimethyl-4-pivaloyloxyphenyl)-5,7-di-tert-butylbenzofuran-2-one, 3-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-5,7-di-tert-butylbenzofuran-2-one, 3-(2,3-dimethylphenyl)-5,7-di-tert-butylbenzofuran-2-one.

30

The additives are conveniently added in an amount from 0.01 parts to 10 parts, preferably from 0.05 parts to 5 parts and in particular from 0.1 to 3 parts based on 100 parts of the halogen containing polymer. With the exception of the antioxidants described under item 1, these additives are typically added during the compounding stage of the halogen containing polymer.

In a preferred embodiment of the invention a conventional antioxidant, such as for example mentioned above under item 1, is additionally present in the composition.

Yet further additives, which can optionally be added are for example classical PVC stabilizers, lubricants, pigments, fillers and plasticers. Examples are given below.

a) Zinc compounds and other metal compounds

The organic zinc compounds, which preferably contain a Zn-O-bond, are typically zinc enolates, zinc phenolates or/and zinc carboxylates. These latter are compounds from the series of the aliphatic saturated and unsaturated C₁₋₂₂carboxylates, of the aliphatic saturated or unsaturated C₂₋₂₂carboxylates, which are substituted by at least one OH group or/and whose chain is interrupted by at least one or more than one O atom (oxa acids), of the cyclic and bi-cyclic carboxylates containing 5-22 carbon atoms, of the phenylcarboxylates which are unsubstituted or substituted by at least one OH group and/or by C₁₋₁₆alkyl, of the phenyl-C₁₋₁₆alkylcarboxylates, or of the unsubstituted or C₁₋₁₂alkyl-substituted phenolates, or of abietic acid. Zn-S compounds are typically zinc mercaptides, zinc mercaptocarboxylates and zinc mercaptocarboxylates.

Examples to be mentioned the zinc salts of the monovalent carboxylic acids, such as acetic acid, propionic acid, butyric acid, valeric acid, hexanoic acid, oenanthic acid, octanoic acid, neodecanic acid, 2-ethylhexanoic acid, pelargonic acid, decanoic acid, undecanoic acid, dodecanoic acid, tridecanoic acid, myristylic acid, palmitic acid, lauric acid, isostearic acid, stearic acid, 12-hydroxystearic acid, 9,10-dihydroxystearic acid, oleic acid, ricinolic acid, 3,6-dioxaheptanoic acid, 3,6,9-trioxadecanoic acid, behenic acid, benzoic acid, p-tert-butylbenzoic acid, dimethylhydroxybenzoic acid, 3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzoic acid, tolylic acid, dimethylbenzoic acid, ethylbenzoic acid, n-propylbenzoic acid, salicylic acid, p-tert-octylsalicylic acid, and sorbic acid, cinnamic acid, mandelic acid, glycolic acid; zinc salts of the divalent carboxylic acids or of the monoesters, typically oxalic acid, malonic acid, succinic

acid, glutaric acid, adipic acid, fumaric acid, pentane-1,5-dicarboxylic acid, hexane-1,6-dicarboxylic acid, heptane-1,7-dicarboxylic acid, octane-1,8-dicarboxylic acid, 3,6,9-trioxadecane-1,10-dicarboxylic acid, lactic acid, malonic acid, maleic acid, tartaric acid, malic acid, salicylic acid, polyglycol dicarboxylic acid (n=10-12), phthalic acid, isophthalic acid, 5 terephthalic acid and hydroxyphthalic acid; and of the di- or triesters of the tri- or tetravalent carboxylic acids, typically hemimellitic acid, trimellitic acid, pyromellitic acid, citric acid and also so-called overbased zinc carboxylates or zinc laurylmercaptide, zinc thioglycolate, zinc thiosalicylate, zinc-bis-i-octylthioglycolate, zinc mercaptopropionate, zinc thiolactate, zinc thiomalate, zinc-bis-octylmercaptopropionate, zinc-bis-isooctylthiolactate and zinc-bis-10 laurylthiomalate.

The zinc enolates are preferably enolates of acetylacetone, benzoylacetone, dibenzoylmethane as well as enolates of acetoacetic acid and benzoyl acetate and also dehydracetic acid. It is also possible to use inorganic zinc compounds, such as zinc oxide, zinc hydroxide, 15 zinc carbonate, basic zinc carbonate or zinc sulfide.

It is preferred to use neutral or basic zinc carboxylates of a carboxylic acid having 1 to 22 carbon atoms (zinc soaps), typically benzoates or alkanoates, preferably C₈alkanoates, stearate, oleate, laurate, palmitate, behenate, versatate, hydroxystearates and hydroxy-20 oleates, ricinoleate, dihydroxystearates, p-tert-butylbenzoate, or (iso)octanoate. Stearate, oleate, versatate, benzoate, p-tert-butylbenzoate and 2-ethylhexanoate are particularly preferred.

In addition to the cited zinc compounds, it is also possible to use organic aluminium compounds, magnesium compounds, calcium compounds, barium compounds, potassium 25 compounds or sodium compounds, the anionic radicals corresponding to the groups listed for the zinc compounds. The preferred compounds of this kind include aluminium carboxylate, calcium carboxylate, barium carboxylate, potassium carboxylate or magnesium carboxylate, such as basic aluminium monostearate, basic aluminium distearate, aluminium tristearate, 30 calcium stearate, aluminium octoate, aluminium-2-ethylhexanoate, calcium-2-ethylhexanoate, barium-2-ethylhexanoate, potassium-2-ethylhexanoate, aluminium laurate, calcium oleate, barium oleate, calcium-t-butylbenzoate, basic aluminium acetates as well as aluminium enolates or magnesium enolates, such as aluminium acetylacetonate, magnesium acetylacetonate and also aluminium alcoholates or magnesium alcoholates as well as the

corresponding barium compounds. Also to be mentioned here are oxides, hydroxides, carbonates and basic carbonates of the above-cited metals as well as their mixed salts with organic acids. Typical examples are NaOH, KOH, CaO, Ca(OH)₂, MgO, Mg(OH)₂, CaCO₃, MgCO₃ dolomite, huntite, as well as fatty acid Na-, K-, Ca or Mg-salts. In the case of alkaline earth metal carboxylates and zinc carboxylates it is also possible to use adducts thereof with MO or M(OH)₂ (M = Ca, Mg, Ba, Sr or Zn), so-called overbased compounds.

The described metal compounds or mixtures thereof can be used in amounts of e.g. 0.0001 to 10, conveniently of 0.001 to 5, preferably of 0.01 to 3, e.g. of 0.01 to 1, parts by weight, based on 100 parts of halogen-containing polymer. They can also be obtained as mixed salts (coprecipitates).

b) Polyols

Suitable compounds of this type are for example:

pentaerythritol, dipentaerythritol, tripentaerythritol, bistrimethylolpropane, trimethylolethane, bistrimethylolethane, trimethylolpropane, bis-trimethylolpropane, sorbitol, maltite, isomaltite, lactite, lycasine, mannitol, xylite, inosite, lactose, leucrose, tris(hydroxyethyl)isocyanurate, palatinite, tetramethylolcyclohexanol (TMCH), tetramethylolcyclopentanol, tetramethylolcyclopyranol, glycerol, diglycerol, polyglycerol, thiodiglycerol, or 1-0- α -D-glycopyranosyl-D-mannitol dihydrate as well as polyvinyl alcohol and cyclodextrins; and also condensates of such polyols, typically dipentaerythritol adipate, glycerol oleate, glycerol trioleate, and the like. TMCH, pentaerythritol, dipentaerythritol, sorbitol and the disaccharide alcohols are preferred.

The polyols can be used in an amount of e.g. 0.01 to 20, conveniently of 0.1 to 20 and, preferably, of 0.1 to 10, parts by weight, based on 100 parts by weight of component (i).

c) 1,3-Dicarbonyl compounds

Illustrative examples of 1,3-dicarbonyl compounds are acetylacetone, butanoylacetone, heptanoylacetone, stearylacetone, palmitoylacetone, lauroylacetone, 7-tert-nonylthioheptane-2,4-dione, benzoylacetone, dibenzoylmethane, lauroylbenzoylmethane, palmitoylbenzoylmethane, stearylbenzoylmethane, isooctylbenzoylmethane, 5-hydroxycapronylbenzoylmethane, tribenzoylmethane, bis(4-methylbenzoyl)methane, benzoyl-p-chlorobenzoylmethane, bis(2-hydroxybenzoyl)methane, 4-methoxybenzoylbenzoylmethane, bis(4-methoxybenzoyl)methane, 1-benzoyl-1-acetylnonane, benzoylacetylphenylmethane,

stearoyl-4-methoxybenzoylmethane, bis(4-tert-butylbenzoyl)methane, benzoyl-formyl-methane, benzoylphenylacetylmethane, bis(cyclohexanoyl)methane, di(pivaloyl)methane, methyl acetoacetate, ethyl acetoacetate, hexyl acetoacetate, octyl acetoacetate, dodecyl acetoacetate or octadecyl acetoacetate, ethyl benzoylacetate, butyl benzoylacetate, 2-ethylhexyl benzoylacetate, dodecyl benzoylacetate or octadecyl benzoylacetate, ethyl stearoylacetate, propyl stearoylacetate, butyl stearoylacetate, hexyl stearoylacetate or octyl stearoylacetate and dehydracetoacetic acid as well as the zinc, alkali metal, alkaline earth metal or aluminium salts thereof.

The 1,3-dicarbonyl compounds can be used in an amount of e.g. 0.01 to 10, conveniently of 0.01 to 3 and, preferably, of 0.01 to 2, parts by weight, based on 100 parts by weight of PVC.

d) Epoxides and epoxidised fatty acid esters

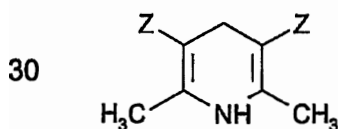
In this connection, epoxidised esters of fatty acids from natural sources, such as soy bean oil or rape seed oil, are to be mentioned in particular.

The epoxy compounds are preferably used in amounts of e.g. 0.1 part by weight, based on 100 parts by weight of composition, conveniently of 0.1 to 30, preferably of 0.5 to 25 parts by weight, based on 100 parts by weight of component (i). Other examples are epoxidised polybutadiene, epoxidised linseed oil, epoxidised fish oil, epoxidised tallow, methylbutyl- or 2-ethylhexylepoxystearate, tris(epoxypropyl)isocyanurate, epoxidised castor oil, epoxidised sunflower oil, 3-phenoxy-1,2-epoxypropane, diglycidyl ether of bisphenol A, vinylcyclohexene diepoxide, dicyclopentadiene diepoxide and 3,4-epoxycyclohexylmethyl-3,4-epoxycyclohexanecarboxylate.

Suitable epoxides are also derivatives of bisphenol A and bisphenol F, as described, inter alia, in US-A-5 492 949, US-A-5 519 077 and US-A-5 543 449.

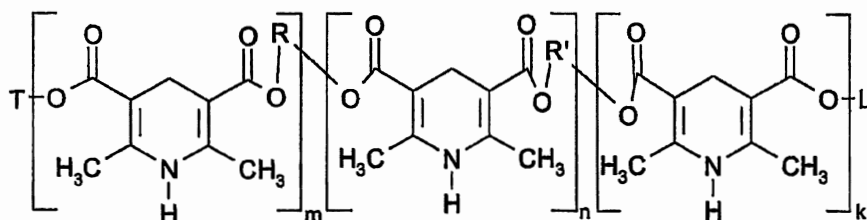
e) Dihydropyridines and polydihydropyridines

Suitable monomeric dihydropyridines are the compounds described, inter alia, in FR-A-2039496, EP-A-2007, EP-A-362012, EP-A-24754 and EP-A-716123. Preferred compounds are those of formula



wherein Z is CO_2CH_3 , $\text{CO}_2\text{C}_2\text{H}_5$, $\text{CO}_2\text{-n-C}_{12}\text{H}_{25}$ or $\text{-CO}_2\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{-S-n-C}_{12}\text{H}_{25}$.

Polydihydropyridines are preferably compounds of the following formula



wherein T is unsubstituted C₁₋₁₂ alkyl.

5 L has the same meaning as T.

m and n are numbers from 0 to 20,

k is 0 or 1,

R and R' are each independently of the other ethylene, propylene, butylene or an alkylene- or cycloalkylenebismethylene group of the $-(C_pH_{2p}-X)_t$ C_pH_{2p} type.

10 p is 2 to 8,

t is 0 to 10,

X is oxygen or sulfur.

Such compounds are described in more detail in EP-A-286887. The (poly-)dihydropyridines
15 can be used in the halogen-containing polymer conveniently in an amount of 0.001 to 5 and, preferably, of 0.005 to 1, parts by weight, based on 100 parts of the polymer.

Thiodiethylene-bis[5-methoxycarbonyl-2,6-dimethyl-1,4-dihydropyridine-3-carboxylate] and 1,4-dihydro-2,6-dimethyl-3,5-dicarbododecyloxypyridine are particularly preferred.

20 f) Perchlorates

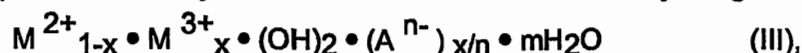
Typical examples are those of formula M(ClO₄)_n, wherein M is Li, Na, K, Mg, Ca, Ba, Zn, Al, Ce or La. Depending on the valency of M, the index n is 1, 2 or 3. The perchlorates can be complexed with alcohols or ether alcohols. Each perchlorate can be used in different standard forms of presentation; e.g. as salt or aqueous solution of the salts or of the free acid
25 applied to a substrate such as PVC, calcium silicate, zeolites or hydrotalcites, or can be obtained by chemical reaction of hydrotalcite with perchloric acid.

The perchlorates can be used in an amount of e.g. 0.001 to 5, conveniently of 0.01 to 3, particularly preferably of 0.01 to 2, parts by weight, based on 100 parts by weight of component (i).

g) Hydrotalcites and zeolites

The chemical composition of these compounds is known to the skilled person, e.g. from DE-A-3843581, US-A-4000100, EP-A-062813, WO-A-93/20135.

- 5 Compounds of the hydrotalcite series can be described by the general formula III



wherein

M^{2+} = one or more of the metals selected from the group consisting of Mg, Ca, Sr, Zn and Sn,

- 10 M^{3+} = Al or B,

A^n is an anion of valency n,

n is a number from 1 to 2,

$0 < x \leq 0.5$,

m is a number from 0 to 20.

- 15

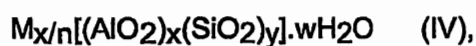
A^n = OH^- , ClO_4^- , HCO_3^- , CH_3COO^- , $C_6H_5COO^-$, CO_3^{2-} , SO_4^{2-} , HSO_4^- , COO^- ,
 $(CHOHCOO)_2^{2-}$, $(CH_2COO)_2^{2-}$, $CH_3CHOHCOO^-$, HPO_3^{2-} or HPO_4^{2-} ,
 is preferred.

- 20 It is also possible to use hydrotalcites comprising LiOH or Li_2CO_3 ("solid solution").

Examples of hydrotalcites are

$Al_2O_3 \cdot 6MgO \cdot CO_2 \cdot 12H_2O$, $Mg_{4.5}Al_2(OH)_{13} \cdot CO_3 \cdot 3.5H_2O$, $4MgO \cdot Al_2O_3 \cdot CO_2 \cdot 9H_2O$,
 $4MgO \cdot Al_2O_3 \cdot CO_2 \cdot 6H_2O$, $ZnO \cdot 3MgO \cdot Al_2O_3 \cdot CO_2 \cdot 8-9H_2O$ and $ZnO \cdot 3MgO \cdot Al_2O_3 \cdot CO_2 \cdot 5-6H_2O$.

- 25 Compounds of the zeolite series (alkali metal aluminosilicates or alkaline earth metal aluminosilicates) can be described by the general formula (IV)



wherein n is the charge of cation M;

M is an element of the first or second main group of the Periodic Table, such as Li, Na, K,

- 30 Mg, Ca, Sr or Ba, or Zn,

y:x is a number from 0.8 to 15, preferably from 0.8 to 1.2; and

w is a number from 0 to 300, preferably from 0.5 to 30.

Structures may be found, for example, in "Atlas of Zeolite" by W.M. Meier and D.H.Olson, Butterworth-Heinemann, 3. Ed. 1992.

Examples of zeolites are sodium aluminosilicates of formulae

5 $\text{Na}_{12}\text{Al}_{12}\text{Si}_{12}\text{O}_{48} \cdot 27 \text{H}_2\text{O}$ [zeolite A], $\text{Na}_6\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24} \cdot 2 \text{NaX} \cdot 7.5 \text{H}_2\text{O}$, X= OH, halogen, ClO_4
[sodalite]; $\text{Na}_6\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_{30}\text{O}_{72} \cdot 24 \text{H}_2\text{O}$; $\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_8\text{Si}_{40}\text{O}_{96} \cdot 24 \text{H}_2\text{O}$; $\text{Na}_{16}\text{Al}_{16}\text{Si}_{24}\text{O}_{80} \cdot 16 \text{H}_2\text{O}$;
10 $\text{Na}_{16}\text{Al}_{16}\text{Si}_{32}\text{O}_{96} \cdot 16 \text{H}_2\text{O}$; $\text{Na}_{56}\text{Al}_{56}\text{Si}_{136}\text{O}_{384} \cdot 250 \text{H}_2\text{O}$ [zeolite Y], $\text{Na}_{86}\text{Al}_{86}\text{Si}_{106}\text{O}_{384} \cdot 264 \text{H}_2\text{O}$
[zeolite X]; as well as X- and Y-zeolite in an Al/Si ratio of 1/1;
or the zeolites which may be represented by the partial or complete exchange of the sodium
atoms by Li atoms, K atoms, Mg atoms, Ca atoms, Sr atoms or Zn atoms such as
10 $(\text{Na},\text{K})_{10}\text{Al}_{10}\text{Si}_{22}\text{O}_{64} \cdot 20 \text{H}_2\text{O}$; $\text{Ca}_{4.5}\text{Na}_3[(\text{AlO}_2)_{12}(\text{SiO}_2)_{12}] \cdot 30 \text{H}_2\text{O}$; $\text{K}_9\text{Na}_3[(\text{AlO}_2)_{12}(\text{SiO}_2)_{12}] \cdot 27 \text{H}_2\text{O}$.

Other suitable zeolites are:

$\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot (2 \text{ to } 5) \text{SiO}_2 \cdot (3.5 \text{ to } 10) \text{H}_2\text{O}$ [zeolite P]

15 $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot 2 \text{SiO}_2 \cdot (3.5-10)\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (zeolite MAP)

or the zeolites which can be represented by the partial or complete exchange of the Na
atoms by Li atoms, K atoms or H atoms, typically

$(\text{Li},\text{Na},\text{K},\text{H})_{10}\text{Al}_{10}\text{Si}_{22}\text{O}_{64} \cdot 20 \text{H}_2\text{O}$, $\text{K}_9\text{Na}_3[(\text{AlO}_2)_{12}(\text{SiO}_2)_{12}] \cdot 27 \text{H}_2\text{O}$,
 $\text{K}_4\text{Al}_4\text{Si}_4\text{O}_{16} \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ [zeolite K-F], $\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_8\text{Si}_{40}\text{O}_{96} \cdot 24 \text{H}_2\text{O}$ zeolite D, such as described in
20 Barrer et al., J. Chem. Soc. 1952, 1561-71, and in US 2 950 952.

The following zeolites are also suitable:

K offretite, such as described in EP-A-400 961; zeolite R, such as described in GB-A-841
812; zeolite LZ-217, as described in US-A-4 503 023; calcium-free zeolite LZ-218, as
described in US-A-4 333 859; zeolite T, zeolite LZ-220, as described in US-A-4 503 023;
25 $\text{Na}_3\text{K}_6\text{Al}_9\text{Si}_{27}\text{O}_{72} \cdot 21 \text{H}_2\text{O}$ [zeolite L]; zeolite LZ-211, as described in US-A-4 503 023;
zeolite LZ-212, as described in US-A-4 503 023; zeolite O, zeolite LZ-217, as described in
US-A-4 503 023; zeolite LZ-219, as described in US-A-4 503 023; zeolite Rho, zeolite LZ-14,
as described in US-A-4 503 023; zeolite ZK-19, as described in Am. Mineral. 54 1607 (1969);
zeolite W (K-M), as described in Barrer et al. J. Chem. Soc. 1956, 2882; $\text{Na}_{30}\text{Al}_{30}\text{Si}_{66}\text{O}_{192} \cdot$
30 $98 \text{H}_2\text{O}$ [zeolite ZK-5, zeolite Q]; as well as AlPO_4 compounds with zeolite structure.

It is preferred to use zeolite P types of formula

$\text{M}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot x\text{SiO}_2 \cdot y\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (IVa), wherein x is 2 to 5, and y is 3.5 to 10, and M is an alkali metal
atom and, very particularly preferably, zeolite MAP of formula IVa, wherein x is 2 and y is 3.5

to 10. Preferred is zeolite Na-P, i.e. M is Na. This zeolite is usually obtained in the variants Na-P-1, NaP-2 and Na-P-3, which differ from each other in their cubical, tetragonal or orthorhombic structure (R.M.Barrer, B.M.Munday, J.Chem.Soc. A 1971, 2909-14). The above-mentioned literature also describes the preparation of zeolite P-1 and P-2. According to this literature, zeolite P-3 is very rare and is therefore hardly of any practical interest. The structure of zeolite P-1 corresponds to the gismondite structure known from the above Atlas of Zeolite Structures. The more recent literature (EP-A-384 070) makes a difference between the cubical (zeolite B or P_C) and the tetragonal (zeolite P₁) zeolite of the P type. It also mentions newer zeolites of the P type having Si:Al ratio of less than 1.07:1. These zeolites are called MAP or MA-P for "maximum aluminium P". Depending on the method of preparation, zeolite P can contain minor amounts of other zeolites. A very pure zeolite P is described in WO-A-94/26662.

Within the scope of this invention, it is also possible to use those finely particulate water-insoluble sodium aluminosilicates which were precipitated and crystallised in the presence of water-soluble inorganic or organic dispersants. These may be added to the reaction mixture in any manner before or during precipitation or crystallisation

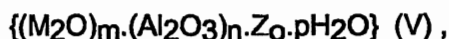
Sodium zeolite A, sodium zeolite P, sodium zeolite X and sodium zeolite Y are particularly preferred.

The hydrotalcites and zeolites can also be naturally occurring minerals or synthetically obtained compounds.

The hydrotalcites and/or zeolites can be used in amounts of e.g. 0.1 to 50, conveniently of 0.1 to 10 and, preferably, of 0.1 to 5, parts by weight, based on 100 parts by weight of halogen-containing polymer.

25 h) Alkalialumocarbonates (dawsonites).

These compounds may be represented by formula



wherein M is H, Li, Na, K, Mg_{1/2}, Ca_{1/2}, Sr_{1/2} or Zn_{1/2}; Z is CO₂, SO₂, (Cl₂O₇)_{1/2}, B₄O₆, S₂O₂ (thiosulfate) or C₂O₂ (oxalate); m, if M = Mg_{1/2} or Ca_{1/2}, is a number from 1 to 2, and in all other cases a number from 1 to 3; n is a number from 1 and 4; o is a number from 2 to 4; and p is a number from 0 to 30.

The alumo salt compounds of formula (V) which may be used can be naturally occurring minerals or synthetically prepared compounds. The metals can be partially exchanged for each other. The cited alumo salt compounds are crystalline, partially crystalline or amor-

phous or can be in the form of a dried gel. The alumo salt compounds can also be obtained in rarer crystalline modifications. EP 394670 describes a method for the preparation of such compounds. Typical examples of naturally occurring alumo salt compounds are indigirite, tunisite, alumohydrocalcite, para-alumohydrocalcite, strontiodresserite and hydrostrontio-

5 dresserite. Other examples of alumo salt compounds are :

potassium alumocarbonate $\{(K_2O).(Al_2O_3).(CO_2)_2.2H_2O\}$,

sodium alumothiosulfate $\{(Na_2O).(Al_2O_3).(S_2O_2)_2.2H_2O\}$,

potassium alumosulfite $\{(K_2O).(Al_2O_3).(SO_2)_2.2H_2O\}$,

calcium alumooxalate $\{(CaO).(Al_2O_3).(C_2O_2)_2.5H_2O\}$,

10 magnesium alumotetraborate $\{(MgO).(Al_2O_3).(B_4O_6)_2.5H_2O\}$,

$\{([Mg_{0.2}Na_{0.6}]_2O).(Al_2O_3).(CO_2)_2.4.1H_2O\}$,

$\{([Mg_{0.2}Na_{0.6}]_2O).(Al_2O_3).(CO_2)_2.4.3H_2O\}$ and

$\{([Mg_{0.3}Na_{0.4}]_2O).(Al_2O_3).(CO_2)_2.2.4.9H_2O\}$.

The mixed alumosalt compounds can be obtained by methods known per se by cation
15 exchange, preferably from the alkali metal alumo salt compounds or by combination precipitation (see, for example, US 5 055 284).

Preferred alumo salt compounds are those of the above formula, wherein M is Na or K; Z is CO_2 , SO_2 or $(Cl_2O_7)_{1/2}$; m is 1-3; n 1-4; o is 2-4, and p is 0-20. Z is particularly preferably CO_2 .

20 Other preferred compounds are those which can be represented by the following formulae:

$M_2O.Al_2O_3.(CO_2)_2 . pH_2O$ (Ia), $(M_2O)_2.(Al_2O_3)_2.(CO_2)_2 . pH_2O$ (Ib),

$M_2O.(Al_2O_3)_2.(CO_2)_2 . pH_2O$ (Ic),

where M is a metal, such as Na, K, $Mg_{1/2}$, $Ca_{1/2}$, $Sr_{1/2}$ or $Zn_{1/2}$, and p is a number from 0 to 12.

25 Sodium alumodihydroxycarbonate (DASC) and the homologous potassium compound (DAPC) are particularly preferred.

Instead of the dawsonites, it is also possible to use silicates having cation exchanger properties, such as bentonites, magadiite, haremite, and the like.

The dawsonites can be used in an amount of e.g. 0.01 to 50, conveniently of 0.1 to 10,
30 particularly preferably of 0.1 to 5, parts by weight, based on 100 parts by weight of halogen-containing polymer.

i) Plasticisers

Suitable organic plasticiser are, for example, those of the following groups:

A) Phthalates:

Typical examples of such plasticisers are dimethyl phthalate, diethyl phthalate, dibutyl phthalate, dihexyl phthalate, di-2-ethylhexyl phthalate, di-n-octyl phthalate, di-iso-octyl phthalate, di-iso-nonyl phthalate, di-iso-decyl phthalate, di-iso-tridecyl phthalate, dicyclohexyl phthalate, di-methylcyclohexyl phthalate, dimethyl glycol phthalate, dibutyl glycol phthalate, benzylbutyl phthalate and diphenyl phthalate as well as mixtures of phthalates, such as C₇₋₉- and C₈₋₁₁-alkylphthalates of predominantly linear alcohols, C₆₋₁₀-n-alkylphthalates and C₈₋₁₀-n-alkylphthalates. Of these are preferred dibutyl phthalate, dihexyl phthalate, di-2-ethylhexyl phthalate, di-n-octyl phthalate, di-iso-octyl phthalate, di-iso-nonyl phthalate, di-iso-decyl phthalate, di-iso-tridecyl phthalate and benzylbutyl phthalate as well as the cited mixtures of alkyl phthalates. Particularly preferred are di-2-ethylhexyl phthalate, di-iso-nonyl phthalate and di-iso-decyl phthalate, which are also known by their standard abbreviations DOP (di-octyl phthalate, di-2-ethylhexyl phthalate), DINP (diisononyl phthalate), DIDP (diisodecyl - phthalate).

15 B) Esters of aliphatic dicarboxylic acids, in particular esters of adipic acid, azelaic acid and sebacic acid

Typical examples of such plasticisers are di-2-ethylhexyladipate, di-iso-octyladipate (mixture), di-isononyl adipate (mixture), di-isodecyl adipate (mixture), benzyl butyl adipate, benzyl octyl adipate, di-2-ethylhexyl azelate, di-2-ethylhexyl sebacate and di-isodecyl sebacate (mixture).

20 Di-2-ethylhexyl adipate and di-iso-octyl adipate are preferred.

C) Trimellitates,

typically tri-2-ethylhexyl trimellitate, tri-isodecyltrimellitate (mixture), tri-isotridecyl trimellitate, tri-iso-octyltrimellitate (mixture) as well as tri-C₆₋₈-alkyl trimellitate, tri-C₆₋₁₀-alkyl trimellitate, tri-C₇₋₉-alkyl trimellitate and tri-C₈₋₁₁-alkyl trimellitate. The last-mentioned trimellitates are obtained by esterifying the trimellitic acid with the corresponding alkanol mixtures. Preferred trimellitates are tri-2-ethylhexyl trimellitate and the cited trimellitates of alkanol mixtures. Standard abbreviations used are TOTM (trioctyl trimellitate, tri-2-ethylhexyl trimellitate), TIDTM (triisodecyl trimellitate) and TITDTM (triisotridecyl trimellitate).

D) Epoxide plasticisers

30 These are mainly the epoxidised unsaturated fatty acid, such as epoxidised soy bean oil.

E) Polymeric plasticisers

The most customary starting materials used for the preparation of the polyester plasticisers are: dicarboxylic acid, such as adipic acid, phthalic acid, azelaic acid and sebacic acid;

diols, such as 1,2-propanediol, 1,3-butanediol, 1,4-butanediol, 1,6-hexanediol, neopentyl glycol and diethylene glycol.

F) Phosphoric acid esters

Typical examples of such phosphoric acid esters are tributyl phosphate, tri-2-ethylbutyl phosphate, tri-2-ethylhexyl phosphate, trichlorethyl phosphate, 2-ethylhexyldi-phenyl phosphate, cresyldiphenyl phosphate, triphenyl phosphate, tricresyl phosphate and trixyleneyl phosphate. Tri-2-ethylhexyl phosphate and [®]Reofos 50 and 95 (ex. FMC) are preferred.

G) Chlorinated hydrocarbons (paraffins)

10 H) Hydrocarbons

I) Monoesters, e.g. butyl oleate, phenoxyethyl oleate, tetrahydrofurfuryl oleate and alkyl sulfonate.

J) Glycol esters, e.g. diglycol benzoate.

15 Definitions and examples of plasticisers of groups A) to J) are to be found in the following reference books:

"Taschenbuch der Kunststoffadditive", edited by R. Gächter and H. Müller, Carl Hanser Verlag, 1989, chapter 5 S 341-442.

20 "PVC Technology", editor W.V. Titow, 4th Ed., Elsevier Publishers, 1984, chapter 6, pages 147-180.

It is also possible to use mixtures of different plasticisers.

The plasticisers can be used in an amount of e.g. 5 to 120, conveniently of 10 to 100, parts by weight, based on 100 parts by weight of PVC.

25 j) Suitable lubricants are for example:

Montan wax, fatty acid ester, PE waxes, amide waxes, chloroparaffin, glycerol ester, solid or liquid paraffin waxes or alkaline earth metal soaps, or lubricants based on silicone, such as described in EP-A-225261. Lubricants which can be used are also described in "Taschenbuch der Kunststoffadditive", edited by R. Gächter and H. Müller, Carl Hanser Verlag, 3rd Ed. 1989, pages 478-488. Prior to being added to the polymeric materials, the lubricants can also be blended with the stabilisers.

k) Fillers

Suitable fillers ("Handbook of PVC-Formulating", by E. J. Wickson, John Wiley & Sons, New York 1993, p.393-449) and reinforcing agents ("Taschenbuch der Kunststoffadditive", editors R. Gächter and H. Müller, Carl Hanser Verlag, 3rd Ed. 1989, pages 549-615) can be for example: calcium carbonate, dolomite, wollastonite, magnesium oxide, magnesium hydroxide, silicates, glass fibres, talcum, kaolin, chalk, mica, metal oxides and metal hydroxides, carbon black or graphite. Chalk is preferred.

l) Pigments

Suitable materials are known to the skilled person. Typical examples of inorganic pigments are TiO_2 , carbon black, Fe_2O_3 , Sb_2O_3 , $(\text{Ti}, \text{Ba}, \text{Sb})\text{O}_2$, Cr_2O_3 , spinels, such a cobalt blue and cobalt green, $\text{Cd}(\text{S}, \text{Se})$, ultramarine blue. TiO_2 , also in micronised form, is preferred. Organic pigments are, for example, azo pigments, phthalocyanine pigments, quinacridone pigments, perylene pigments, pyrrolopyrrolidone pigments and anthraquinone pigments. Further details are to be found in "Handbook of PVC Formulating", E.J. Wickson, John Wiley & Sons, New York 1993, p. 449 - 474.

m) Organotin compounds

The organotin compounds are, for example, organotin oxides, organotin sulfides, organotin carboxylates, organotin mercaptocarboxylates, organotin mercaptides and/or organotin mercaptocarboxylates, such as dibutyltin oxide, dioctyltin maleinate, dibutyltin maleic acid semiester, bis-dibutyltin-2-ethylhexanoate oxide and other SnO compounds, such as described, inter alia, in EP-A-573394.

Suitable organotin mercaptides are, for example, compounds of the general structure $\text{R}_n\text{Sn}(\text{SA})_{4-n}$, wherein R is, inter alia, a methyl, butyl, octyl, lauryl or carbobutoxyethyl group, n is 1 or 2, and A is typically a decyl, dodecyl or carboalkoxymethyl or carboalkoxyloxyethyl radical, and the alkoxy moiety is a straight-chain or branched C_6 - C_{18} alkoxy or C_5 - C_8 cycloalkoxy radical. Illustrative examples of such tin compounds are dimethyltin bis-carboisooctyloxymethyl mercaptide, dibutyltin dilauryl mercaptide, dioctyltin bis-carbo-2-ethylhexoxymethyl mercaptide, dimethyltin bismercaptoethyl stearate, octyltin tris-carbo-2-ethylhexoxymethyl mercaptide, monomethyltin mercaptoethyl oleate sulfide and bis-dimethyltin mercaptoethyl stearate sulfide.

n) Organic nitrogen compounds

Suitable organic nitrogen compounds are, for example, ureas and thioureas, aminobenzene sulfonates, aminobenzoates, aminobenzamides, cyanamides, dicyandiamides, guanidines, guanamines, melamines, indoles, aminocrotonates, tetrazoles, triazoles, substituted amino-triazoles, m-aminophenols, aminouracils, pyrroles, aminopyrroles, and others, such as
5 described, inter alia, in DE-A-746 081, US-A-2 557 474, DD-A-652, DE-A-871 834, EP-A-174 412, DE-A-1 162 073, US-A-2 367 483, GB-A-923 319, DE-A-862 512, DE-A-2 524 659, DE-A-1 544 768, DE-A-1 134 197, EP-A-2 756, DE-A-3 048 659, DE-A-3 602 367, EP-A-48 222, EP-A-41 479, EP-A-65 934, EP-A-22 087, EP-A-465 405 and EP-A-390 739.

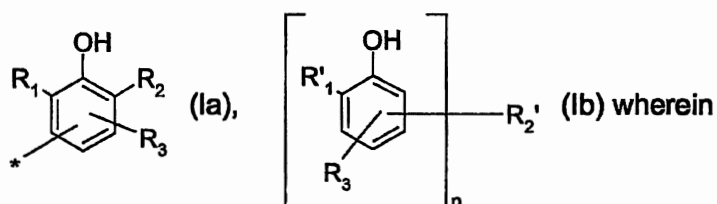
10 The above mentioned optional additives can be added to the polymers for example during the compounding stage in known manner, by mixing said compounds and further optional additives with the halogen-containing polymer using known apparatus such as mixers, calenders, kneaders, extruders, mills and the like. In this process they can be added singly or in admixture, or also in the form of so-called masterbatches. The novel polymer compositions
15 can be brought into the desired shape by known methods, such as calendering, extruding, injection moulding, sintering or spinning, and also by extrusion blow moulding or processing by the plastisol process. The polymer compositions can also be processed to foams.

The final polymer compositions are suitable e.g. for semirigid or soft formulations, for
20 example for soft formulations for wire sheaths, cable insulations, floorings, tubes and sealing profiles. In the form of semirigid formulations, said polymer compositions are suitable for decorative films, foams, agricultural sheeting, tubes, sealing profiles, office films, extruded profiles and plates, flooring films and panels, coating materials and artificial leather as well as crash-pad films (for use in automobiles). In the form of rigid formulations, the compositions
25 are suitable for hollow articles (bottles), packaging films, thermoforming films, blown films, crash-pad films (automobiles), pipes, foams, heavy profiles (window frames), light-wall profiles, building profiles, sidings, fittings, and apparatus housings (computers and domestic appliances) as well as other injection moulded articles. Examples of the use of the compositions stabilised according to this invention as plastisols are artificial leather, coating
30 materials, floorings, textile coatings, wall coverings, coil coatings, crash-pad films and automotive underseals.

Examples of sintered applications of the polymer compositions stabilized according to this invention are slush, slush mould and coil coatings.

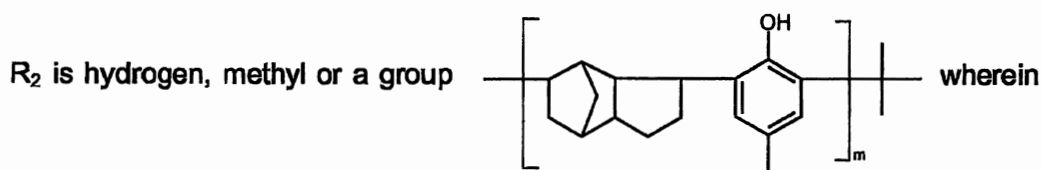
A further aspect of the invention is a process for the stabilization of halogen containing polymers against thermal degradation, which process comprises adding to the halogen containing polymer during or after the polymerization process

- 5 b) a sterically hindered phenolic antioxidant with a melting point of more than 20° C containing a structural element of formula (Ia) or (Ib)



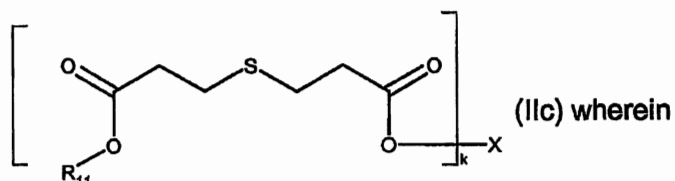
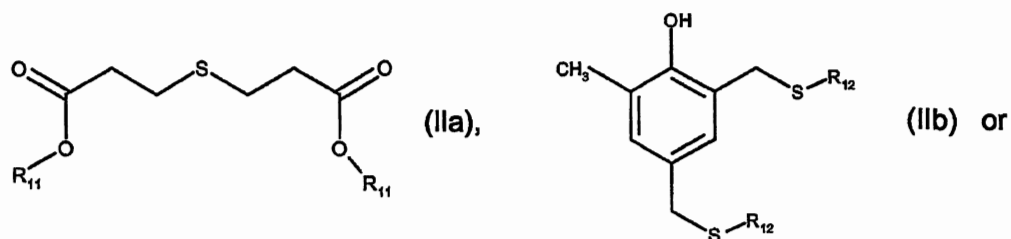
n is 2 or 3

- 10 R_1 is tert.-butyl, secondary bound C_3 - C_{18} alkyl or C_5 - C_6 cycloalkyl;
 R'_1 is tert. butyl, primary or secondary bound C_1 - C_{18} alkyl, phenyl, C_7 - C_9 phenyl-alkyl or C_5 - C_6 cycloalkyl;
 R_3 is C_1 - C_{18} alkyl, C_1 - C_{18} alkoxy or C_5 - C_6 cycloalkyl;
 R'_2 is a divalent or trivalent bridging group;
 15 * denotes a direct bond or is hydrogen;



m is a number from 1 to 10; and

- c) a thioether or thioether-ester with a melting point of more than 20° C of formula (IIa), (IIb) or (IIc)



R_{11} and R_{12} are independently C_1 - C_{18} alkyl

k is 2-4; and

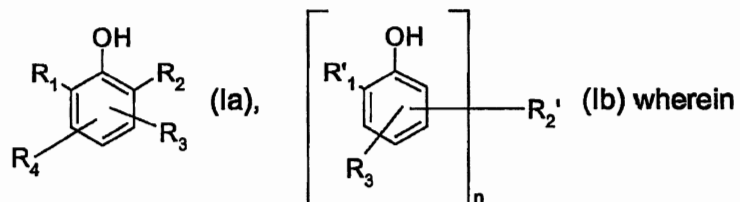
5 X is 2-methyl-1,2,3-propane-triyl- or 1,2,3,4-methane-teteryl-.

In a specific embodiment the process for the stabilization of halogen containing polymers against thermal degradation comprises

adding to the halogen containing polymer, which is in an aqueous suspension or emulsion during or after the polymerization process

10

b) a sterically hindered phenolic antioxidant with a melting point of more than $20^\circ C$ containing a compound of formula (Ia) or (Ib)



15

n is 2 or 3

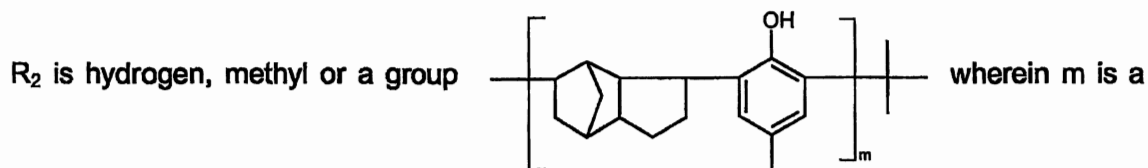
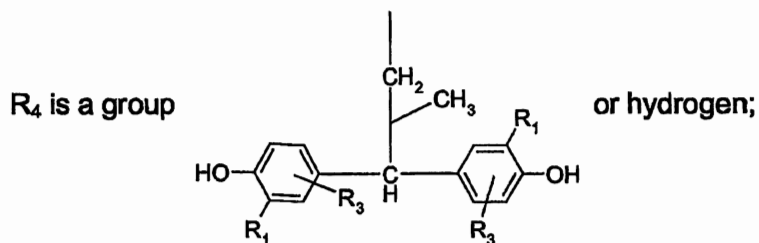
R_1 is tert.-butyl, secondary bound C_3 - C_{18} alkyl or C_5 - C_6 cycloalkyl;

R'_1 is tert. butyl, primary or secondary bound C_1 - C_{18} alkyl, phenyl, C_7 - C_9 phenyl-alkyl or C_5 - C_6 cycloalkyl;

R_3 is C_1 - C_{18} alkyl, C_1 - C_{18} alkoxy, C_5 - C_6 cycloalkyl or $-CH_2-CH_2-CO-O-(C_1-C_{18})$ alkyl;

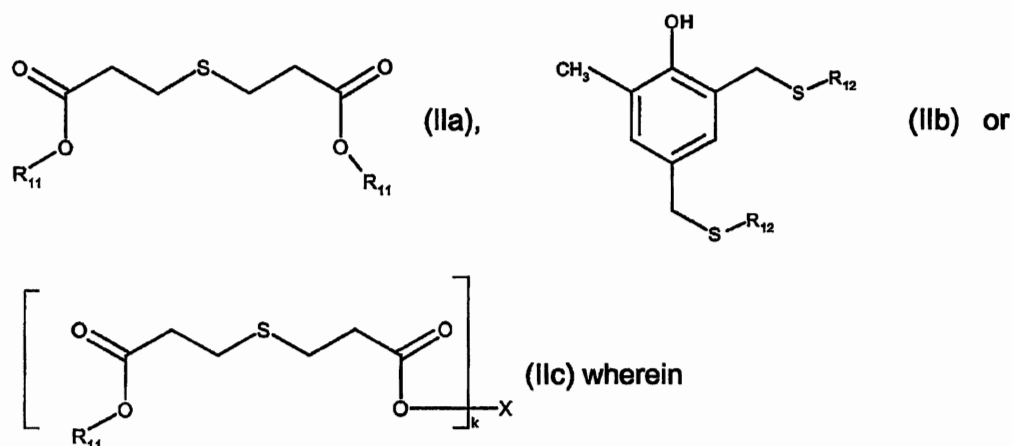
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R'_2 is a divalent or trivalent bridging group;



number from 1 to 10; and

c) a thioether or thioether-ester with a melting point of more than 20° C of formula (IIa), (IIb) or (IIc)



R_{11} and R_{12} are independently C_1 - C_{18} alkyl

k is 2-4; and

10 X is 2-methyl-1,2,3-propane-triyl- or 1,2,3,4-methane-tetrayl-. (Anspruch 12)

The definitions, preferences and optional additives given above, apply also for the process of polymerization.

15 For example PVC can be produced from vinyl chloride monomer (VCM) by three different processes. The most widely used is the suspension type polymerization, which accounts for approximately 80-85%. Droplets of liquid vinyl chloride are dispersed in water using a protective colloid in a pressurized agitated reactor. Polymerization occurs inside the droplets as a result of the use of an oil-soluble initiator. The product is in the form of 100-150 μ m

diameter porous grains. Another process is the emulsion route, in which the monomer is dispersed in water, using agitation and powerful surfactants and the polymerization is carried out in the aqueous phase, using a water soluble initiator. The polymerization product is in the form of an aqueous latex dispersion of PVC particles 0.1-2.0 μm in diameter. These are
5 spray-dried to form larger agglomerates, which are milled before being dispersed in solvents and plasticizers to give plastisols, used in a variety of spreading and dipping applications. The third route is bulk or mass polymerization. As the name implies the polymerization is carried out in vinyl chloride (VCM) in the absence of water. A review of the manufacturing of PVC is for example described in Encyclopedia of Polymer Science and Engineering, second
10 edition, vol. 17, pages 295-376.

The components b) and c) can be added during the polymerization reaction or after the reaction is completed.

15 With regard to vinyl chloride polymerization, the overwhelming amount of polyvinyl chloride is prepared by suspension polymerization. In this process, the vinyl chloride monomer and an initiator are dispersed by agitation into a water phase at proper temperature and pressure. Suspending agents such as methyl or ethyl cellulose, gelatin, polyvinyl alcohol or other water-soluble polymers are utilized to stabilize the suspension during the polymerization
20 reaction. Unreacted VCM is removed by a vacuum stripping process. The fine granules of polymer in the form of a slurry are discharged from the reactor and centrifuged or filtered to remove the water. Thorough washing and drying of the polymer to remove traces of the suspension stabilizer and the reaction medium conclude the procedure.

Toward the end of the polymerization cycle the pressure in the system begins to drop,
25 followed very shortly by a peak in the polymerization rate. Beyond the peak, the rate begins to drop sharply and the polymer beads become less porous as the free monomer is absorbed into the polymer and polymerizes. Such change in the particle character, both in terms of porosity and particle size distribution, is disadvantageous to the manufacturer in terms of reduced performance and economy of production. Thus, the granulated porous
30 structure is desired for enhanced plasticizer uptake to form dry blends for various extruding or calendaring operations. In order to avoid such adverse effects, the manufacturer will terminate the polymerization reaction prior to complete monomer conversion. The experience of the manufacturer will best determine the point at which polymerization is terminated to give high quality polymer, although 70 to 90% conversion reflects a general termination point.

Components b) and c) are preferably added at this stage of PVC manufacture. (Anspruch 13)

5 Particularly preferred is a process wherein the polymerization is a suspension polymerization and the components b) and c) are added as an emulsion to the slurry towards the end of the polymerization reaction. (Anspruch 14)

10 Yet a further aspect of the invention is the use of a sterically hindered phenolic antioxidant with a melting point of more than 20° C together with a thioether or thioether-ester with a melting point of more than 20° C according to claim 1 for the thermal stabilization of aqueous suspensions or emulsions of halogen containing polymers. (Anspruch 14)

The following examples illustrate the invention.

15 General polymerization procedure:

A standard PVC polymerization reaction is carried out according to the suspension process in batch operation. A double jacketed pressure reactor of a volume of 5000 ml is operated at a temperature of 57 °C, and a stirrer velocity of 1000 rpm. The pressure and the temperature in the reactor during the reaction are recorded.

20

The following recipe is added into the reactor:

1000 ml demineralized water, degassed

375 g vinyl chloride monomer

1500 mg polyvinyl alcohol, suspending agent

25 0,1 mol-% (based on vinyl chloride monomer) of initiator di-2-ethylhexylperoxodicarbonate, 75% in isodecane (Luperox 233M®, supplier: Atofina)

30 300 ppm (based on the weight of vinyl chloride monomer) of the additives given in table 1 are added at the beginning of the pressure drop (after approximately 3h reaction time). After a further reaction time of 1 hour, the reactor is degassed, and the polymer obtained is isolated by filtration. The obtained crude polymer is washed with water, filtered, washed with ethanol, and dried under vacuum at 40°C, until the weight remains constant. Yield: 88%.

Evaluation of the thermal stability of PVC resin:

The heat stability of PVC resins is evaluated by measuring the dehydrochlorination reaction using a "763 PVC Thermomat®" (supplier Metrohm AG, CH 9101 Herisau, Switzerland). The amount of hydrochloric acid released from the PVC resin is a measure for its thermal instability. The amount of hydrochloric acid is quantified by dissolving it in water, and measuring the conductivity of the solution (see Table 1). The longer it takes to reach a certain level of conductivity, the more stable is the resin.

Table 1:

Example	additives	dosage form of additives	additive concentration (active)	PVC resin K-value	Thermal stability of PVC resin*
1 comparative	Irganox 245 DW®	suspension	300 ppm	K-67	20 minutes
2 comparative	Irganox 1141 EM®	emulsion	300 ppm	K-67	24 minutes
3 inventive	Compound 1/DLTDP 1:1	emulsion	300 ppm	K-67	29 minutes

* Test: dehydrochlorination at 180°C, air (minutes to reach a conductivity of 60 microsiemens/cm)

Preparation of PVC compounds and evaluation of their thermal stability:

The heat stability of PVC compounds is measured by preparing mill blends based on the following recipe:

PVC Resin (S-PVC K-60)	300	g
Commercial Processing Aid	9	g
Wax	2	g
Calcium Stearate	2	g
Methyl tin mercaptide stabilizer	1	g

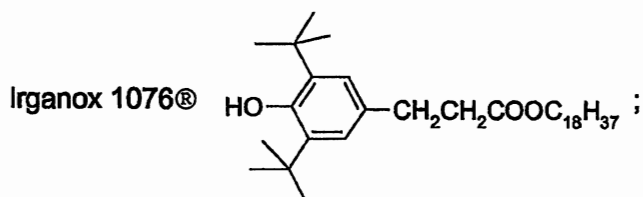
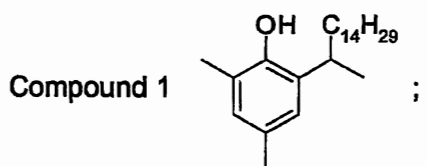
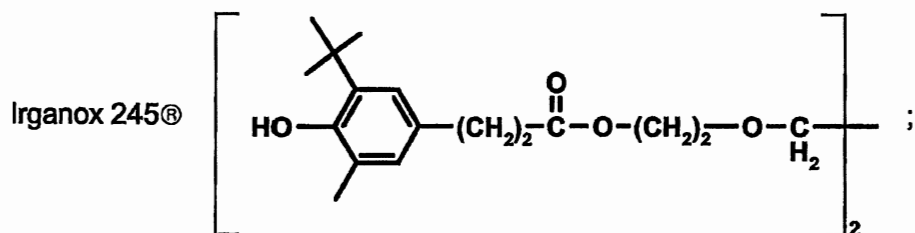
The blend is placed on a heated 2 roll mill at about 195°C for up to 15 minutes. Every 3 minutes material is removed from the mill and pressed into plaques. The color (Yellowness Index, YI according to DIN 6174) of the plaques is measured. The lower the YI, the better the thermal stability of the PVC compound (Table 2).

The results in Table 2 clearly indicate that the stabilization according to the instant invention also increases the stability during the compounding step.

Table 2

5 Thermal stability (color) of PVC compound

Stabilisers	Yellowness Index after minutes on roll mill at 195° C				
	3 minutes	6 minutes	9 minutes	12 minutes	15 minutes
300 ppm Irganox 245®	2.4	5.8	9.4	13.9	21.6
150 ppm compound 1 150 ppm DLTDP	-1.2	1.7	5.1	9.2	16.2



Irganox 1141® mixture of compound 1 and Irganox 1076, 4:1;

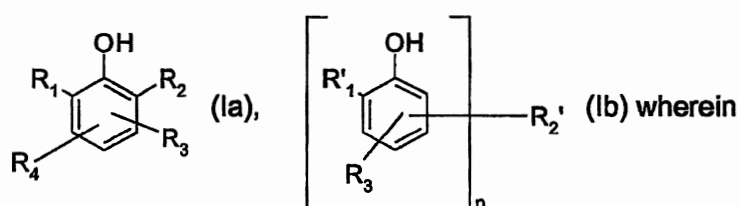
10 DLTDP is di-lauryl-thio-di-propionate

All compounds are supplied by Ciba Specialty Chemicals.

Claims

1. A composition comprising

- a) a halogen containing polymer or copolymer in the form of an aqueous suspension or emulsion;
- b) a sterically hindered phenolic antioxidant with a melting point of more than 20° C containing a compound of formula (Ia) or (Ib)



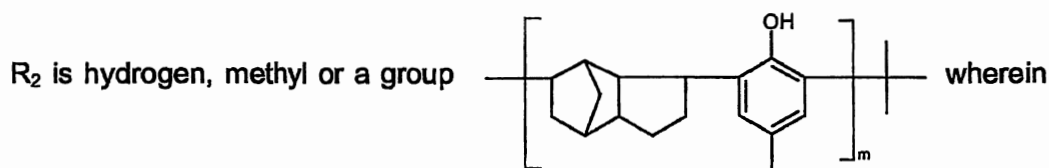
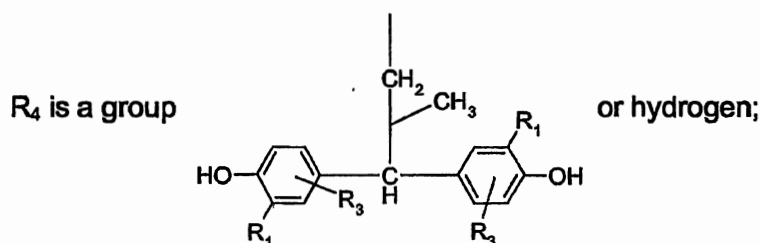
n is 2 or 3

R₁ is tert.-butyl, secondary bound C₃-C₁₈alkyl or C₅-C₆cycloalkyl;

R'₁ is tert. butyl, primary or secondary bound C₁-C₁₈alkyl, phenyl, C₇-C₉phenyl-alkyl or C₅-C₆cycloalkyl;

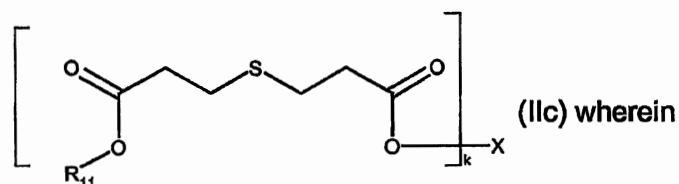
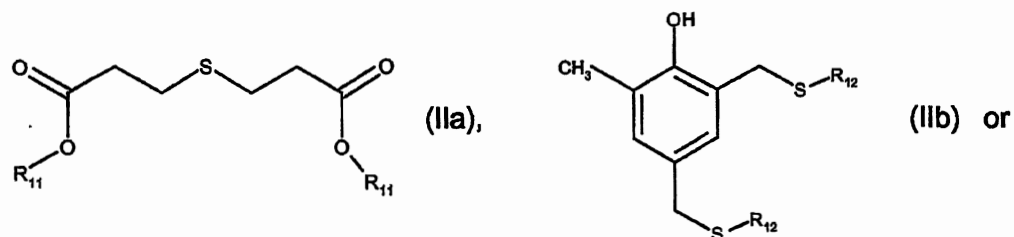
R₃ is C₁-C₁₈ alkyl, C₁-C₁₈alkoxy, C₅-C₆cycloalkyl or -CH₂-CH₂-CO-O-(C₁-C₁₈)alkyl;

R'₂ is a divalent or trivalent bridging group;



m is a number from 1 to 10; and

- c) a thioether or thioether-ester with a melting point of more than 20° C of formula (IIa), (IIb) or (IIc)



R_{11} and R_{12} are independently C_1 - C_{18} alkyl

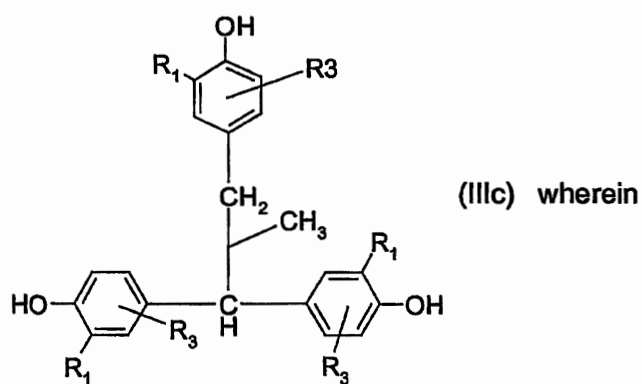
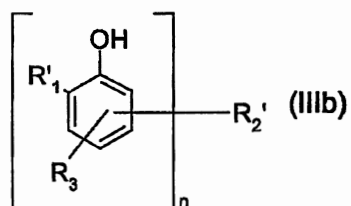
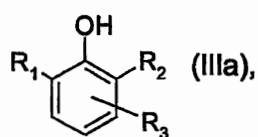
k is 2-4; and

X is 2-methyl-1,2,3-propane-triyl- or 1,2,3,4-methane-tetriyl-.

5

2. A composition according to claim 1 wherein the sterically hindered phenolic antioxidant containing a structural element of formula (Ia) or (Ib) is of formulae (IIIa), (IIIb) or (IIIc)

10



n is 2 or 3

R_1 is tert.-butyl, secondary bound C_3 - C_{18} alkyl or C_5 - C_6 cycloalkyl;

R'_1 is tert. butyl, primary or secondary bound C_1 - C_{18} alkyl, phenyl, C_7 - C_9 phenyl-alkyl or C_5 - C_6 cycloalkyl;

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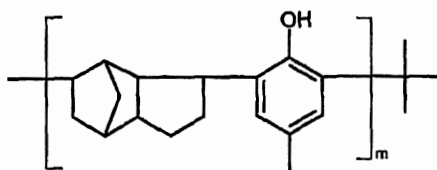
R_3 is C_1 - C_{18} alkyl, C_1 - C_{18} alkoxy, C_5 - C_8 cycloalkyl or a group

$-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{CO}-\text{O}-(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{18})\text{alkyl}$;

R'_2 is C_1 - C_{12} alkylene, $-\text{S}-$, trimethylene-isocyanurate, or a group

$-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{CO}-(\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2)_p-\text{O}-\text{CO}-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2-$ wherein p is a number from 1 to 3;

5 R_2 is hydrogen, methyl or a group



wherein m is a

number from 1 to 10.

3. A composition according to claim 1 wherein the halogen containing polymer is PVC.

10 4. A composition according to claim 1 wherein in component c) both R_{11} are C_{12} alkyl or C_{18} alkyl and the R_{12} are C_{12} alkyl.

5. A composition according to claim 1 wherein in component b) the sterically hindered phenolic antioxidant is

15 2-tert-butyl-4,6-dimethylphenol;

2,4-dimethyl-6-(1'-methylundec-1'-yl)phenol, 2,4-dimethyl-6-(1'-methylheptadec-1'-yl)phenol, 2,4-dimethyl-6-(1'-methyltridec-1'-yl)phenol, 2,4-dimethyl-6-(1'-methyltetradec-1'-yl)phenol and mixtures thereof;

2,2'-methylenebis(6-tert-butyl-4-methylphenol), 2,2'-methylenebis(6-tert-butyl-4-ethylphenol), 2,2'-methylenebis(4,6-di-tert-butylphenol), 2,2'-ethylidenebis(4,6-di-tert-butylphenol), 2,2'-ethylidenebis(6-tert-butyl-4-isobutylphenol)

or

(ethylenebis(oxyethylene)bis[3-(5-tert-butyl-4-hydroxy-m-tolyl)propionate].

25 6. A composition according to claim 1 wherein in component b) the sterically hindered phenolic antioxidant is

2-tert-butyl-4,6-dimethylphenol, 2,4-dimethyl-6-(1'-methyltetradec-1'-yl)phenol or a mixture thereof

and component c) is

30 di-lauryl-thio-di-propionate, di-stearyl-thio-di-propionate or a mixture thereof.

7. A composition according to claim 1 wherein in component b) the sterically hindered phenolic antioxidant is

2,4-dimethyl-6-(1'-methyltetradec-1'-yl)phenol

and component c) is

5 di-lauryl-thio-di-propionate.

8. A composition according to claim 1 wherein the sterically hindered phenolic antioxidant, component b) is present in an amount from 50 ppm to 2000 ppm based on the weight of the halogen containing monomer.

10

9. A composition according to claim 1 wherein component c) is present in an amount from 50 ppm to 2000 ppm based on the weight of the halogen containing monomer.

10. A composition according to claim 1 wherein the ratio of component b) to component c) is from 1:10 to 10:1.

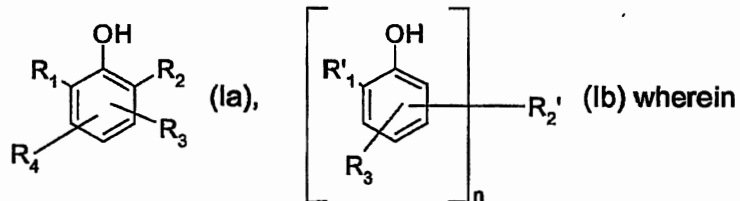
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11. A composition according to claim 1, which additionally contains a sterically hindered phenolic antioxidant different from that of component b), a phosphorous containing stabilizer, a 2-benzofuranone stabilizer, a sterically hindered amine light stabilizer or a UV-absorber.

20

12. A process for the stabilization of halogen containing polymers against thermal degradation, which process comprises adding to the halogen containing polymer, which is in an aqueous suspension or emulsion during or after the polymerization process

25 b) a sterically hindered phenolic antioxidant with a melting point of more than 20° C containing a compound of formula (Ia) or (Ib)



n is 2 or 3

30

R₁ is tert.-butyl, secondary bound C₃-C₁₈alkyl or C₅-C₆cycloalkyl;

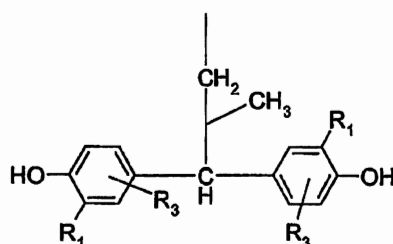
R'_1 is tert. butyl, primary or secondary bound C_1 - C_{18} alkyl, phenyl, C_7 - C_9 phenyl-alkyl or C_5 - C_6 cycloalkyl;

R_3 is C_1 - C_{18} alkyl, C_1 - C_{18} alkoxy, C_5 - C_6 cycloalkyl or $-\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-CO-O-(C}_1\text{-C}_{18}\text{)alkyl}$;

R'_2 is a divalent or trivalent bridging group;

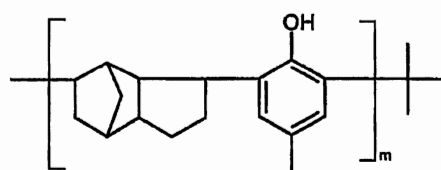
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R_4 is a group



or hydrogen;

R_2 is hydrogen, methyl or a group

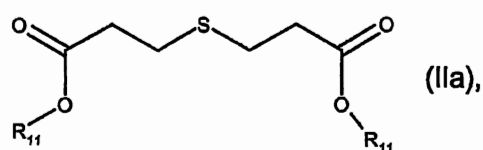


wherein m is a

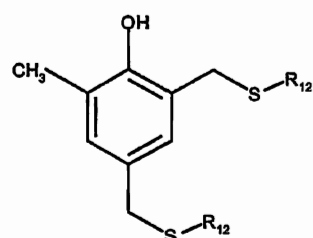
number from 1 to 10; and

c) a thioether or thioether-ester with a melting point of more than 20°C of formula (IIa), (IIb) or (IIc)

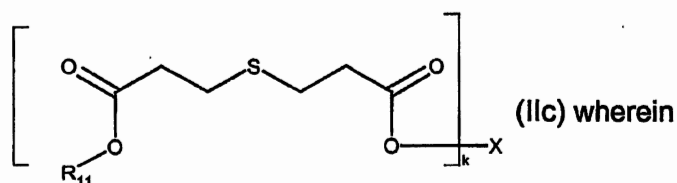
10



(IIa),



(IIb) or



(IIc) wherein

R_{11} and R_{12} are independently C_1 - C_{18} alkyl

k is 2-4; and

X is 2-methyl-1,2,3-propane-triyl- or 1,2,3,4-methane-tetryl-.

15

13. A process according to claim 12 wherein the components b) and c) are added towards the end of the polymerization reaction.

14. A process according to claim 12 wherein the polymerization is a suspension polymerization and the components a) and b) are added as an emulsion to the slurry towards the end of the polymerization reaction.