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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/26033 (22) International Filing Date: 9 December 1998 (09.12.98) (30) Priority Data: 09/025,714 17 February 1998 (17.02.98) US (71) Applicant: NALCO/EXXON ENERGY CHEMICALS, L.P. [US/US]: 7701 Highway 90-A, Sugarland, TX 77478 (US). (72) Inventors: MANEK, Maria, B.; 12123 Meadowdale, Stafford, TX 77477 (US); CHIN, Hai, Chen; 7919 Bountiful Crest, Sugar Lane, TX 77479 (US); PRESENTI, Robert, G.; 3919 Browning Street W, University, TX 77005 (US); DIAZ-ARAIZO, Hernando; 1247 Mossdale Drive, Sugar Land, TX 77479 (US). (74) Agent: KEEFER, Timothy, J.; Ladas & Parry, 224 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60604 (US).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published With international search report.

(54) Title: **MITIGATING FOULING AND REDUCING VISCOSITY****(57) Abstract**

A method is disclosed for mitigating fouling and reducing viscosity in primary fractionators and quench sections of ethylene plants by adding to a hydrocarbon stream a mono and/or a polyalkyl-substituted phenol-formaldehyde resin having a weight average molecular weight of from about 1,000 to about 30,000 and at least one alkyl substituent containing from about 4 to about 24 carbon atoms, which alkyl substituent may be linear or branched.