

POLYETHERIMIDE RESIN COMPOSITIONS WITH IMPROVED DUCTILITY

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The invention relates to polyetherimide resin compositions that exhibit improved ductility.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE RELATED ART

Thermoplastic resin blends containing a polyetherimide resin and a
5 copolymer of an α -olefin and an α , β -unsaturated glycidyl ester that are said
to exhibit good impact characteristics, have been disclosed in Japanese Patent
Application No. 58-57633, publication number JP 59182847-A.

It is believed that polyetherimide/glycidyl ester blends would find
wider applicability if their impact strength and ductility, particularly at low
10 temperatures, could be further improved.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is directed to a thermoplastic resin composition,
comprising, based on 100 parts by weight ("pbw") of the thermoplastic resin
composition:

- (a) a polyetherimide resin,
- 15 (b) a glycidyl ester impact modifier, and
- (c) an amount of an organometallic compound that is effective to improve
the ductility of the thermoplastic resin composition.

The thermoplastic resin composition of the present invention exhibits
improved impact strength and ductility.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

In a preferred embodiment, the thermoplastic resin composition of the present invention comprises from 88 to 99.5 pbw, more preferably from 90 to 999 pbw and still more preferably from 92 to 98 pbw, of the polyetherimide resin; from 0.5 to 12 pbw, more preferably from 1 to 10 pbw and still more preferably from 2 to 8 pbw, of the glycidyl ester impact modifier and from about 0.01 to about 0.2 pbw, more preferably from 0.01 to 0.1 pbw and still more preferably from 0.02 to 0.08 pbw, of the organometallic compound, each based on 100 pbw of the combined amount of polyetherimide resin and glycidyl ester impact modifier.

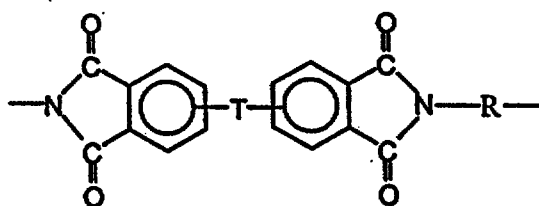
10 In a second preferred embodiment, the thermoplastic resin composition of the present invention comprises a polyetherimide resin, a glycidyl ester impact modifier and an effective amount of an organometallic compound and further comprises a polycarbonate resin and a siloxane-polyetherimide copolymer. In a more highly preferred embodiment, the
15 thermoplastic resin composition of the present invention comprises from 31 to 98 pbw, more preferably from 40 to 93 pbw and still more preferably from 39 to 81 pbw, of the polyetherimide resin; from 0.5 to 12 pbw, more preferably from 1 to 10 pbw and still more preferably from 2 to 8 pbw, of the glycidyl ester impact modifier; from 0.01 to 2.0 pbw, more preferably from 0.01 to 0.1
20 pbw and still more preferably from 0.02 to 0.08 pbw, of the organometallic compound, from 1 to 45 pbw, more preferably from 5 to 40 pbw and still more preferably from 15 to 35 pbw, of the polycarbonate resin; and from 0.5 to 12 pbw, more preferably from 1 to 10 pbw and still more preferably from 2 to 8 pbw of the siloxane-polyetherimide copolymer, each based on 100 pbw of the
25 combined amount of polyetherimide resin, glycidyl ester impact modifier, polycarbonate resin and siloxane-polyetherimide copolymer.

In a third preferred embodiment, the thermoplastic resin composition of the present invention comprises a polyetherimide resin, a glycidyl ester

impact modifier, an effective amount of an organometallic compound, a polycarbonate resin and a siloxane-polyetherimide copolymer and further comprises a siloxane-polycarbonate copolymer. In an even more highly preferred embodiment, the thermoplastic resin composition of the present invention comprises from 19 to 98.5 pbw, more preferably from 30 to 92 pbw and still more preferably from 31 to about 79 pbw, of the polyetherimide resin; from 0.5 to 12 pbw, more preferably from 1 to 10 pbw and still more preferably from 2 to 8 pbw, of the glycidyl ester impact modifier; from 0.01 to 0.2 pbw, more preferably from 0.01 to 0.1 pbw and still more preferably from 0.02 to 0.08 pbw, of the organometallic compound, from 1 to 45 pbw, more preferably from 5 to 40 pbw and still more preferably from 20 to 35 pbw of the polycarbonate resin ; from 0.5 to 12 pbw, more preferably from 1 to 10 pbw and still more preferably from 2 to 8 pbw of a siloxane-polyetherimide copolymer and from 0.5 to 12 pbw, more preferably from 1 to 10 pbw and still more preferably from 2 to 8 pbw of the siloxane-polycarbonate copolymer, each based on 100 pbw of the combined amount of polyetherimide resin, glycidyl ester impact modifier, polycarbonate resin, siloxane-polyetherimide copolymer and the siloxane-polycarbonate copolymer.

Polyetherimide resins suitable for use as the polyetherimide resin component of the thermoplastic resin of the composition of the present invention are known compounds whose preparation and properties have been described, see generally, U.S. Patent Nos. 3,803,085 and 3,905,942, the respective disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference.

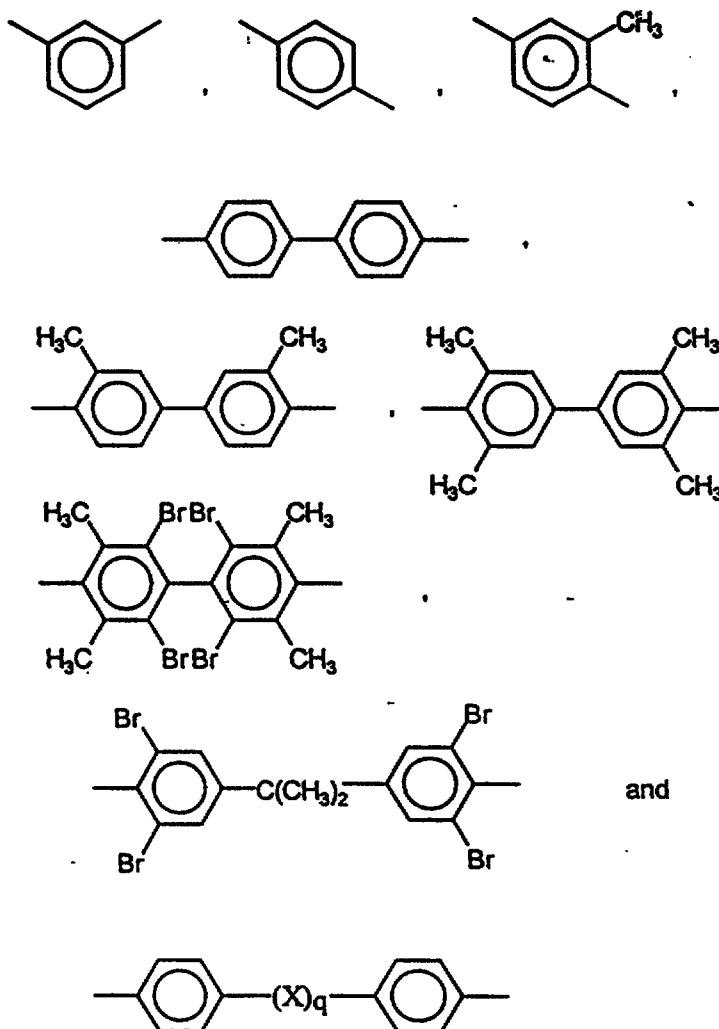
In a preferred embodiment, the polyetherimide resin component of the present invention contains from greater than 1 to 1000 or more, preferably from 10 to 1000, structural units of the formula (I):



(I)

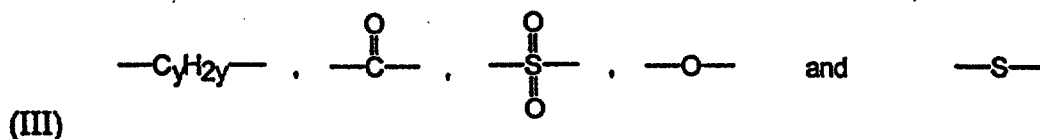
wherein the divalent T moiety bridges the 3,3', 3,4', 4,3', or 4,4' positions of the aryl rings of the respective aryl imide moieties of formula (I); T is -O- or a group of the formula -O-Z-O-; Z is a divalent radical selected from the group

5 consisting of formulae (II):



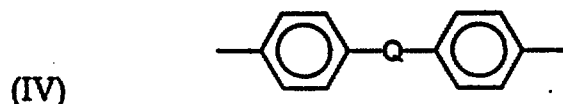
(II)

wherein X is a member selected from the group consisting of divalent radicals of the formulae (III):

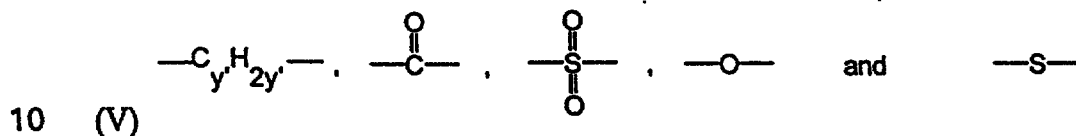


wherein y is an integer from 1 to about 5, and q is 0 or 1; R is a divalent organic radical selected from the group consisting of: (a) aromatic hydrocarbon radicals having from 6 to about 20 carbon atoms and

- 5 halogenated derivatives thereof, (b) alkylene radicals having from 2 to about 20 carbon atoms, (c) cycloalkylene radicals having from 3 to about 20 carbon atoms, and (d) divalent radicals of the general formula (IV):



where Q is a member selected from the group consisting of formulae (V):

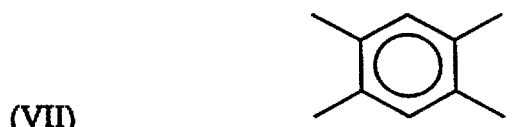


where y' is an integer from about 1 to about 5.

In one embodiment, the polyetherimide resin may be a copolymer which, in addition to the etherimide units described above, further contains polyimide repeating units of the formula (VI):

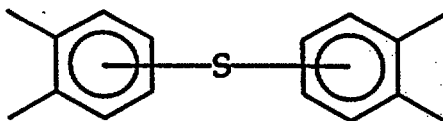


wherein R is as previously defined for formula (I) and M is selected from the group consisting of formula (VII):



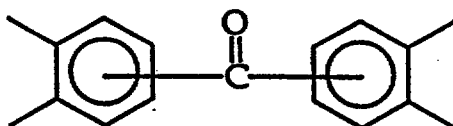
formula (VIII):

(VIII)



and formula (IX):

(IX)

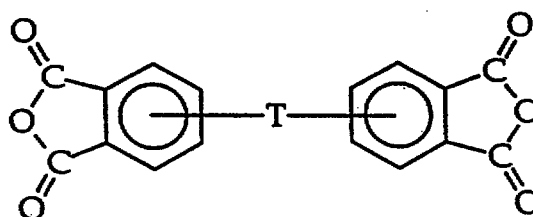


Polyetherimide resins are made by known methods, such as, for
 5 example, those disclosed in U.S. Patent Nos. 3,847,867, 3,814,869, 3,850,885,
 3,852,242 3,855,178 and 3,983,093, the disclosures of which are hereby
 incorporated herein by reference.

In a preferred embodiment, the polyetherimide resin is made by the
 reaction of an aromatic bis(ether anhydride) of the formula (X):

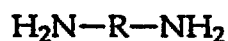
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(X)



with an organic diamine of the formula (XI):

(XI)



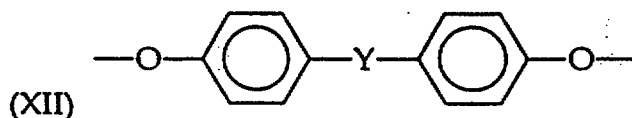
wherein T and R are defined as described above in formula (I). In general the
 reactions can be carried out employing well-known solvents, e.g., o-
 15 dichlorobenzene, m-cresol/toluene and the like to effect interaction between
 the anhydride of formula (X) and the diamine of formula (XI), at temperatures
 from about 100°C to about 250°C. Alternatively, the polyetherimide resin can
 be prepared by melt polymerization of aromatic bis(ether anhydride)s and
 diamines accomplished by heating a mixture of the ingredients at elevated
 20 temperatures with concurrent stirring. Generally melt polymerizations

employ temperatures between about 200°C and 400°C. Chain stoppers and branching agents may also be employed in the reaction.

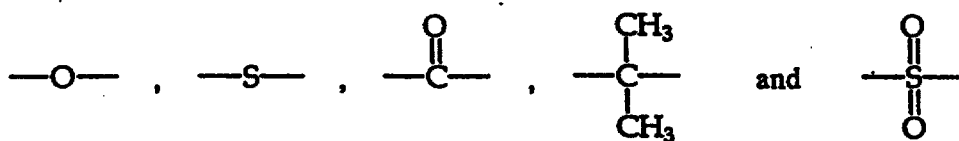
Examples of specific aromatic bis(ether anhydrides) and organic diamines are disclosed, for example, in U.S. Patent Nos. 3,972,902 and
5 4,455,410, which are incorporated by reference herein.

Illustrative examples of aromatic bis(ether anhydride)s of formula (X) include: 2,2-bis(4-(3,4-dicarboxyphenoxy)phenyl)propane dianhydride; 4,4'-bis(3,4-dicarboxyphenoxy)diphenyl ether dianhydride; 4,4'-bis(3,4-dicarboxyphenoxy)diphenyl sulfide dianhydride; 4,4'-bis(3,4-dicarboxyphenoxy)benzophenone dianhydride; 4,4'-bis(3,4-dicarboxyphenoxy)diphenyl sulfone dianhydride; 2,2-bis([4-(2,3-dicarboxyphenoxy)phenyl]propane dianhydride; 4,4'-bis(2,3-dicarboxyphenoxy)diphenyl ether dianhydride; 4,4'-bis(2,3-dicarboxyphenoxy)diphenyl sulfide dianhydride; 4,4'-bis(2,3-dicarboxyphenoxy)benzophenone dianhydride; 4,4'-bis(2,3-dicarboxyphenoxy)diphenyl sulfone dianhydride; 4-(2,3-dicarboxyphenoxy)-4'-(3,4-dicarboxyphenoxy)diphenyl-2,2-propane dianhydride; 4-(2,3-dicarboxyphenoxy)-4'-(3,4-dicarboxyphenoxy)diphenyl ether dianhydride; 4-(2,3-dicarboxyphenoxy)-4'-(3,4-dicarboxyphenoxy)diphenyl sulfide
10 dianhydride; 4-(2,3-dicarboxyphenoxy)-4'-(3,4-dicarboxyphenoxy)benzophenone dianhydride and 4-(2,3-dicarboxyphenoxy)-4'-(3,4-dicarboxyphenoxy)diphenyl sulfone dianhydride, as well as various mixtures thereof.

A preferred class of aromatic bis(ether anhydride)s included by
25 formula (X) above includes compounds wherein T is of the formula (XII):



wherein each Y is independently selected from the group consisting of:
formulae (XIII):



(XIII)

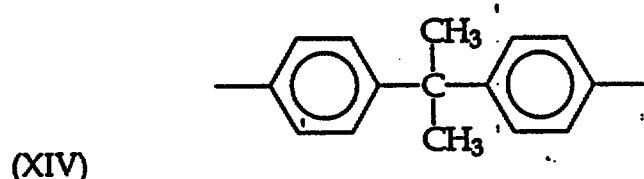
When polyetherimide/ polyimide copolymers are employed, a dianhydride, such as pyromellitic anhydride, is used in combination with the
5 bis(ether anhydride).

The bis(ether anhydride)s can be prepared by the hydrolysis, followed by dehydration, of the reaction product of a nitro substituted phenyl dinitrile with a metal salt of dihydric phenol compound in the presence of a dipolar, aprotic solvent.

10 Suitable organic diamines of formula (XI) include, for example: m-phenylenediamine; p-phenylenediamine; 4,4'-diaminodiphenylpropane, 4,4'-diaminodiphenylmethane (commonly named 4,4'-methylenedianiline); 4,4'-diaminodiphenyl sulfide; 4,4'-diaminodiphenyl sulfone; 4,4'-diaminodiphenyl ether (commonly named 4,4'-oxydianiline); 1,5-diaminonaphthalene; 3,3-
15 dimethylbenzidine; 3,3-dimethoxybenzidine; 2,4-bis(beta-amino-t-butyl)toluene; bis(p-beta-amino-t-butylphenyl)ether; bis(p-beta-methyl-o-aminophenyl)benzene; 1,3-diamino-4-isopropylbenzene; 1,2-bis(3-aminopropoxy)ethane; benzidine; m-xylylenediamine; 2,4-diaminotoluene; 2,6-diaminotoluene; bis(4-aminocyclohexyl)methane; 3-
20 methylheptamethylenediamine; 4,4-dimethylheptamethylenediamine; 2,11-dodecanediamine; 2,2-dimethylpropylenediamine; 1,18-octamethylenediamine; 3-methoxyhexamethylenediamine; 2,5-dimethylhexamethylenediamine; 2,5-dimethylheptamethylenediamine; 3-methylheptamethylenediamine; 5-methylnonamethylenediamine; 1-4-
25 cyclohexanediamine; 1,18-octadecanediamine; bis(3-aminopropyl)sulfide; N-methyl-bis(3-aminopropyl)amine; hexamethylenediamine;

heptamethylenediamine; nonamethylenediamine; decamethylenediamine and mixtures of such diamines.

Illustrative of a particularly preferred polyetherimide resin falling within the scope of Formula (I) is one comprising repeating units wherein R is
5 paraphenylene, metaphenylene, or mixtures of paraphenylene and metaphenylene and T is a group of the formula -O-Z-O- wherein Z has the formula (XIV):



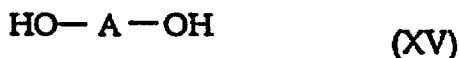
and wherein the divalent group (XIV) bridges the 3,3' positions of the aryl
10 rings of the respective aryl imide moieties of formula (I).

Generally, useful polyetherimide resins have an intrinsic viscosity $[\eta]$ greater than about 0.2 deciliters per gram, preferably of from about 0.35 to about 0.7 deciliters per gram measured in m-cresol at 25°C.

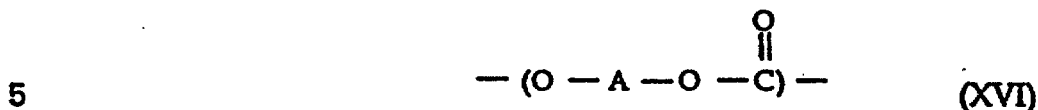
In a preferred embodiment, the polyetherimide resin of the present
15 invention resin has a weight average molecular weight of from 10,000 to 150,000 grams per mole ("g/mol"), as measured by gel permeation chromatography, using a polystyrene standard.

Aromatic polycarbonate resins suitable for use as the polycarbonate resin component of the thermoplastic resin composition of the present
20 invention are known compounds whose preparation and properties have been described, see, generally, U.S. Patent Nos. 3,169,121, 4,487,896 and 5,411,999, the respective disclosures of which are each incorporated herein by reference.

In a preferred embodiment, the aromatic polycarbonate resin
25 component of the present invention is the reaction product of a dihydric phenol according to the structural formula (XV):



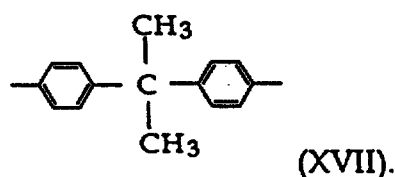
wherein A is a divalent aromatic radical,
with a carbonate precursor and contains structural units according to the
formula (XVI):



wherein A is defined as above.

As used herein, the term "divalent aromatic radical" includes those
divalent radicals containing a single aromatic ring such as phenylene, those
divalent radicals containing a condensed aromatic ring system such as, for
10 example, naphthlene, those divalent radicals containing two or more aromatic
rings joined by a non-aromatic linkage, such as for example, an alkylene,
alkylidene or sulfonyl group, any of which may be substituted at one or more
sites on the aromatic ring with, for example, a halo group or (C₁-C₆)alkyl
group.

15 In a preferred embodiment, A is a divalent aromatic radical according
to the formula (XVII):



Suitable dihydric phenols include, for example, one or more of 2, 2-bis-
(4-hydroxyphenyl) propane ("bisphenol A"), 2,2-bis(3,5-dimethyl-4-
20 hydroxyphenyl)propane, bis(4-hydroxyphenyl) methane, 4,4-bis(4-
hydroxyphenyl)heptane, 3,5,3',5'-tetrachloro-4,4'-dihydroxyphenyl)propane,
2,6-dihydroxy naphthalene, hydroquinone, 2,4'-dihydroxyphenyl sulfone. In
a highly preferred embodiment, the dihydric phenol is bisphenol A.

The carbonate precursor is one or more of a carbonyl halide, a
25 carbonate ester or a haloformate. Suitable carbonyl halides include, for

example, carbonyl bromide and carbonyl chloride. Suitable carbonate esters include, such as for example, diphenyl carbonate, dichlorophenyl carbonate, dinaphthyl carbonate, phenyl tolyl carbonate and ditolyl carbonate. Suitable haloformates include for example, bishaloformates of a dihydric phenols,
5 such as, for example, hydroquinone, or glycols, such as, for example, ethylene glycol, neopentyl glycol. In a highly preferred embodiment, the carbonate precursor is carbonyl chloride.

Suitable aromatic polycarbonate resins include linear aromatic polycarbonate resins, branched aromatic polycarbonate resins. Suitable linear
10 aromatic polycarbonates resins include, e.g., bisphenol A polycarbonate resin. Suitable branched polycarbonates are known and are made by reacting a polyfunctional aromatic compound with a dihydric phenol and a carbonate precursor to form a branched polymer, see generally, U. S. Patent Nos. 3,544,514, 3,635,895 and 4,001,184, the respective disclosures of which are
15 incorporated herein by reference. The polyfunctional compounds are generally aromatic and contain at least three functional groups which are carboxyl, carboxylic anhydrides, phenols, haloformates or mixtures thereof, such as, for example, 1,1,1-tri(4-hydroxyphenyl)ethane, 1,3,5-trihydroxy-
20 benzene, trimellitic anhydride, trimellitic acid, trimellityl trichloride, 4-chloroformyl phthalic anhydride, pyromellitic acid, pyromellitic dianhydride, mellitic acid, mellitic anhydride, trimesic acid, benzophenonetetracarboxylic acid, benzophenone-tetracarboxylic dianhydride. The preferred
polyfunctional aromatic compounds are 1,1,1-tri(4-hydroxyphenyl)ethane, trimellitic anhydride or trimellitic acid or their haloformate derivatives.

25 In a preferred embodiment, the polycarbonate resin component of the present invention is a linear polycarbonate resin derived from bisphenol A and phosgene.

In a preferred embodiment, the weight average molecular weight of the polycarbonate resin is from about 10,000 to more than 200,000 g/mol, as

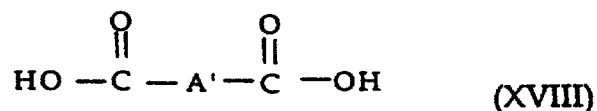
determined by gel permeation chromatography relative to polystyrene. Such resin typically exhibits an intrinsic viscosity of about 0.3 to about 1.5 deciliters per gram in methylene chloride at 25°C.

Polycarbonate resins are made by known methods, such as, for
5 example, interfacial polymerization, transesterification, solution polymerization or melt polymerization.

Copolyester-carbonate resins are also suitable for use as the polycarbonate resin component of the thermoplastic resin composition of the present invention. Suitable copolyester-carbonate resins are known
10 compounds whose preparation and properties have been described, see, generally, U.S. Patent Nos. 3,169,121, 4,430,484 and 4,487,896, the respective disclosures of which are each incorporated herein by reference.

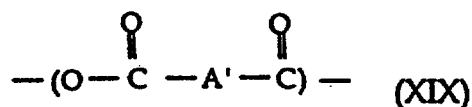
Copolyester-carbonate resins comprise linear or randomly branched polymers that contain recurring carbonate groups, carboxylate groups and
15 aromatic carbocyclic groups in the polymer chain, in which at least some of the carbonate groups are bonded directly to the ring carbon atoms of the aromatic carbocyclic groups.

In a preferred embodiment, the copolyester-carbonate resin component of the present invention is derived from a carbonate precursor, at least one
20 dihydric phenol and at least one dicarboxylic acid or dicarboxylic acid equivalent. In a preferred embodiment, the dicarboxylic acid is one according to the formula (XVIII):



wherein A' is alkylene, alkylidene, cycloaliphatic or aromatic and is
25 preferably a non-substituted phenylene radical or a substituted phenylene radical that is substituted at one or more sites on the aromatic ring, wherein each of such substituent groups is independently (C₁-C₆) alkyl, and the

copolyester carbonate resin comprises first structural units according to formula (XVI) above and second structural units according to formula (XIX):



wherein A' is defined as above.

- 5 Suitable carbonate precursors and dihydric phenols are those disclosed above.

 Suitable dicarboxylic acids, include, for example, phthalic acid, isophthalic acid, terephthalic acid, dimethyl terephthalic acid, oxalic acid, malonic acid, succinic acid, glutaric acid, adipic acid, pimelic acid, suberic acid, azelaic acid, sebacic acid, dimethyl malonic acid, 1,12-dodecanoic acid, 10 *cis*-1,4-cyclohexane dicarboxylic acid, *trans*-1,4-cyclohexane dicarboxylic acid, 4,4'- bisbenzoic acid, naphthalene-2,6-dicarboxylic acid. Suitable dicarboxylic acid equivalents include, for example, anhydride, ester or halide derivatives of the above disclosed dicarboxylic acids, such as, for example, phthalic 15 anhydride, dimethyl terephthalate, succinyl chloride.

 In a preferred embodiment, the dicarboxylic acid is an aromatic dicarboxylic acid, more preferably one or more of terephthalic acid and isophthalic acid.

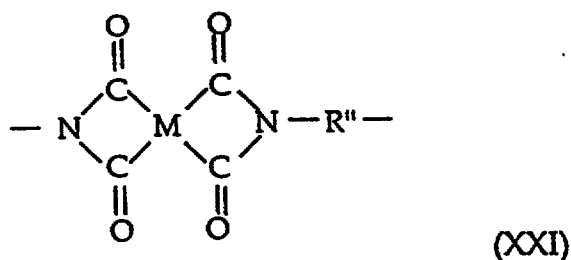
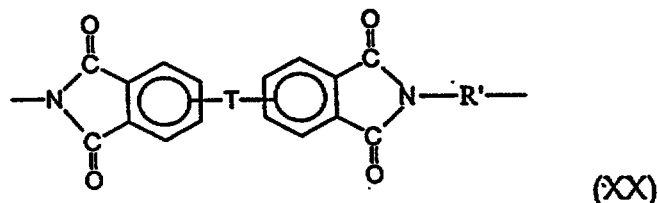
- In a preferred embodiment, the ratio of ester bonds to carbonate bonds 20 present in the copolyester carbonate resin is from 0.25 to 0.9 ester bonds per carbonate bond.

 In a preferred embodiment, the copolyester-carbonate copolymer has a weight average molecular weight of from about 10,000 to about 200,000 g/mol

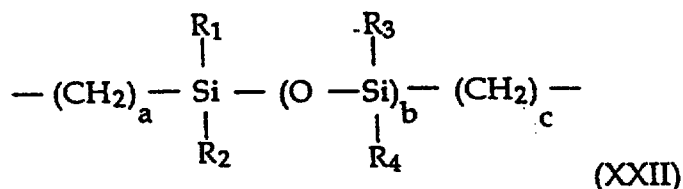
- 25 Copolyester-carbonate resins are made by known methods, such as, for example, interfacial polymerization, transesterification, solution polymerization or melt polymerization.

Siloxane-polyetherimide copolymers suitable for use as the siloxane-polyetherimide copolymer component of the thermoplastic resin composition of the present invention are known compounds whose preparation and properties have been described, see U.S. Patent No. 5,051,483, the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated herein by reference.

In a preferred embodiment, the siloxane-polyetherimide copolymer component of the composition of the present invention has first structural units according to one or more of formulae (I) and (VI) and second structural units according to one or more of formulae (XX) and (XXI):



wherein T and M are each defined as above and R' and R'' are each independently a divalent radical of the structural formula (XXII):



wherein:

R₁, R₂, R₃ and R₄ are each independently (C₁-C₆)alkyl,

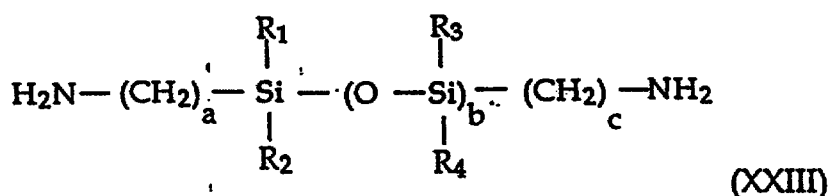
a and c are each independently integers from 1 to 10, preferably

from 1 to 5, and

b is an integer from 1 to about 40, preferably from 5 to 25.

As used herein, the term "(C₁-C₆)alkyl " means a straight or branched alkyl group of from 1 to 6 carbon atoms per group, such as, for example, methyl, ethyl, n-butyl, isobutyl, t-butyl, pentyl, hexyl.

In a preferred embodiment, the siloxane-polyetherimide copolymer is made in a manner similar to that described above for the polyetherimide resins, except that all or a portion of the diamine reactant is replaced by an aminoalkyl-terminated organosiloxane compound, preferably of the structural formula (XXIII):



wherein R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄, a, b and c are each defined as above.

In a preferred embodiment, R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ are each methyl, a and c are each 3 and b has an average value of from 9 to 20.

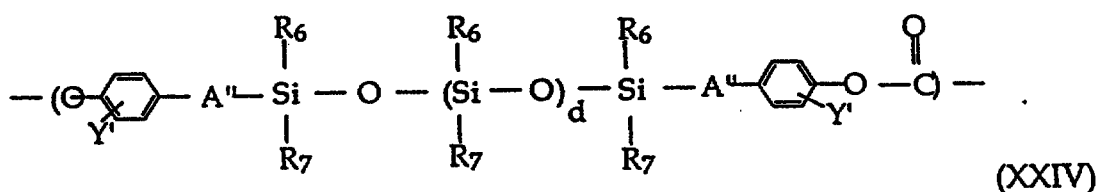
In a preferred embodiment, the siloxane-polyetherimide copolymer is made by reacting an aromatic bis(ether anhydride) of the formula (X) with an organic diamine of formula (XI) and an amine-terminated organosiloxane compound of formula (XXIII). The diamine and amine-terminated organosiloxane may be physically mixed prior to reaction with the aromatic bis(ether anhydride) in order to form a random siloxane-polyetherimide copolymer, or, alternatively, the diamine and amine-terminated organosiloxane may be reacted with the aromatic bis(ether anhydride) in series in order to form an alternating or block copolymer.

In a preferred embodiment, the copolymer comprises from 50 to 80 mole % of the diamine and from 20 to 50 mole % of the amine terminated organosiloxane, based on the combined amount of diamine and amine-terminated organosiloxane.

In a preferred embodiment, the siloxane-polyetherimide copolymer has a weight average molecular weight of from 10,000 to 150,000 g/mol, as measured by gel permeation chromatography, using a polystyrene standard.

5 Siloxane-polycarbonate copolymers suitable for use as the siloxane-polycarbonate copolymer component of the thermoplastic resin composition of the present invention are known compounds whose preparation and properties have been described, see generally, U.S. Patent Nos. 3,189,662, 3,419,632, 5,530,083 and 5,455,310 the respective disclosures of which are each incorporated herein by reference.

10 In a preferred embodiment, the siloxane-polycarbonate copolymer of the composition of the present invention comprises first structural units according to formula (XVI) and second structural units according to the formula (XXIV):

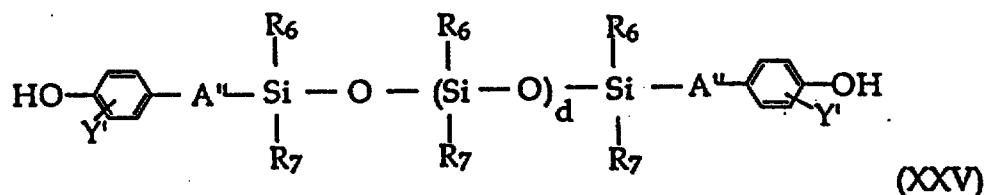


15 wherein:

each A'' is independently (C₂-C₁₂)alkylene;
 each Y' is independently H, (C₁-C₆)alkyl or (C₁-C₆)alkoxyl, and
 each R₆ and R₇ is independently H or (C₁-C₆)alkyl, and
 d is an integer from 10 to 120.

20 In a preferred embodiment, each A'' is propylene. In a preferred embodiment, each Y' is methoxyl. In a preferred embodiment, R₆ and R₇ are each methyl. In a preferred embodiment, d is an integer from 10 to 70.

The siloxane-polycarbonate copolymer used in the composition of the present invention is made in a manner similar to that described above for the polycarbonate resins, except that all or a portion of the dihydric phenol
 25 reactant is replaced by an organosiloxane compound having reactive end groups, preferably of the structural formula (XXV):



wherein A'', R₆, R₇, d and Y' are each defined as above.

In a preferred embodiment, the organosiloxane compound (XXV) is a eugenol endcapped polydimethylsiloxane. A suitable eugenol endcapped polydimethylsiloxane is made for example, by the method disclosed in the
5 above-referenced U.S. Patent Number 5,455,310.

In a preferred embodiment, the relative amount of siloxane-polycarbonate copolymer first structural units according to formula (XVI) and second structural units according to the formula (XXIV) are selected to
10 provide a copolymer having a siloxane content of from 5 to 50 wt%.

In a preferred embodiment, the siloxane-polycarbonate copolymer of the present invention has a weight average molecular weight of from about 10,000 to about 100,000 g/mol.

Siloxane-polycarbonate copolymers are made by known methods, such
15 as, for example, interfacial polymerization or melt polymerization.

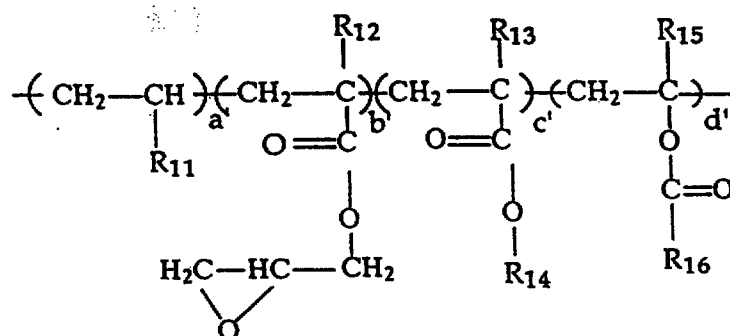
Glycidyl ester impact modifiers suitable for use as the glycidyl ester component of the composition of the present invention are polymers that comprise repeating units derived from one or more glycidyl ester monomers. As used herein, the terminology "glycidyl ester monomer" means a glycidyl
20 ester of an ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acid such as, e.g., acrylic acid, methacrylic acid, itaconic acid, and includes, e.g., glycidyl acrylate, glycidyl methacrylate, glycidyl itaconate. In a preferred embodiment, the glycidyl ester monomer is glycidyl acrylate or glycidyl methacrylate.

In a preferred embodiment, the glycidyl ester impact modifier
25 comprises first structural units derived one or more glycidyl ester monomers and second structural units derived from one or more α-olefin monomers, such as, for example, ethylene, propylene, 1-butene, 1-pentene.

Suitable glycidyl ester copolymers may, optionally, contain a minor amount, that is, up to about 50 wt%, of repeating units derived from one or more other monoethylenically unsaturated monomers that are copolymerizable with the glycidyl ester monomer. As used herein the terminology "monoethylenically unsaturated" means having a single site of ethylenic unsaturation per molecule. Suitable copolymerizable monoethylenically unsaturated monomers include, e.g., vinyl aromatic monomers such as, e.g., styrene and vinyl toluene, vinyl esters such as e.g., vinyl acetate and vinyl propionate, and (C₁-C₂₀)alkyl (meth)acrylates such as, e.g., butyl acrylate, methyl methacrylate, cyclohexyl methacrylate. As used herein, the term "(C₁-C₂₀)alkyl" means a straight or branched alkyl group of from 1 to 20 carbon atoms per group, such as e.g., methyl, ethyl, decyl, eicosyl, and the term "(meth)acrylate" refers collectively to acrylate compounds and methacrylate compounds.

In a preferred embodiment, the glycidyl ester impact modifier comprises from 0.5 to 40 wt%, preferably from 1 to 30 wt%, and more preferably from 2 to 20 wt%, of units derived from the glycidyl ester monomer.

In a preferred embodiment, the glycidyl ester impact modifier is a random copolymer having a relative composition according to structural formula (XXVI):



(XXVI)

wherein: R₁₁ is H, alkyl, cycloalkyl or aryl;

R_{12} , R_{13} and R_{14} are each independently H or (C₁-C₆)alkyl;

R_{15} and R_{16} are each independently alkyl or aryl;

$a' + b' + c' + d' = 100$;

a' is from 50 to 99.5;

5 b' is from 0.5 to 25;

c' is from 0 to 50; and

d' is from 0 to 50.

In a more highly preferred embodiment, R_{11} is H, (C₁-C₂₀)alkyl, (C₅-C₂₀)cycloalkyl or (C₆-C₂₀)aryl. As used herein, the term "(C₅-C₂₀)cycloalkyl"
10 means a cyclic alkyl group of from 5 to 20 carbon atoms per group such as e.g., cyclohexyl, cyclooctyl, and the term "(C₆-C₂₀)aryl" means a hydrocarbon group that includes one or more unsaturated six-membered carbon rings, and may, optionally, be substituted with one or more alkyl groups on one or more of the aromatic rings, to form a substituent group having from 6 to 20 carbon
15 atoms per group, such as, e.g., phenyl, naphthyl, tolyl, xylyl, mesityl, isopropyl phenyl.

In a more highly preferred embodiment, R_{12} , R_{13} and R_{15} are each independently H or methyl.

In a more highly preferred embodiment, R_{14} and R_{16} are each
20 independently, (C₁-C₂₀)alkyl, (C₅-C₂₀)cycloalkyl or (C₆-C₂₀)aryl.

In a more highly preferred embodiment, R_{11} and R_{14} are each methyl, R_{12} and R_{13} are each hydrogen, a' is from 45 to 75, b' is from 5 to 15, c' is from 20 to 40 and d' is 0.

In a preferred embodiment, the melt index, as measured at
25 190°C according to ASTM D-1238, of the glycidyl ester impact modifier is from 0.1 to 100 grams/10 minutes and preferably from 0.5 to 30 grams/10 minutes.

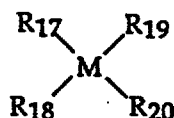
In a preferred embodiment, the glycidyl ester impact modifier is an olefin-glycidyl (meth)acrylate copolymer, an olefin-vinyl acetate-glycidyl

(meth)acrylate copolymer or an olefin-glycidyl (meth)acrylate-alkyl (meth)acrylate copolymer.

Suitable glycidyl ester copolymers can be made by, e.g., conventional free radical initiated copolymerization or graft polymerization methods.

5 Organometallic compounds suitable for use as the organometallic compound of the thermoplastic resin composition of the present invention are compounds having a covalent bond between a metal atom, preferably a titanium or zirconium atom, and another atom that is also bonded to a carbon based group.

10 In a preferred embodiment, the organometallic compound comprises one or more compounds according to the structural formula (XXVII)



(XXVII)

15 wherein:

M is Ti or Zr,

R₁₇ is (C₁-C₁₆)alkoxy, optionally substituted with up to two alkenyloxyalkyl groups, and

R₁₈, R₁₉ and R₂₀ are each independently hydroxy, (C₁-C₁₆)alkoxy, 20 optionally substituted with up to two alkenyloxyalkyl groups; aryloxy, optionally substituted with (C₁-C₁₆)alkyl, amino or aminoalkyl; phenylsulfonyloxy, optionally substituted with one or more (C₁-C₁₆)alkyl groups; phosphato, optionally substituted with up to two (C₁-C₁₆)alkyl groups; pyrophosphato, optionally substituted with up to two (C₁-C₁₆)alkyl 25 groups; arylcarbonyloxy, optionally substituted with (C₁-C₁₆)alkyl or amino; (C₁-C₁₆)alkylcarbonyloxy, hydroxy(C₁-C₁₆)alkylcarbonyloxy; acrylo; methacrylo; aminoalkyleneoxy; (C₁-C₁₆)alkylenediaminoxy; aminoaryleneoxy or mercapto(C₁-C₁₆)alkyleneoxy, or wherein

R₁₇ or R₁₈ are each independently (C₁-C₁₆)alkoxyl, optionally substituted with up to two alkenyloxyalkyl groups, or are fused to form, with the M atom, a heterocyclic pyrophosphate ring structure, which may be optionally substituted up to two (C₁-C₁₆)alkyl groups, a heterocyclic (C₁-C₆)alkylenedioxy ring structure or a heterocyclic (C₁-C₆)alkylenecarbonyl dioxy ring structure, and

R₁₉ and R₂₀ are each independently acrylo, methacrylo or phosphato, optionally substituted with up to two (C₁-C₁₆)alkyl groups, or pyrophosphato, optionally substituted with up to two (C₁-C₁₆)alkyl groups, or are fused to form, with the M atom, a heterocyclic pyrophosphate ring structure, which may be optionally substituted with up to two (C₁-C₁₆)alkyl or alkenyloxyalkyl groups,

as well as coordination complexes of such compounds with, for example, phosphites such as ditridecyl phosphite, or adducts of such compounds with, for example triethyl amine or 2-(N,N-dimethylamino)isobutanol.

- 5 As used herein, the terminology "(C_n-C_m)" as applied to an organic substituent group means that the organic substituent group may contain from n carbon atoms to m carbon atoms per group. As used herein:
- "(C₁-C₁₆)alkoxy" includes, for example methoxy, isopropoxy,
- "alkenyloxyalkyl" includes, for example, allyloxymethyl,
- 10 "aryloxy" includes, for example, phenoxy,
- "(C₁-C₁₆)alkyl" includes, for example, methyl, ethyl, n-butyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, n-pentyl and dodecyl,
- "arylcarbonyloxy" includes, for example, phenylcarbonyloxy,
- "(C₁-C₁₆)alkylcarbonyloxy" includes, for example, nonylcarbonyloxy
- 15 "hydroxy(C₁-C₁₆)alkylenecarbonyloxy" includes, for example, methoxybutoxy,
- "aminoalkyleneoxy" includes, for example aminoethyleneoxy,

"aminoaryleneoxy" includes, for example, aminophenoxy,

"(C₁-C₁₆)alkylenediaminoxy" includes, for example, ethylenediaminoxy

"mercapto(C₁-C₁₆)alkyleneoxy" includes, for example, mercaptoethyleneoxy,

"heterocyclic (C₁-C₆)alkylenedioxy ring structure" includes, for example, an

5 ethylenedioxy moiety, wherein each of the oxygen atoms of the ethylenedioxy moiety are bonded to M.

"heterocyclic dioxy(C₁-C₆)alkylenecarbonyl ring structure" includes, for example, methylenecarbonyldioxy moiety, wherein each of the oxygen atoms of the methylenecarbonyldioxy moiety are bonded to M.

10 Suitable organometallic compounds include, for example:

neopentyl(diallyl)oxy trineodecanyl titanate,

neopentyl(diallyl)oxy trineodecanyl zirconate,

neopentyl(diallyl)oxy trimethacryl zirconate,

neopentyl(diallyl)oxy triacryl zirconate

15 neopentyl(diallyl)oxy tri(dodecyl) benzene sulfonyl-titanate,

di(neopentyl(diallyl)oxy) di(3-mercapto propionic) zirconate

neopentyl(diallyl)oxy tri(hydroxycaproyl) titanate

neopentyl(diallyl)oxy tri(dioctyl) phosphato titanate,

neopentyl(diallyl)oxy tri(dioctyl) phosphato zirconate,

20 neopentyl(diallyl)oxy tri(dioctyl) pyrophosphato titanate

cyclo(dioctyl)pyrophosphate dioctyl titanate,

dicyclo(dioctyl)pyrophosphate titanate, neopentyl(diallyl)oxy tri(N-ethylenediamineo)ethyl titanate,

cyclo[dineopentyl(diallyl)]pyrophosphato dineopentyl(diallyl)zirconate,

25 neopentyl(diallyl)oxy trineodecanoyl zirconate,

di(dioctyl)pyrophosphate oxoethylene titanate,

isopropyl tri(dodecyl)benzene sulfonyl titanate,

tetraisopropyl di(dioctyl)phosphito titanate,

tetra(2,2-diallylmethyl)butyl di(tridecyl)phosphito titanate,



isopropyl dimethacryl isostearoyl titanate, and the 2-(N,N-dimethylamino)isobutanol adduct of di(dioctyl)pyrophosphate oxoethylene titanate.

In a preferred embodiment R_{17} is (C_1-C_{16}) alkoxy, optionally substituted
5 with up to two alkenyloxyalkyl groups, and R_{18} , R_{19} and R_{20} are each independently (C_1-C_{16}) alkoxy, optionally substituted with up to two alkenyloxyalkyl groups; aryloxy, optionally substituted with (C_1-C_{16}) alkyl, amino or aminoalkylene; phenylsulfonyloxy, optionally substituted with one or more (C_1-C_{16}) alkyl groups; phosphato, optionally substituted with up to
10 two (C_1-C_{16}) alkyl groups; pyrophosphato, optionally substituted with up to two (C_1-C_{16}) alkyl groups; arylcarbonyloxy, optionally substituted with (C_1-C_{16}) alkyl or amino; (C_1-C_{16}) alkylcarbonyloxy; hydroxy($C_1-C_{16})$ alkylcarbonyloxy; acrylo; methacrylo; aminoalkyleneoxy; (C_1-C_{16}) alkylenediaminoxy; aminoaryleneoxy or mercapto($C_1-C_{16})$ alkyleneoxy.

15 In a highly preferred embodiment, the organometallic compound comprises neopentyl(diallyl)oxy tri(dioctyl)phosphato titanate, neopentyl(diallyl)oxy tri(dioctyl)phosphato titanate or a mixture thereof.

The thermoplastic resin composition of the present invention may, optionally, also contain various additives which are well known in the art,
20 such as antioxidants, such as, for example, organophosphites, for example, tris(nonyl-phenyl)phosphite, 2,4-di-tert(butylphenyl) phosphite, tris(2,4-di-tert-butylphenyl)phosphite, bis(2,4-di-tert-butylphenyl)pentaerythritol diphosphite or distearyl pentaerythritol diphosphite, alkylated monophenols, polyphenols and alkylated reaction products of polyphenols with dienes, such as, for
25 example, tetra-cis(methylene)-3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxycinnamate, butylated reaction products of para-cresol and dicyclopentadiene, alkylated hydroquinones, hydroxylated thiodiphenyl ethers, alkylidene-bisphenols, benzyl compounds, acylaminophenols, esters of beta-(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenol)-propionic acid with monohydric or polyhydric alcohols,

esters of beta-(5-tert-butyl-4-hydroxy-3-methylphenyl)-propionic acid with monohydric or polyhydric alcohols, esters of beta-(5-tert-butyl-4-hydroxy-3-methylphenyl) propionic acid with mono-or polyhydric alcohols, esters of thioalkyl or thioaryl compounds, such as, for example,

5 distearylthiopropionate, dilaurylthiopropionate, ditridecylthiodipropionate, amides of beta-(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenol)-propionic acid; fillers and reinforcing agents, such as, for example, silicates, TiO₂, glass fibers, carbon black, graphite, calcium carbonate, talc, mica and other additives such as, for example, UV absorbers, light stabilizers, lubricants, plasticizers, pigments,

10 dyes, colorants, anti-static agents, blowing agents.

The preparation of the compositions of the present invention is normally achieved by merely blending the ingredients under conditions for the formation of an intimate blend. Such conditions often include solution blending or melt mixing in single or twin screw type extruders, mixing bowl,

15 or similar mixing devices which can apply a shear to the components. Twin screw extruders are often preferred due to their more intensive mixing capability over single screw extruders. It is often advantageous to apply a vacuum to the melt through at least one vent port in the extruder to remove volatile impurities in the composition.

20 The composition of the present invention can be molded into useful articles, such as, for example, heat resistant containers, by a variety of means such as, for example, injection molding and extrusion.

Examples

The respective thermoplastic resin compositions of Comparative

25 Examples C1-C4 and Examples 1-3 of the present invention were each made by combining the components described below in the relative amounts (each expressed in percent by weight, based on the total weight of the respective thermoplastic resin composition) set forth in TABLES I and II. The components used in the thermoplastic resin compositions were as follows:

- PEI-1: Polyetherimide resin made by condensation of 2,2-bis(2,3-dicarboxy phenoxy phenol)propane dianhydride with metaphenylene diamine and having a weight average molecular weight of about 55×10^3 g/mol
- 5 PEI-2: Polyetherimide resin made by condensation of 2,2-bis(2,3-dicarboxy phenoxy phenol)propane dianhydride with metaphenylene diamine and having a weight average molecular weight of about 40×10^3 g/mol.
- 10 PC: Polycarbonate resin derived from bisphenol-A and phosgene and having a weight average molecular weight of about 36.5×10^3 g/mol.
- 15 Si-PEI: Siloxane/polyetherimide copolymer made by condensation of 2,2-bis(2,3-dicarboxy phenoxy phenol)propane dianhydride with metaphenylene diamine and an aminopropyl-terminated D₁₀ polydimethylsiloxane, containing 34 wt% of structural units derived from the polydimethylsiloxane and having a weight average molecular weight of about 60×10^3 g/mol.
- 20 SI-PC: Siloxane-polycarbonate copolymer derived from bisphenol A, phosgene and about 36 wt% of the reaction product of a eugenol-endcapped D₅₀ polydimethylsiloxane and having a weight average molecular weight of about 54×10^3 g/mol.
- 25 GEIM: Poly(ethylene/glycidyl methacrylate) impact modifier containing 88 wt% ethylene units and 12 wt% glycidyl methacrylate units and having a melt flow rate of 3g/10 minutes at 190°C using a 2.16 kilogram weight, (Bondfast E, Sumitomo Chemical Company).
- TiO₂: Titanium dioxide (SCM Glidden Company).
- OMC: Neopentyl(diallyl)oxy tri(dioctyl)phosphatotitanate (Lica 12, KenRich Petrochemicals Company).

In a series of runs, the components were blended in a twin screw extruder at a temperature of about 320°C to about 340°C to form the respective compositions of Examples 1-3 and Comparative Examples C1-C4. The compositions were then extruded to form strands, chopped into pellets
5 and then injection molded to form test specimens for physical property testing.

Notched Izod impact strength was measured, using a sample size of 2.5 inch by 0.5 inch by 0.125 inch, according to ASTM D256. Dart impact strength was measured according to ASTM D3763 (using 4 inch diameter by 0.125 inch
10 disks) at various temperatures, as indicated below in the TABLES. Heat distortion temperature was measured at 264 pounds per square inch ("psi") on unannealed 0.25 inch thick test specimens according to ASTM D648.

Results of the testing are set forth below for each of the comparative examples C1-C4 and examples 1-3 in TABLES I and II as follows: dart impact,
15 expressed in foot-pounds ("ft-lb") and noting the percentage of specimens that exhibited a ductile fracture mode (% ductile"), notched Izod impact strength, expressed in foot-pounds per inch ("ft-lb/in") and heat distortion temperature, expressed in degrees centigrade ("HDT, °C").

TABLE I

	CEx# C1	Ex 1	CEx# C2	Ex 2
PEI-1	74	74.95	50	50.95
PEI-2	20	20	11	11
PC	--	--	29	29
Si-PEI	--	--	4	4
GEIM	5	5	5	5
TiO ₂	1	--	1	--
OMC	--	0.05	--	0.05

Properties

Dart Impact, 25°C (ft-lb/ %ductile)	26(100)	34(100)	46(100)	39(100)
Dart Impact, 0°C (ft-lb/ %ductile)	--	--	51(100)	39(100)
Dart Impact, -20°C (ft-lb/ % ductile)	--	--	51(0)	40(80)
Dart Impact, -30°C (ft-lb/ % ductile)	--	--	51(0)	41(60)
Notched Izod Impact (ft-lb/in)	3.4	3.3	5.9	11.6
HDT (°C)	202	202	180	181

The composition of Comparative Example 1 is analogous to that of Example 1, except that the composition of Comparative Example 1 contains TiO₂, rather than an organometallic compound as in the composition of Example 1. The composition of Example 1 exhibited improved dart impact performance at 25°C, compared to the composition of Comparative Example 1.

The composition of Comparative Example 2 is analogous to that of Example 2, except that the composition of Comparative Example 2 contains TiO₂, rather than an organophosphatotitanate as in the composition of Example 2. The composition of Example 2 exhibited improved ductility, as

indicated by performance in the dart impact test, at -20°C and -30°C, compared to the composition of Comparative Example 2.

TABLE II

	CEx# C3	CEx# C4	Ex 3
PEI-1	48	49	48.95
PEI-2	9	9	9
PC	29	29	29
SI-PEI	4	4	4
Si-PC	4	4	4
GEIM	5	5	5
TiO ₂	1	—	—
OMC	—	—	0.05
<u>Properties</u>			
Dart Impact, 25°C (ft-lb/ %ductile)	33(100)	31(100)	36(100)
Dart Impact, 0°C (ft-lb/ %ductile)	36(100)	20(0)	35(100)
Dart Impact, -20°C (ft-lb/ % ductile)	39(40)	—	37(20)
Dart Impact, -30°C (ft-lb/ % ductile)	42(0)	—	37(20)
Notched Izod Impact (ft-lb/in)	15.3	4.4	16
HDT (°C)	170	165	171

The composition of Comparative Example 3 is analogous to that of

- 5 Example 3, except that the composition of Comparative Example 3 contains TiO₂, rather than an organometallic compound as in the composition of Example 3. The composition of Example 3 exhibits improved notched Izod impact performance and improved ductility, as indicated by performance in the dart impact test, at -30°C, compared to the composition of Comparative
- 10 Example 3.

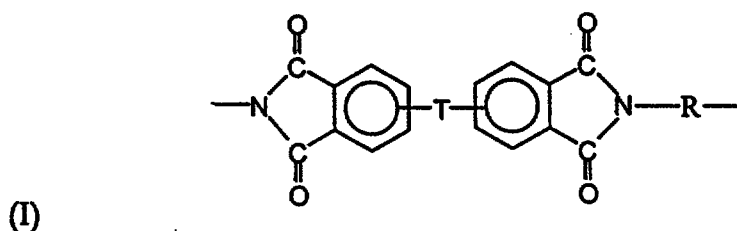
The composition of Comparative Example 4 is analogous to that of Example 3, except that the composition of Comparative Example 4 lacks the organometallic compound of the composition of Example 3. The composition of Example 3 exhibits improved notched Izod impact performance and
5 improved dart impact performance at 25°C and 0°C, compared to the composition of Comparative Example 4.

The thermoplastic resin composition of the present invention exhibits improved impact strength and ductility. Furthermore, while thermoplastic resin blends that contain TiO_2 provide good physical properties and
10 processability, TiO_2 is a white powder that is somewhat difficult to handle in a manufacturing environment and it is sometimes difficult to obtain deeply and brightly colored TiO_2 -containing resin compositions. These problems are both overcome by use of the organometallic compound of the present invention.



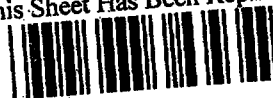
CLAIMS

1. A thermoplastic resin composition, comprising
 - (a) a polyetherimide resin,
 - (b) a glycidyl ester impact modifier, and
 - (c) an amount of an organometallic compound that is effective to improve the ductility of the thermoplastic resin composition.
2. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises, based on 100 parts by weight of the thermoplastic resin composition, from about 88 to 99.5 parts by weight of the polyetherimide resin; from 0.5 to 12 parts by weight of the glycidyl ester impact modifier; and from 0.01 to 0.2 parts by weight of the organometallic compound.
3. The composition of claim 1, wherein the polyetherimide resin comprises structural units of the formula (I):



wherein the divalent T moiety bridges the 3,3', 3,4', 4,3', or 4,4' positions of the aryl rings of the respective aryl imide moieties of formula (I); T is -O- or a group of the formula -O-Z-O-; Z is a divalent radical selected from the group consisting of formulae (II):

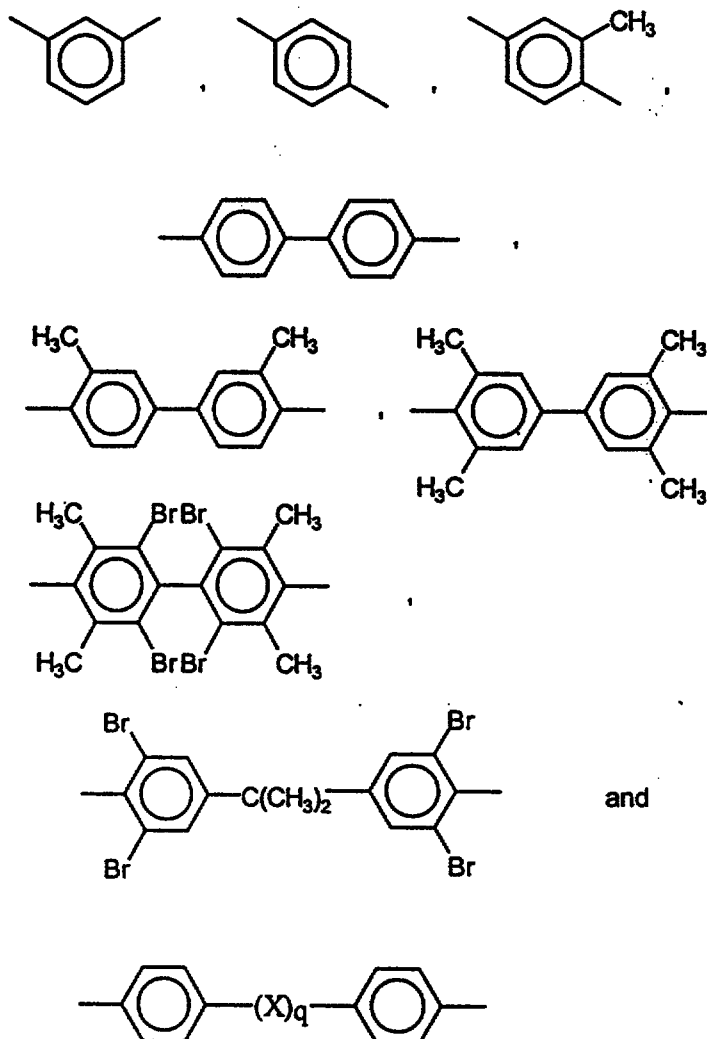
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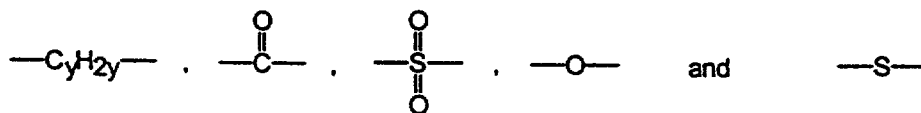


-31-



(II)

wherein X is a member selected from the group consisting of divalent radicals of the formulae (III):

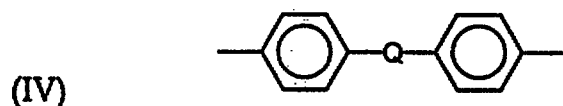


(III)

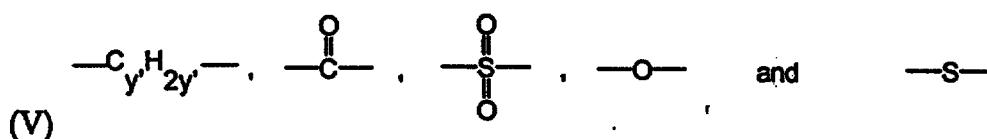
wherein y is an integer from 1 to about 5, and q is 0 or 1; R is a divalent organic radical selected from the group consisting of: (a) aromatic hydrocarbon radicals having from 6 to about 20 carbon atoms and halogenated derivatives thereof, (b) alkylene radicals having from 2 to about



20 carbon atoms, (c) cycloalkylene radicals having from 3 to about 20 carbon atoms, and (d) divalent radicals of the general formula (IV):



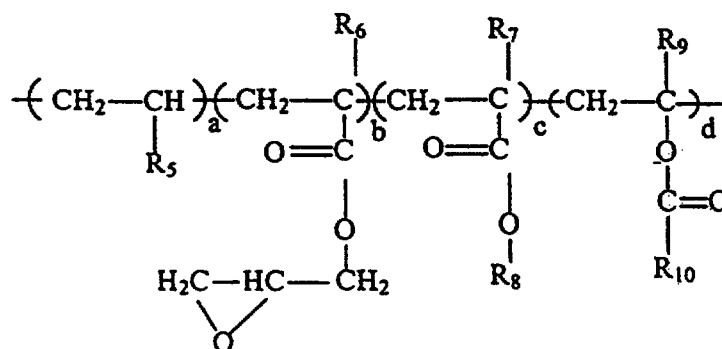
where Q is a member selected from the group consisting of formulae (V):



where y' is an integer from about 1 to about 5.

4. The composition of claim 1, wherein the polyetherimide resin is the reaction product formed by melt polymerization of 2,2-bis[4-(3,4-dicarboxyphenoxy)phenyl]propane dianhydride with metaphenylene diamine.

5. The composition of claim 1, wherein glycidyl ester impact modifier is a random copolymer having a relative composition according to structural formula:



wherein: R_5 is H, alkyl or aryl;

R_6 , R_7 and R_8 are each independently H or (C_1-C_6) alkyl;

R_9 and R_{10} are each independently alkyl or aryl;

$a + b + c + d = 100$;

a is from 50 to 99.5;

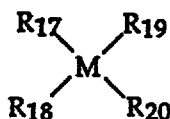
b is from 0.5 to 25;



c is from 0 to 50; and

d is from 0 to 50.

6. The composition of claim 1, wherein the organometallic compound comprises one or more compounds according to the structural formula:



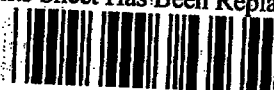
wherein:

M is Ti or Zr,

R₁₇ is (C₁-C₁₆)alkoxy, optionally substituted with up to two alkenyloxyalkyl groups, and

R₁₈, R₁₉ and R₂₀ are each independently hydroxy, (C₁-C₁₆)alkoxy, optionally substituted with up to two alkenyloxyalkyl groups; aryloxy, optionally substituted with (C₁-C₁₆)alkyl, amino or aminoalkyl; phenylsulfonyloxy, optionally substituted with one or more (C₁-C₁₆)alkyl groups; phosphato, optionally substituted with up to two (C₁-C₁₆)alkyl groups; pyrophosphato, optionally substituted with up to two (C₁-C₁₆)alkyl groups; arylcarbonyloxy, optionally substituted with (C₁-C₁₆)alkyl or amino; (C₁-C₁₆)alkylcarbonyloxy, hydroxy(C₁-C₁₆)alkylcarbonyloxy; acrylo; methacrylo; aminoalkyleneoxy; "(C₁-C₁₆)alkylenediaminoxy; aminoaryleneoxy or mercapto(C₁-C₁₆)alkyleneoxy, or R₁₇ or R₁₈ are each independently (C₁-C₁₆)alkoxyl, optionally substituted with up to two alkenyloxyalkyl groups, or are fused to form, with the M atom, a heterocyclic pyrophosphate ring structure, which may be optionally substituted up to two (C₁-C₁₆)alkyl groups, a heterocyclic (C₁-C₆)alkylenedioxy ring structure or a heterocyclic (C₁-C₆)alkylenecarbonyldioxy ring structure, and

R₁₉ and R₂₀ are each independently acrylo, methacrylo or phosphato, optionally substituted with up to two (C₁-C₁₆)alkyl groups, or pyrophosphato,



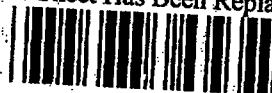
optionally substituted with up to two (C_1 - C_{16}) alkyl groups, or are fused to form, with the M atom, a heterocyclic pyrophosphate ring structure, which may be optionally substituted with up to two (C_1 - C_{16}) alkyl or alkenyloxyalkyl groups,

7. The composition of claim 1, wherein the organometallic compound is selected from the group consisting of neopentyl(diallyl)oxy trineodecanyl titanate, neopentyl(diallyl)oxy trineodecanyl zirconate, neopentyl(diallyl)oxy trimethacryl zirconate, neopentyl(diallyl)oxy triacryl zirconate, neopentyl(diallyl)oxy tri(dodecyl) benzene sulfonyl-titanate, di(neopentyl(diallyl)oxy) di(3-mercapto propionic) zirconate, neopentyl(diallyl)oxy tri(hydroxycaproyl) titanate, neopentyl(diallyl)oxy tri(dioctyl) phosphato titanate, neopentyl(diallyl)oxy tri(dioctyl) phosphato zirconate, neopentyl(diallyl)oxy tri(dioctyl) pyrophosphato titanate, cyclo(dioctyl)pyrophosphate dioctyl titanate, dicyclo(dioctyl)pyrophosphate titanate, neopentyl(diallyl)oxy tri(N-ethylenediamineo)ethyl titanate, cyclo[dineopentyl(diallyl)]pyrophosphato dineopentyl(diallyl)zirconate, neopentyl(diallyl)oxy trineodecanoyl zirconate, di(dioctyl)pyrophosphate oxoethylene titanate, isopropyl tri(dodecyl)benzene sulfonyl titanate, tetraisopropyl di(dioctyl)phosphito titanate, tetra(2,2-diallylmethyl)butyl di(tridecyl)phosphito titanate, isopropyl dimethacryl isostearoyl titanate, and the 2-(N,N-dimethylamino)isobutanol adduct of di(dioctyl)pyrophosphate oxoethylene titanate.

8. The composition of claim 1, wherein the organometallic compound comprises neopentyl(diallyl)oxy tri(dioctyl)phosphato titanate, neopentyl(diallyl)oxy tri(dioctyl)phosphato zirconate or a mixture thereof.

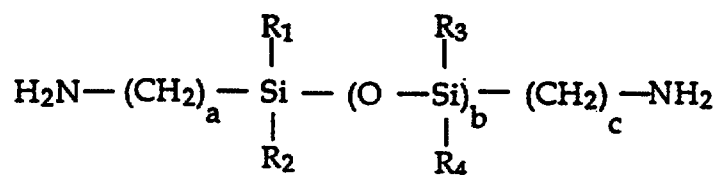
9. The composition of claim 1, further comprising a siloxane-polyetherimide copolymer and a polycarbonate resin.

10. The composition of claim 9, wherein the composition comprises, based on 100 parts by weight of the composition, from 5 to 40 parts by weight of the



siloxane-polyetherimide copolymer and from 0.5 to 12 parts by weight of the polycarbonate resin.

11. The composition of claim 9, wherein the siloxane-polyetherimide copolymer is the reaction product of an aromatic bis(ether anhydride) with an organic diamine and an aminoalkyl-terminated organosiloxane of the structural formula:



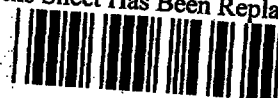
wherein:

R₁, R₂, R₃ and R₄ are each independently (C₁-C₆)alkyl,
a and c are each independently integers from 1 to 10, and
b is an integer from 1 to about 40.

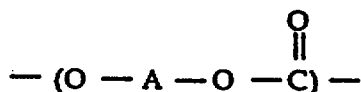
12. The composition of claim 11, R₁, R₂, R₃ and R₄ are each methyl, a and c are each 3 and b has an average value of from 9 to 20.

13. The composition of claim 9, wherein the aromatic polycarbonate resin is the reaction product of bisphenol A and phosgene.

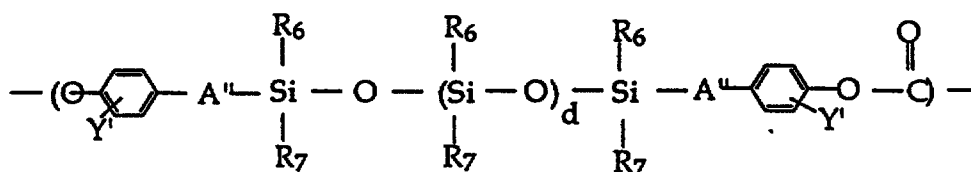
14. The composition of claim 9, further comprising a siloxane-polycarbonate copolymer.



15. The composition of claim 14, wherein the siloxane-polycarbonate copolymer comprises first structural units according to the formula:



wherein A is a divalent aromatic radical, and
second structural units according to the structural formula:



wherein each A'' is independently (C₂-C₁₂)alkylene, preferably each A'' is propylene; each Y' is independently H, (C₁-C₆)alkyl or (C₁-C₆)alkoxyl; each R₆ and R₇ is independently H or (C₁-C₆)alkyl, and d is an integer from 10 to 120

16. The composition of claim 15, wherein each A'' is propylene, each Y' is methoxy, R₆ and R₇ are each methyl and d is from 10 to 70.

17. The composition of claim 14, wherein the composition comprises, based on 100 parts by weight of the composition, from 0.5 to 12 parts by weight of the siloxane-polycarbonate copolymer.

18. A thermoplastic resin composition, comprising the composition obtained by blending:

- (a) a polyetherimide resin,
- (b) a glycidyl ester impact modifier, and
- (c) an amount of an organometallic compound that is effective to improve the ductility of the thermoplastic resin composition.

19. A shaped article molded by the composition of claim 1.

**POLYETHERIMIDE RESIN COMPOSITIONS WITH IMPROVED DUCTILITY
ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A thermoplastic resin composition containing a polyetherimide resin, a glycidyl ester impact modifier and a organometallic compound exhibits improved impact strength and ductility.

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isopropyl dimethacryl isostearoyl titanate, and the 2-(N,N-dimethylamino)isobutanol adduct of di(dioctyl)pyrophosphate oxoethylene titanate.

In a preferred embodiment R_{17} is (C_1-C_{16}) alkoxy, optionally substituted
5 with up to two alkenyloxyalkyl groups, and R_{18} , R_{19} and R_{20} are each independently (C_1-C_{16}) alkoxy, optionally substituted with up to two alkenyloxyalkyl groups; aryloxy, optionally substituted with (C_1-C_{16}) alkyl, amino or aminoalkylene; phenylsulfonyloxy, optionally substituted with one or more (C_1-C_{16}) alkyl groups; phosphato, optionally substituted with up to
10 two (C_1-C_{16}) alkyl groups; pyrophosphato, optionally substituted with up to two (C_1-C_{16}) alkyl groups; arylcarbonyloxy, optionally substituted with (C_1-C_{16}) alkyl or amino; (C_1-C_{16}) alkylcarbonyloxy; hydroxy (C_1-C_{16}) alkylcarbonyloxy; acrylo; methacrylo; aminoalkyleneoxy; (C_1-C_{16}) alkylenediaminoxy; aminoaryleneoxy or mercapto (C_1-C_{16}) alkyleneoxy.

15 In a highly preferred embodiment, the organometallic compound comprises neopentyl(diallyl)oxy tri(dioctyl)phosphato titanate or a mixture thereof.

The thermoplastic resin composition of the present invention may, optionally, also contain various additives which are well known in the art,
20 such as antioxidants, such as, for example, organophosphites, for example, tris(nonyl-phenyl)phosphite, 2,4-di-tert(butylphenyl) phosphite, tris(2,4-di-t-butylphenyl)phosphite, bis(2,4-di-t-butylphenyl)pentaerythritol diphosphite or distearyl pentaerythritol diphosphite, alkylated monophenols, polyphenols and alkylated reaction products of polyphenols with dienes, such as, for
25 example, tetra-cis(methylene)-3,5-di-t-butyl-4-hydroxycinnamate, butylated reaction products of para-cresol and dicyclopentadiene, alkylated hydroquinones, hydroxylated thiodiphenyl ethers, alkylidene-bisphenols, benzyl compounds, acylaminophenols, esters of beta-(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenol)-propionic acid with monohydric or polyhydric alcohols,

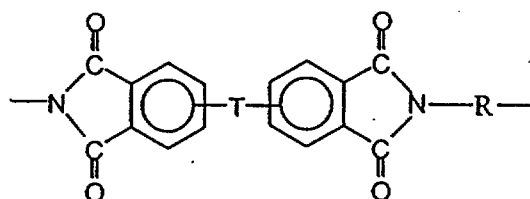
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CLAIMS

1. A thermoplastic resin composition, comprising
 - (a) a polyetherimide resin,
 - (b) a glycidyl ester impact modifier, and
 - (c) an amount of an organometallic compound that is effective to improve the ductility of the thermoplastic resin composition.
2. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises, based on 100 parts by weight of the thermoplastic resin composition, from 88 to 99.5 parts by weight of the polyetherimide resin; from 0.5 to 12 parts by weight of the glycidyl ester impact modifier; and from 0.01 to 0.2 parts by weight of the organometallic compound.
3. The composition of claim 1, wherein the polyetherimide resin comprises structural units of the formula (I):



(I)

wherein the divalent T moiety bridges the 3,3', 3,4', 4,3', or 4,4' positions of the aryl rings of the respective aryl imide moieties of formula (I); T is -O- or a group of the formula -O-Z-O-; Z is a divalent radical selected from the group consisting of formulae (II):



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optionally substituted with up to two (C_1 - C_{16}) alkyl groups, or are fused to form, with the M atom, a heterocyclic pyrophosphate ring structure, which may be optionally substituted with up to two (C_1 - C_{16}) alkyl or alkenyloxyalkyl groups,

7. The composition of claim 1, wherein the organometallic compound is selected from the group consisting of neopentyl(diallyl)oxy trineodecanyl titanate, neopentyl(diallyl)oxy trineodecanyl zirconate, neopentyl(diallyl)oxy trimethacryl zirconate, neopentyl(diallyl)oxy triacryl zirconate, neopentyl(diallyl)oxy tri(dodecyl) benzene sulfonyl-titanate, di(neopentyl(diallyl)oxy) di(3-mercapto propionic) zirconate, neopentyl(diallyl)oxy tri(hydroxycaproyl) titanate, neopentyl(diallyl)oxy tri(dioctyl) phosphato titanate, neopentyl(diallyl)oxy tri(dioctyl) phosphato zirconate, neopentyl(diallyl)oxy tri(dioctyl) pyrophosphato titanate, cyclo(dioctyl)pyrophosphate dioctyl titanate, dicyclo(dioctyl)pyrophosphate titanate, neopentyl(diallyl)oxy tri(N-ethylenediamineo)ethyl titanate, cyclo[dineopentyl(diallyl)]pyrophosphato dineopentyl(diallyl)zirconate, neopentyl(diallyl)oxy trineodecanoil zirconate, di(dioctyl)pyrophosphate oxoethylene titanate, isopropyl tri(dodecyl)benzene sulfonyl titanate, tetraisopropyl di(dioctyl)phosphito titanate, tetra(2,2-diallylmethyl)butyl di(tridecyl)phosphito titanate, isopropyl dimethacryl isostearoyl titanate, and the 2-(N,N-dimethylamino)isobutanol adduct of di(dioctyl)pyrophosphate oxoethylene titanate.

8. The composition of claim 1, wherein the organometallic compound comprises neopentyl(diallyl)oxy tri(dioctyl)phosphato titanate or a mixture thereof.

9. The composition of claim 1, further comprising a siloxane-polyetherimide copolymer and a polycarbonate resin.

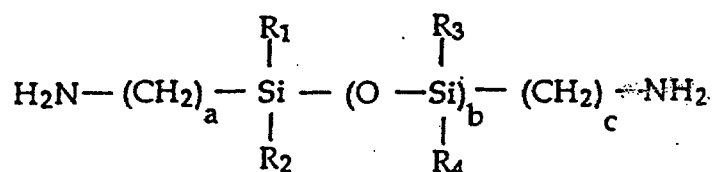
10. The composition of claim 9, wherein the composition comprises, based on 100 parts by weight of the composition, from 5 to 40 parts by weight of the



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siloxane-polyetherimide copolymer and from 0.5 to 12 parts by weight of the polycarbonate resin.

11. The composition of claim 9, wherein the siloxane-polyetherimide copolymer is the reaction product of an aromatic bis(ether anhydride) with an organic diamine and an aminoalkyl-terminated organosiloxane of the structural formula:



wherein:

R_1 , R_2 , R_3 and R_4 are each independently $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)$ alkyl,
 a and c are each independently integers from 1 to 10, and
 b is an integer from 1 to about 40.

12. The composition of claim 11, R_1 , R_2 , R_3 and R_4 are each methyl, a and c are each 3 and b has an average value of from 9 to 20.

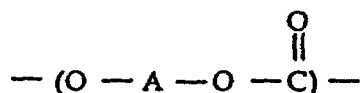
13. The composition of claim 9, wherein the polycarbonate resin is the reaction product of bisphenol A and phosgene.

14. The composition of claim 9, further comprising a siloxane-polycarbonate copolymer.

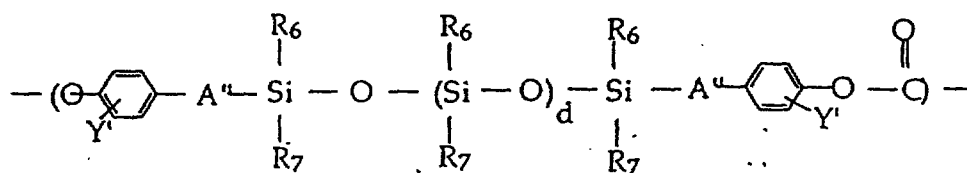


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15. The composition of claim 14, wherein the siloxane-polycarbonate copolymer comprises first structural units according to the formula:



wherein A is a divalent aromatic radical, and
second structural units according to the structural formula:



wherein each A'' is independently (C₂-C₁₂)alkylene, preferably each A'' is propylene; each Y' is independently H, (C₁-C₆)alkyl or (C₁-C₆)alkoxyl; each R₆ and R₇ is independently H or (C₁-C₆)alkyl, and d is an integer from 10 to 120

16. The composition of claim 15, wherein each A'' is propylene, each Y' is methoxy, R₆ and R₇ are each methyl and d is from 10 to 70.

17. The composition of claim 14, wherein the composition comprises, based on 100 parts by weight of the composition, from 0.5 to 12 parts by weight of the siloxane-polycarbonate copolymer.

18. A shaped article molded by the composition of claim 1.