What is claimed is:

1. A lubricating composition comprising an oil of lubricating viscosity and 0.1 wt % to 70 wt % of a copolymer comprising units derived from monomers (i) an α–olefin and (ii) an ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acid or derivatives thereof esterified and amidated with an alcohol and an aromatic amine selected from 4-aminodiphenylamine, or coupling products of 4-aminodiphenylamine respectively,

wherein the copolymer (a) is obtained/obtainable by a process comprising:

(1) reacting monomers (i) an α–olefin and (ii) an ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acid or derivatives thereof to form a copolymer;

(2) reacting the product of step (1) with an aromatic amine which is present in an amount sufficient to provide the copolymer with 0.01 wt % to 2 wt % of nitrogen; and

(3) reacting the copolymer of step (2) with an alcohol, to form a copolymer that is amidated and esterified; and

(b) is present at 2 wt % to 20 wt % of the lubricating composition.

2. The lubricating composition of claim 1, wherein the α–olefin is linear having 2 to 20, or 4 to 16, or 8 to 12 carbon atoms.

3. The lubricating composition of claim 1, wherein the α–olefin is branched having 4 to 32, or 6 to 20, or 8 to 16 carbon atoms.

4. The lubricating composition of claim 1 or 2, wherein the α–olefin is selected from 1-decene, 1-undecene, 1-dodecene, 1-tridecene, 1-tetradecene, 1-pentadecene, 1-hexadecene, 1-heptadecene 1-octadecene, or mixtures thereof; typically the α–olefin is 1-dodecene.

5. The lubricating composition of any preceding claim 1 to 4, wherein the ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acid or derivatives thereof is selected from itaconic anhydride, maleic anhydride, methyl maleic anhydride, ethyl maleic anhydride, dimethyl maleic anhydride, (meth)acrylic acid, or mixtures thereof; typically the ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acid or derivatives thereof is maleic anhydride.

6. The lubricating composition of any preceding claim 1 to 5, wherein the process further comprises reacting a non-aromatic amine in step (3) and (2) respectively, or optionally after step (3) in either case.

7. The lubricating composition of any preceding claim 1 to 6, wherein the copolymer, prior to amidation and esterification, has a reduced specific viscosity of 0.01

to 0.15, or 0.015 to 0.12, or 0.02 to 0.1, or 0.02 to 0.08, or 0.02 to 0.07, or 0.03 to 0.07 or 0.04 to 0.06.

8. The lubricating composition of any preceding claim 1 to 7, wherein the aromatic amine is present in an amount sufficient to provide the copolymer with 0.05 wt % to 0.75 wt %, or 0.075 wt % to 0.25 wt % of nitrogen.

9. The lubricating composition of any preceding claim 1 to 8, wherein the lubricating composition has a sulphated ash content of 0.3 wt % to 1.2 wt %, or 0.5 wt % to 1.1 wt % of the lubricating composition.

10. The lubricating composition of any preceding claim 1 to 9 further comprising an overbased metal-containing detergent, wherein the overbased metal-containing detergent is selected from the group consisting of non-sulphur containing phenates, sulphur containing phenates, sulphonates, salixarates, salicylates, and mixtures thereof.

11. A method of lubricating an internal combustion engine comprising supplying to the internal combustion engine a lubricating composition comprising the lubricating composition of any preceding claim 1 to 10.

12. The use of 0.1 wt % to 70 wt % of a copolymer comprising units derived from monomers (i) an α–olefin and (ii) an ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acid or derivatives thereof esterified and amidated with an alcohol and an aromatic amine selected from 4-aminodiphenylamine, or coupling products of 4-aminodiphenylamine respectively in a lubricant as a dispersant viscosity modifier in an internal combustion engine lubricant; typically the dispersant viscosity modifier is for soot dispersancy,

wherein the copolymer (a) is obtained/obtainable by a process comprising:

(1) reacting monomers (i) an α–olefin and (ii) an ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acid or derivatives thereof to form a copolymer;

(2) reacting the product of step (1) with an aromatic amine which is present in an amount sufficient to provide the copolymer with 0.01 wt % to 2 wt % of nitrogen; and

(3) reacting the copolymer of step (2) with an alcohol, to form a copolymer that is amidated and esterified; and

(b) is present at 2 wt % to 20 wt % of the lubricating composition.

What is claimed is:

1. A lubricating composition comprising an oil of lubricating viscosity and 2 wt % to 20 wt % of a copolymer comprising units derived from monomers (i) an α–olefin and (ii) an ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acid or derivatives thereof esterified and amidated with an alcohol and an aromatic amine respectively,

wherein the copolymer (a) is obtained/obtainable by a process comprising:

(1) reacting monomers (i) an α–olefin and (ii) an ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acid or derivatives thereof to form a copolymer;

(2) reacting the product of step (1) with an aromatic amine; and

reacting the copolymer of step (2) with an alcohol, to form a copolymer that is amidated and esterified,

wherein the aromatic amine is 4-aminodiphenylamine, or coupling products of 4-aminodiphenylamine, and wherein the aromatic amine is present in an amount sufficient to provide the copolymer with 0.01 % to 2 wt % of nitrogen,

wherein the lubricating composition has a sulphated ash content of 0.3 wt % to 1.2 wt % of the lubricating composition, and wherein the sulphated ash content is determined by ASTM D-874.

2. The lubricating composition of claim 1, wherein the α–olefin is linear having 2 to 20, or 4 to 16, or 8 to 12 carbon atoms.

3. The lubricating composition of claim 1, wherein the α–olefin is branched having 4 to 32, or 6 to 20, or 8 to 16 carbon atoms.

4. The lubricating composition of claim 1 or 2, wherein the α–olefin is selected from 1-decene, 1-undecene, 1-dodecene, 1-tridecene, 1-tetradecene, 1-pentadecene, 1-hexadecene, 1-heptadecene 1-octadecene, or mixtures thereof.

5. The lubricating composition of claim 4 wherein the α–olefin is 1-dodecene.

6. The lubricating composition of any preceding claim 1 to 5, wherein the ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acid or derivatives thereof is selected from itaconic anhydride, maleic anhydride, methyl maleic anhydride, ethyl maleic anhydride, dimethyl maleic anhydride, (meth)acrylic acid, or mixtures thereof.

7. The lubricating composition of claim 5 wherein the ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acid or derivatives thereof is maleic anhydride.

8. The lubricating composition of any preceding claim, wherein the copolymer, prior to amidation and esterification, has a reduced specific viscosity of 0.01

to 0.15, or 0.015 to 0.12, or 0.02 to 0.1, or 0.02 to 0.08, or 0.02 to 0.07, or 0.03 to 0.07 or 0.04 to 0.06,

wherein the copolymer reduced specific viscosity (RSV) is measured by the formula RSV = (Relative Viscosity – 1)/Concentration,

wherein the Relative Viscosity is determined by measuring, by means of a dilution viscometer, the viscosity of a solution of 1.6 g of the copolymer in 100 cm^3 of acetone and the viscosity of acetone at 30°C..

9. The lubricating composition of any preceding claim, wherein the aromatic amine is present in an amount sufficient to provide the copolymer with 0.05 wt % to 0.75 wt %, or 0.075 wt % to 0.25 wt % of nitrogen.

10. The lubricating composition of any preceding claim, wherein the lubricating composition has a sulphated ash content of 0.5 wt % to 1.1 wt % of the lubricating composition.

11. The lubricating composition of any preceding claim further comprising an overbased metal-containing detergent, wherein the overbased metal-containing detergent is selected from the group consisting of non-sulphur containing phenates, sulphur containing phenates, sulphonates, salixarates, salicylates, and mixtures thereof.

12. A method of lubricating an internal combustion engine comprising supplying to the internal combustion engine a lubricating composition comprising the lubricating composition of any preceding claim.

13. Use of 2 wt % to 20 wt % of a copolymer as defined in any one of claims 1 to 11 as a dispersant viscosity modifier in an internal combustion engine lubricant.

14. The use according to claim 13, wherein the dispersant viscosity modifier is for soot dispersancy.