

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
14 February 2002 (14.02.2002)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 02/12360 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **C08F 220/04**,
220/18, 2/16, C09D 5/02

(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP00/07677

(22) International Filing Date: 3 August 2000 (03.08.2000)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

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(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, 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, ZA, ZW.

(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, 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

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: AQUEOUS COPOLYMER THICKENER COMPOSITIONS

(57) Abstract: An aqueous dispersion of copolymeric microparticles, useful as an associative thickener in coating compositions such as paints, comprising copolymerised ethylenically unsaturated monomers by weight of; i) from 10 to 90 % carboxyl functional monomer; ii) from 1 to 50 % long chain alkyl ester of acrylate or methacrylate monomer where the alkyl chain contains at least 11 carbon atoms; iii) from 0 to 89 % short chain acrylate or methacrylate monomer selected from methyl acrylate, ethyl acrylate, methyl methacrylate and ethyl methacrylate and; iv) optionally other ethylenically unsaturated monomers; wherein the microparticles of the dispersion are substantially of uniform copolymer composition and the volatile organic solvent is from 0 to 1 % by weight (based on the total weight of the dispersion).



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