

ABSTRACT

POLYURETHANE FOAMS FROM PALM OIL AND PALM OIL PRODUCTS

This invention relates to the production of polyurethane foams (PUFs) from palm oil and palm oil products [POP]. The
5 production involves the epoxidation of the POP using pre-formed peroxyacetic acid to form epoxidized palm oil and palm oil products (EPOP); the production of polyols from said epoxidized POP [EPOP] and a monohydric or polyhydric alcohol in the presence of a catalyst; and the production of
10 polyurethane foams by reacting said polyols with diisocyanates in the presence of water as the only blowing agent, and other effective amounts of additives comprising a surfactant; a catalyst and a flame retardant. The polyurethane foams produced are suitable for a variety of applications.
15 This said procedure also ensures reliable prediction of the types of polyols to be produced and consequently the prediction of the types of foams to be obtained.