

Description**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION****5 Field of the Invention**

This invention relates to surface-active difunctional and multifunctional (i.e., with more than two carbodiimide groups) carbodiimides and their preparation and use as dispersing agents for polycarbodiimides which are useful as cross-linking agents for carboxyl-containing organic resins, preferably latex resins, or neutralized, carboxylated water-soluble resins, and carboxylated solution resins.

Summary of the Prior Art

Carbodiimides are a well-known class of organic compounds. Dicyclohexylcarbodiimide has been useful for many years as a condensation agent in the preparation of peptides, as described by Sheelan and Hess (J. Chem. Soc., 77, 1067 (1955)). Monodisperse, difunctional carbodiimide compounds have been prepared by the desulfurization of thioureas using hypochlorite. Such compounds were prepared, for example, by Iwakura, et al. (Makromol. Chem., 98, 21 (1966); Bull. Chem. Soc. Jpn., 40, 2383 (1967)). Multifunctional, linear, polydisperse polycarbodiimides have been prepared by Campbell from diisocyanatoalkanes or diisocyanatoarenes using a phospholine oxide catalyst (U.S. 2,941,966 (1960)). Use of sodium hypochlorite to desulfurize thioureas to prepare multifunctional carbodiimides, i.e., with more than two carbodiimide groups, is known but is reported to be very difficult (Wagner, et al., Angew. Chem., 70, 819 (1981)). The art is summarized in Chem. Rev., 81, 589 (1981).

The use of polydisperse polycarbodiimides as cross-linkers for carboxylated latex resins and neutralized carboxylated water-soluble polymers is known in the art. Specifically, co-assigned U.S. application Serial No. 691,378, filed January 15, 1985 (the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference), teaches the preparation of useful polycarbodiimides, useful as cross-linkers in carboxyl-containing resin systems, from certain mono-, di-, and tri-functional cycloaliphatic or saturated aliphatic isocyanates, in which the mono- and diisocyanates are optional, and co-assigned U.S. patent 4,487,964 discloses a method for the preparation of useful polycarbodiimide cross-linkers from mixed aromatic/aliphatic isocyanates. Of particular interest are the monodisperse, multifunctional carbodiimides disclosed in my co-pending, co-assigned U.S. patent application Serial No. 747,190, filed June 21, 1985, which will be referred to in detail below.

The resin systems in which carbodiimide cross-linkers are particularly useful are those in which the material contains reactive carboxyl groups, such as are typically found in aqueous latexes used for coatings. In the past, in order to prepare the cross-linking carbodiimide in compatible emulsion form, it has been necessary to subject the carbodiimide to high-energy shear forces in the presence of relatively high concentrations of surfactants. Usually, this has required the employment of special, high-shear mixing equipment, and has exacted the further penalty of high energy costs. Since such emulsions are often difficult to keep stabilized during storage, it has often been necessary to avoid storage and shipment of the carbodiimide emulsion and, instead, to suffer the additional inconvenience of having to add emulsification equipment to the coating line.

The present invention effectively solves many of those problems of the prior art by providing polycarbodiimides which are relatively easy and inexpensive to emulsify, and in many cases, are virtually self-emulsifying. They are readily compatible with commercial, carboxyl-containing latexes, and are quite stable. In the event that it is considered convenient to utilize an emulsification step in-line, the emulsion may be effectively prepared using relatively simple mixing equipment, rather than expensive, high-shear devices.

According to the present invention there is provided a surface-active polycarbodiimide of the formula



wherein R is a residue of a hydrophobic organic compound containing at least two carbodiimide groups; R' is a residue of an organic compound having a hydrophilic segment and at least one functional group capable of reacting with a carbodiimide group; and X is a group formed by the reaction of a said carbodiimide group with a said functional group.

Likewise, there is provided a cross-linker emulsion comprising an admixture, in aqueous medium, of (a) a hydrophobic polycarbodiimide, and (b) a polycarbodiimide of formula (I) and optionally (c) a supplemental surfactant.

Similarly, there is provided a cross-linkable composition, comprising an admixture of (a) an emulsion

of a carboxyl-containing resin or neutralized, carboxylated, water-soluble organic resin, and (b) a surface-active polycarbodiimide of formula I and/or (c) a cross-linker emulsion and optionally (d) a supplemental surfactant.

In addition, this invention provides methods

- 5 a) for making the surface-active polycarbodiimide of formula I, comprising reacting, in the presence of a catalyst, a hydrophobic organic compound containing at least two carbodiimide groups with an organic compound having a hydrophilic segment and at least one functional group capable of reacting with a carbodiimide group ;
- 10 b) for making the cross-linker emulsion comprising mixing, in aqueous medium : (a) a hydrophobic carbodiimide, and (b) the surface-active carbodiimide of formula I, wherein the surface-active carbodiimide preferably is formed in situ in a matrix of the hydrophobic carbodiimide ; and
- c) for making a cross-linkable composition, comprising mixing : (a) an emulsion of a carboxyl-containing resin, (b) a surface-active polycarbodiimide of formula I and/or (c) a cross-linker emulsion as well as
- 15 d) for cross-linking a carboxyl-containing resin or a neutralized, carboxylated, water-soluble organic resin comprising : (a) mixing said resin with an emulsion of a surface-active carbodiimide of formula I and (b) allowing volatilization of certain formulated materials, to produce a cross-linked product.

As used herein, all defined groups are intended to include such groups containing any substitution which does not significantly interfere with the use of the carbodiimides for their intended purpose. Likewise, all aromatic groups are intended to include fused aromatic rings as well as substituted aromatic groups.

20 Also as used herein, the term "polycarbodiimide" is intended to include both monodisperse and polydisperse types of carbodiimides. The terms "multifunctional" and "polyfunctional", to the extent used, are used interchangeably and only in reference to monodisperse, polycarbodiimides.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

25 Incorporation of a carbodiimide cross-linker into formulations containing carboxylic, water-borne polymers requires either that the cross-linker be emulsified mechanically, or made surface-active for easy dispersion. The emulsification step is cumbersome, and emulsified carbodiimides are subject to a slow, unpreventable reaction with water to form ureas, which limits their shelf-life. The present invention permits

30 substantial simplification or elimination of the mechanical emulsification step. This is achieved by use of a chemically modified carbodiimide which is a surface-active species heretofore unknown to the art.

The surface-active carbodiimide of this invention can be prepared and used as a surfactant by adding it, with agitation, to solutions of polycarbodiimides, as with surfactants of the prior art. However, it is a surprising advantage of this invention that it permits the in situ preparation of dispersions of polycarbodiimides.

35 That is, the polycarbodiimide to be emulsified can be added directly to a carboxyl-containing medium, e.g., a latex, and the polycarbodiimide can then be emulsified in the medium by addition, with stirring, of the surface-active polycarbodiimide of this invention. The mild agitation routinely supplied for mixing will ordinarily be adequate to effect the dispersion. However, if smaller droplet size is desired, shear can be increased by use of more vigorous agitation. If very small droplets are desired, any of the various homogenizing mixers

40 known to the art can be employed. In all cases, however, it will be found that the surface-active carbodiimide of this invention produces dispersions more readily for any given level of agitation than are available using surfactants of the prior art. It is to be understood that mixtures of polycarbodiimides can also be readily emulsified using this invention. If the surface-active carbodiimide is prepared in situ in a mixture of polycarbodiimides, it will be understood that surface-active species will be formed from each of the polycarbodiimide

45 structures present, according to the reaction kinetics of each species.

The surface-active species of this invention is a polycarbodiimide resin conforming to the general formula (I) : $R-X-R'$, as described above. In theory, R can be the residue of any hydrophobic organic group containing at least two carbodiimide linkages, one to form linkage X, and the other to react with a carboxyl group of the resin to be cross-linked. The advantage of this latter reaction is that it binds the surface-active component to the cross-linked resin matrix, thereby preventing migration or "blushing" of the surfactant to the surface of a cross-linked coating. It is also possible, in fact, desirable, for R to contain more than two carbodiimide groups, since the surfactant itself can then participate in the cross-linking reaction.

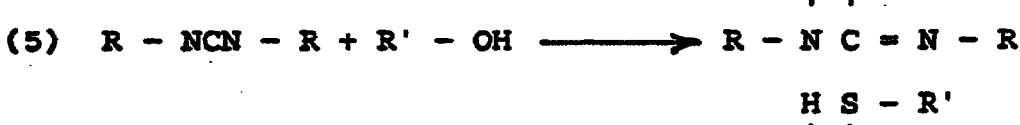
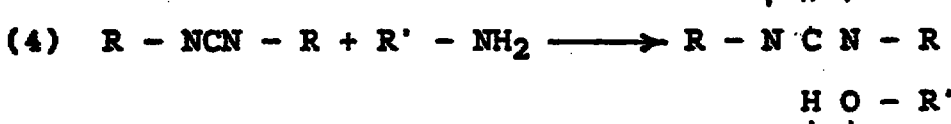
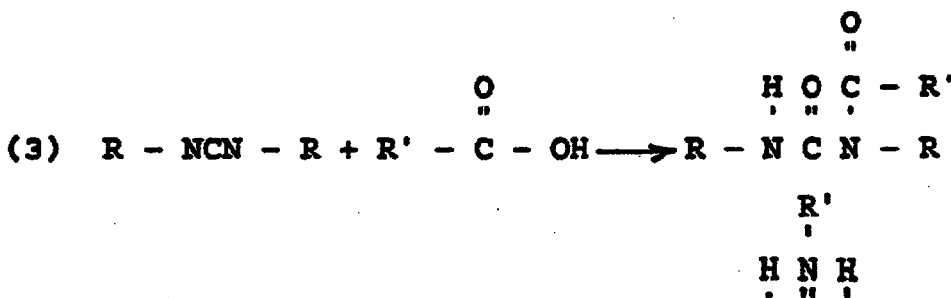
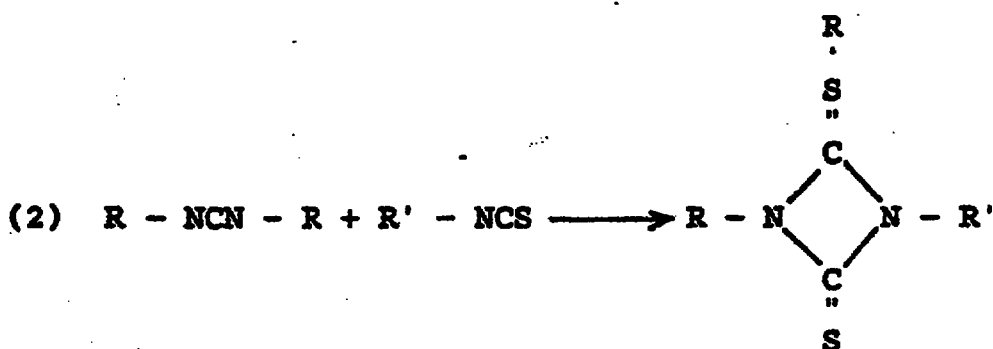
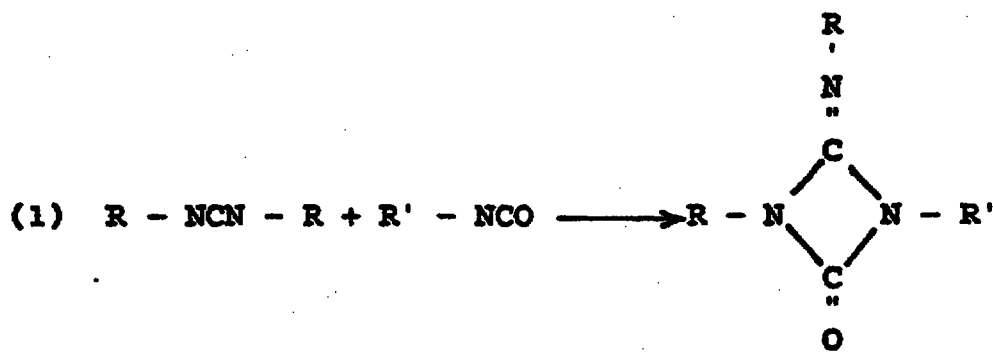
In formula (I), R' can be the residue of any group having sufficient hydrophilicity to impart to the molecule the necessary surface-active characteristics. R' must, of course, be derived from a compound which contains, either initially or by modification, a group capable of forming linkage X by reaction with a carbodiimide group. It will be understood, of course, that if R' contains more than one such reaction group, such group should be chosen to be nonreactive or only relatively slowly reactive with carbodiimide groups, so as to minimize any gelation or undesired cross-linking. As will be described more fully below, X may conveniently

be the reaction product of a carbodiimide with an isocyanate. Various reactive species other than -NCO are, however, also useful. Such reactive species would include -COOH, carboxyl amine salts, -SH, -OH, and -NH₂, as well as others known to the art. It will be understood by those skilled in the art that the reaction between an isocyanate and a carbodiimide is an equilibrium reaction; thus, it may not ordinarily be possible to isolate the surface-active carbodiimide so prepared. (However, in at least one system it has been shown to be possible to isolate the carbodiimide/isocyanate dimer. See Ulrich, et al., J. Am. Chem. Soc., 94, 3484 (1972).) If it is desired to utilize this reaction, it may be advisable to add the isocyanate-terminated surfactant to a high concentration of carbodiimide, since the reaction is then driven essentially to completion by "swamping" the isocyanate groups with carbodiimide groups.

As implied above, there are no inherent limitations on the structure of R', other than the obvious facts that it should not be incompatible with carbodiimide resins or carboxyl-containing emulsions. For ease of preparation, it will be apparent that various commercially available non-ionic surfactants are inherently reactive with carbodiimide groups or can be modified to make them reactive with carbodiimide groups to form X. For example, poly(oxyalkylene)-based surfactants, such as those poly(ethylene oxide)-based surfactants available (from Union Carbide Corp.) under the trademark "Tergitol," contain free hydroxyl groups which can react with carbodiimide groups, or can be modified by reaction with, e.g., a diisocyanate to provide a free isocyanate group to react with a carbodiimide group. A preferred hydroxyl-containing hydrophilic species comprises the poly(ethylene glycol) resins available (from Union Carbide Corp.) under the trademark "Carbowax." Of these, those end-capped with a methoxy or ethoxy group are particularly preferred. Other hydroxy-containing hydrophilic species include poly(propylene oxide) resins.

The reaction to form linkage X in formula (I) should be carried out in advance of the use of the surface-active carbodiimide to form the cross-linker dispersion. The various reactions possible to form X will depend, of course, upon the reactive groups selected, and will be performed according to procedures well understood in the art.

The linkage X represents some general functional group formed through any of the following cyclo-addition (1-2), addition (3-6), or cycloreversion (7) reactions.



The groups (X) formed from the above reactions (1-7) are the uretidinone (1), diazetidine thione (2), N-acyl urea (3), guanidine (4), isourea (5), isothiurea (6), and carbodiimide (7).

If it is necessary or desired to modify the surfactant R' by addition of a carbodiimide-reactive group, that modification should be carried out in advance of the reaction to form linkage X. Again, the various reactions possible to effect the modification will depend upon the reactive groups selected, and will be performed according to procedures well understood in the art. In general, however, a nonionic surfactant, R', which is terminated with one of the reactive groups shown above is added to a solution of the carbodiimide cross-linker under the necessary conditions to ensure a reaction between the reactive groups attached to the nonionic surfactant and the carbodiimide groups of the multi-functional carbodiimide.

As previously indicated, the surface-active carbodilimide of formula (I) can be effectively used in a variety of ways. It can be added to a hydrophobic carbodilimide, preferably in organic solvent solution, to form a surface-active material, which can then be added to a cross-linkable latex. The surface-active carbodilimide can alternatively be formed in situ right in the hydrophobic carbodilimide solution itself. The surface-active carbodilimide also can be added to a mixture of latex and hydrophobic carbodilimide.

In preparing dispersions utilizing the surface-active carbodilimides of this invention, no particular precautions or unusual techniques are required. Procedures to be used are those familiar to the art. In general, however, it may be stated that materials should be added to each other gradually, with moderate stirring and over a reasonable time frame. It is usually preferable to add the oil phase to the water phase, i.e., add the surfactant solution to the latex. It is, however, possible to add the water phase to the oil phase. This may, in fact, be desirable for polydisperse polycarbodilimides (i.e., dispersity index $D > 1$) since it tends to produce smaller droplet size for mixing energy expended. A defoamer may be used, if desired, provided it is not incompatible with the surface-active polycarbodilimide.

The concentration of the surface-active carbodilimide necessary to effect satisfactory emulsification is not considered to be narrowly critical, and will be a matter of routine experimentation. Optimum concentration can be expected to depend to some extent, as with any other surface-active material, upon the chemical structure of the material, e.g., the size and solubility of the hydrophilic moiety. As a general guideline, however, the concentration of the surface-active carbodilimide can be expected to be in the range of 0.5 to 10%, preferably 0.5 to 3%, most preferably 1.5%, based upon the total weight of the oil phase, i.e., polycarbodilimide plus solvent. Increasing the surfactant concentration tends to decrease droplet size for any given hydrophilic moiety. In addition, it should be kept in mind that if the surface-active carbodilimide is prepared from a resin having more than two carbodilimide groups, the surface-active carbodilimide itself will participate in the ultimate cross-linking reaction; accordingly, the contribution of the surface-active carbodilimide should be taken into account when considering the over-all concentration of cross-linking emulsion.

It is also possible to utilize the surface-active carbodilimide of this invention in combination with other surfactants known to the art. If such supplemental surfactants are used, it is preferred that they be of the same ionic charge as any surfactants already present in the system (e.g., a latex) to which the surface-active carbodilimide is to be added, in order to minimize possible compatibility problems. However, the combination of the nonionic surface-active carbodilimide of this invention with ionic types is also useful. Such combination might be desirable when, for instance, emulsifying a polydisperse polycarbodilimide or a mixture of carbodilimides containing a polydisperse type. If a supplemental surfactant is used, it is preferable that it be of the anionic type, but should not, of course, contain chemical moieties which are reactive with carbodilimide functionality. Thus, surfactants containing reactive carboxyl groups, e.g., those based upon stearic or oleic acids, should be avoided. Preferred are those surfactants based upon sulfonic salts or upon sulfates. The concentration ratio of surface-active carbodilimide to supplemental surfactant should be in the range of 30/70 to 70/30 by weight, preferably 40/60 to 60/40, most preferably 50/50. It will be understood that any ionic supplemental surfactant used must be selected to be compatible with any surfactant already present in the carboxyl-containing material to be cross-linked. For example, many latexes contain cationic surfactant residues, so should not be used with anionic supplemental surfactants.

Some other useful anionic surfactants are as follows :

	<u>Trade Name</u>	<u>Chemical Name</u>	<u>Manufacturer</u>
	Aerosol MA-80	Sodium dihexyl sulfosuccinate	American Cyanamid
5	AkypoSol DS-28L	Sodium Lauryl ether sulfate	Chem-Y
	AkypoSol ALS-33	Ammonium Lauryl sulfate	Chem-Y
10	AkypoSol NLS	Sodium Lauryl sulfate	Chem-Y
	AkypoSol TLS-42	Triethanolamine Lauryl sulfate	Chem-Y
15	Alcoil 12S	Sodium-ammonium salts of alkyl aryl sulfonate	Henkel Argentina
	Alcoil A550T	Triethanol amine salt of alkyl sulfonate	Henkel Argentina
20	Cycloryl 599	Sodium dodecylsulphate	Nitco Chemical
	Triton GR-5M	Dioctyl sodium sulfosuccinate	Rohm & Haas

Some useful nonionic surfactants (hydroxyl-terminated) are listed below.

	<u>Trade Name</u>	<u>Chemical Name</u>	<u>Manufacturer</u>
25	Igepal Series	Alkylphenoxypoly(ethylene oxy)ethanol	GAF Corporation - Chemical Products
30	Triton DN-14	Alkylpolyether alcohol	Rohm & Haas
	Triton N-57	Nonylphenoxyl polyethoxy ethanol (Tergitol Series)	Rohm & Haas
35	Triton X-15	Octylphenoxypolyethoxy ethanol	Rohm & Haas
40	Trycol OAL-23	Ethoxylated oleyl alcohol	Emery Industries

While probably not required for all possible systems within the scope of this invention, it is considered desirable and preferable to utilize a compatible solvent in the preparation of the surface-active carbodilimide and/or the cross-linker emulsion. There are no particular limitations known on the choice of a suitable solvent or combination of solvents, other than such solvent(s) should be non-reactive in the systems used.

Solvents for the surface-active carbodilimide and/or the cross-linker emulsion include liquid compounds, or their combinations, which contain ester, ether, ketone, or alcohol functionality. Examples of such solvents include ethyl acetate, isopropyl acetate, butyl acetate, amyl acetate, butyl phthalate, methyl CELLOSOLVE Acetate, CELLOSOLVE Acetate, Butyl CELLOSOLVE Acetate, CELLOSOLVE Acetate, Butyl CELLOSOLVE Acetate, CARBITOL Acetate, Butyl CARBITOL Acetate, glyceryl triacetate, hexylene glycol diacetate, methyl ethyl ketone, diethyl ketone, methyl isobutyl ketone, ethyl butyl ketone, acetophenone, diisobutyl ketone, isophorone, cyclohexanone, isopropanol, isobutanol, 1-pentanol, 2-methyl pentanol, Methyl CELLOSOLVE, Butyl CELLOSOLVE, Hexyl CELLOSOLVE, Methyl CARBITOL, Propasol B, Propasol BEP, Propasol M, and phenyl glycol ether.

The primary purpose of the solvent is to solubilize the surfactant in the presence of the cross-linker carbodilimide resin. If no solvent is used, a two-phase system is likely to result, since the cross-linker carbodilimide resin is hydrophobic and the surface-active carbodilimide resin is, of course, hydrophilic. It will be understood, of course, that the more nearly hydrophilic the carbodilimide molecule is, the less the need

for a solvent. Thus, solvent use or concentration can be reduced within the scope of this invention by designing the surface-active carbodilimide to contain ester groups or pendent hydroxyl groups, which can hydrogen-bond with water.

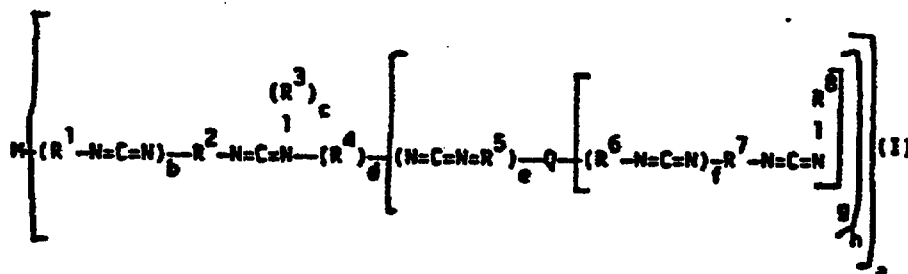
Modest agitation of the systems of this invention will produce droplet sizes in the range of 0.4 to 10 microns. As indicated previously, this droplet size can be readily reduced by application of somewhat higher shear agitation, and/or increasing the level of surfactant in the oil phase. For use with latexes, it is desirable that the droplet size be in the range of 0.4 to 0.8 micron in order to more nearly match the particle size typically found in latexes. In general, a longer hydrophilic chain in the surfactant portion of the surface-active carbodilimide gives a more stable emulsion compared to a shorter chain at a given level of surfactant.

The carbodilimide cross-linker resin used may theoretically be any polycarbodilimide resin known to the art and which is not incompatible with the carboxyl-containing, water-borne resin emulsion of this invention. Thus, for example, the cross-linker resin may potentially be selected from those taught by U.S. patents 3,929,733 and 3,972,933, which disclose linear aromatic polycarbodilimides, 2,853,473 which discloses non-aromatic linear polycarbodilimides, and 4,487,964 which discloses mixed aromatic/aliphatic linear polycarbodilimides.

Particularly preferred are those monodisperse, branched multifunctional carbodilimides disclosed in copending, co-assigned U.S. patent application Ser. No. 747,190, filed June 21, 1985, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference. Those resins conform to the generalized structure :



Wherein : M and Q may be the same or different and each represents the residue of a compound adapted to function as a site for branching ; R''' and R''' may be the same or different and represent an alkyl (including cycloalkyl) or aryl, radical or diradical which may be or contain cyano, nitro, halo, alkyl sulfide, dialkylaminoalkyl, substituted silane, alkoxy, and aryloxy moieties, and other substituted species of any of the foregoing ; R'' represents the same or different alkyl (including cycloalkyl) or aryl diradical which may contain cyano, nitro, halo, alkyl sulfide, dialkylamino, substituted silane, alkoxy, and aryloxy moieties, and other substituted species of any of the foregoing. Carbodilimides of this type are disclosed more precisely in copending U.S. application serial no. 001,883, filed January 9, 1987. Such carbodilimides conform to the formula



wherein : M and Q are independently the residue of a compound adapted to function as a site for branching ; R¹, R², R⁴, R⁵, R⁶ and R⁷ are independently divalent organic radicals ; R³ and R⁸ are independently monovalent organic radicals ;

a is an integer having a value from 3 to about 6 corresponding to the valency of M ;

b is an integer having a value from 0 to about 4 ;

c is an integer having a value of 0 or 1 ;

d is an integer having a value of 0 or 1 ;

e is an integer having a value of from 0 to about 4 ;

f is an integer having a value from 0 to about 4 ; and

g is an integer having a value from 0 to about 4 ;

h is an integer having a value of 0 or 1, wherein for each value of a, R¹, R², R³, R⁴, R⁵, R⁶, R⁷, R⁸, b, c, d, e, f, g and h may be the same or different, with the provisos that :

(i) for each a, the sum of c + d is 1 ;

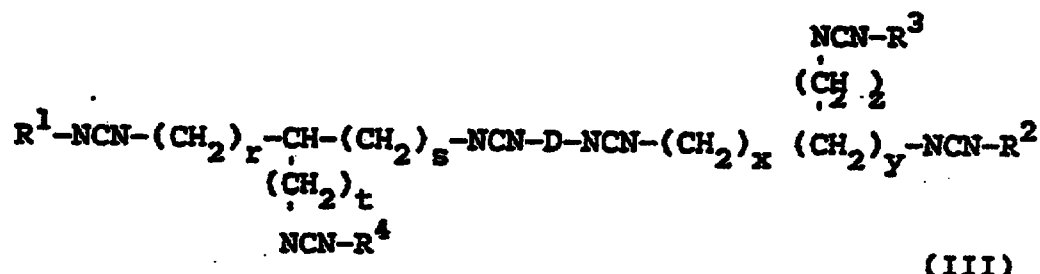
(ii) for each a wherein d is 0, e, f, g, and h all have a value of 0 ; and

(iii) for each a wherein d is 1, h is 1.

As represented by Formula I, R¹, R², R⁴, R⁵, R⁶ and R⁷ are independently substituted or unsubstituted alkyl (including cycloalkyl) or aryl radicals, wherein such substituted alkyl and aryl radicals include radicals having substituents selected from the group consisting of cyano, nitro, halo, alkylthio, dialkylaminoalkyl,

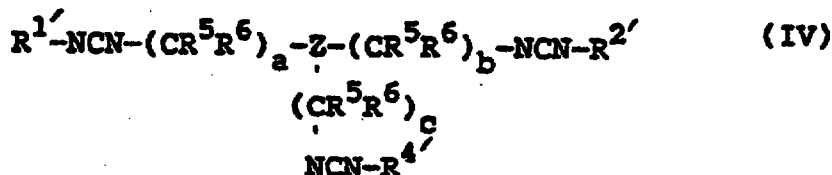
alkylsilyl, alkoxy, and aryloxy moieties, and the like. As represented by Formula I, R³ and R⁴ are independently substituted or unsubstituted alkylene or arylene radicals, wherein such substituted alkylene and arylene radicals include radicals having substituents selected from the group consisting of cyano, nitro, halo, alkylthio, dialkylaminoalkyl, alkylsilyl, alkoxy, and aryloxy moieties, and the like.

More specifically, these carbodilimides comprise monodisperse, branched, multifunctional carbodilimides conforming to the structure :



wherein : R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ may be the same or different and represent organic residues which do not substantially interfere with the multifunctional carbodilimide for its intended purpose ; and D is an organic residue.

Still more specifically, these carbodilimides comprise monodisperse, branched, multifunctional carbodilimides conforming to the structure :



wherein : R^{1'}, R^{2'}, and R^{4'} may be the same or different and represent alkyl groups having 1 to about 12 carbon atoms ; R⁵ and R⁶ may be the same or different and represent hydrogen, alkyl (including cycloalkyl), aryl, aralkyl, alkaryl, heterocyclic, cyano, nitro, halo, alkyl sulfide, dialkylaminoalkyl, silane, alkoxy, and aryloxy groups, and substituted species of any of the foregoing ; Z is the residue of a compound adapted to function as a site for branching.

The moieties designated M, Q, D, and Z in the above formulas are intended to be quite broad and general in scope. It will be readily appreciated from these formulas that by careful choice of starting materials and reaction sequence, all within the scope of this invention, it will be possible to prepare complex molecular structures. Accordingly, it is to be understood that M, Q, D, and Z are intended to include all structures which do not significantly impair the use of the branched multifunctional carbodilimides for their intended purpose.

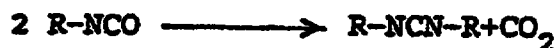
Selection of optimum molecular weight for the cross-linker carbodilimide will be a matter of experimentally balancing, for example, such variables as the degree of branching, the distance between carbodilimide moieties, backbone chain length, and the compatibility of the polycarbodilimide with the cross-linkable resin. As a general guideline, referring to formulas I, II and III, the ranges for the subscript letters are :

n	=	1	to	6	, preferably	1	to	2;
m	=	3	to	5	, preferably	3	to	4;
p	=	1	to	6	, preferably	1	to	2;
q	=	0	to	4	, preferably	0	to	3;
r	=	1	to	6	, preferably	1	to	4;
s	=	1	to	6	, preferably	1	to	4;
t	=	1	to	6	, preferably	1	to	4;
x	=	1	to	6	, preferably	1	to	4;
y	=	1	to	6	, preferably	1	to	4;
z	=	1	to	6	, preferably	1	to	4;
a	=	0	to	12	, preferably	1	to	2;
b	=	0	to	12	, preferably	3	to	4;
c	=	0	to	12	, preferably	2	to	3;
d	=	0	to	12	, preferably	1	to	4;

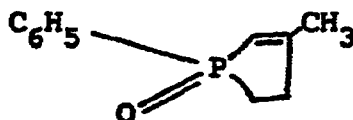
The above tabulation is offered with the observations that m must be at least 3 for branching to occur, and that d may be different in different branches.

Another preferred group of polycarbodiimides are those disclosed in co-pending, co-assigned U.S. patent application Ser. No. 691,378, filed January, 15, 1985, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference. These materials comprise polydisperse, linear, polyfunctional polycarbodiimides derived from the reaction of mono-, di-, and tri-cycloaliphatic or saturated aliphatic isocyanates wherein the cycloaliphatic moieties contain from 5 to about 7 carbons and can be substituted with alkyl having 1 to about 6 carbons, and oxygen, and the saturated aliphatic moieties contain from 1 to about 18 carbons, wherein the mono- and trisocyanates are optional.

Such polycarbodiimides can be prepared in a variety of ways. In a preferred synthesis, the polycarbodiimides are prepared by reaction of mono-, di-, and optionally tri-isocyanates, with the easiest structures to conceptualize being based on mono- and diisocyanates in the molar ratio of 2:1 to 2:10 to yield the carbodiimide, with evolution of carbon dioxide, by the following general equation:



This process usually requires a catalyst, and a preferred catalyst is 3-methyl-1-phenyl-2-phospholene-1-oxide (which may be abbreviated "MPPO"), having the formula:



It is not necessary to use a trisocyanate. A combination of mono- and diisocyanates in a molar ratio of 2:2 to 2:4 is preferred.

The reaction is preferably accomplished in non-reactive solvents, such as, aromatic hydrocarbons having 6 to 12 carbons, aliphatic esters or glycol diesters, amyl acetate, butyl acetate, propyl propionate, ethyl butyrate, xylene, toluene, diethyl benzene, benzene, diethylene glycolether diacetate, dipropylene glycol ether dibutyrate and hexylene glycol diacetate. The reaction mixture is stirred vigorously, and a small amount of nitrogen is sparged in to assist in driving the reaction to completion by removal of carbon dioxide. Generally, mixtures of isocyanates are employed, with the relative molar proportions of mono-, di- and trisocyanates adjusted to yield the desired product.

In a typical preparation, two moles of butyl isocyanate are reacted with three moles of isophorone

diisocyanate to yield an oligomeric polycarbodiimide having approximately four moles of carbodiimide functionality, barring any side reactions. These reactants are charged to 50% by weight of reactant in amyl acetate along with 0.3% by weight of the catalyst. The mixture would be continuously sparged with a small amount of nitrogen and stirred vigorously while heated to approximately 140°C and held until complete conversion of the isocyanate to the carbodiimide is observed in the infrared spectrum.

This structure may be made surface-active, according to the invention, through the chemical reactions shown in Figure 1. These are the chemical reactions occurring, in Examples 1, 3, and 5, below.

Use of this synthesis regime typically results in a broad molecular weight range of 100 to 80,000 in the polycarbodiimide product. For a typical product, the number average molecular weight (M_n), determined by vapor phase osmometry, would be approximately 795, and the weight average molecular weight (M_w), determined by Rayleigh light scattering, would be approximately 2227. This produces a dispersity index, $D = M_w/M_n$, of 2.8.

Many variations on this synthesis regime will be apparent to one skilled in the art.

While the saturated aliphatic isocyanates previously listed include the more widely available commercial materials, many others can be used as exemplified by :

1,4-tetramethylene diisocyanate
1,12-dodecane diisocyanate
cyclobutane-1.3-diisocyanate
cyclohexane-1.3-diisocyanate
cyclohexane-1.4-diisocyanate
hexahydrotolylene-2,4- and
-2,6-diisocyanate.

While the solvents previously listed are preferred, many other solvents would be suitable. Requirements for suitable solvents include having a sufficiently high boiling point to allow efficient accomplishment of the desired reaction and that the solvent not contain active hydrogen functionality such as would react with the isocyanate starting material or the carbodiimide product. Exemplary solvents include : ethylbutylketone, acetophenone, propiophenone, diisobutylketone, cyclohexanone, decalin, methyl CELLOSOLVE acetate, CELLOSOLVE acetate, butyl CELLOSOLVE acetate, CARBITOL acetate, butyl CARBITOL acetate, and glycoldiacetate.

Many variations of the catalyst are employable. Examples include the non-oxidized phospholene compound as well as the phospholene sulfide. Additional alternatives include substitutions on and for the phenyl group attached to the phosphorous atom, such as by the ethyl moiety. Additional substitutions on the phosphorous ring can be made, as for example : hydrogen, alkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, alkoxy, chlorine, and bromine.

The process need not be operated at 140°C for acceptable product has also been produced at 130°C to 160°C. Operation below 120°C may yield unacceptably long cycle times, while operation at 160°C or above may yield undesired quantities of by-product.

The following examples illustrate various embodiments of the invention, but do not limit it in any way. All concentrations are by weight. The anionic surfactants used in these examples are as follows :

<u>Trade Name</u>	<u>Chemical Name</u>
Aerosol OT-75	Diethyl ester of sodium sulfosuccinic acid
Aerosol TR-70	Bis(tridecyl)ester of sodium sulfosuccinic acid
Aerosol AY-65	Diamyl ester of sodium sulfosuccinic acid

All the above are manufactured by American Cyanamid.

Referring to the chemical reactions written previously, the average n for the MPEG's used is as follows: MPEG 750 : $n = 17$; MPEG 3000 : $n = 68$; MPEG 5000 : $n = 114$. In general it may be said that n may range from about 10 to about 150, preferably from about 15 to about 120.

The examples which follow illustrate the invention in various useful embodiments, but are not intended to limit the invention in any way.

EXAMPLES**Example 1****5 Preparation of Surface-Active α/ω -Dibutyl poly(isophorone carbodilimide) Using CARBOWAX® Methoxypolyethylene glycol (MPEG) 5000 as Hydrophile**

Into a 2000-ml resin kettle equipped with a heating mantle, mechanical stirrer, thermometer, and nitrogen purge were charged 486.50 g of amyl acetate, 420.15 g isophorone diisocyanate and 20.5 g Carbowax MPEG 5000. The solution was heated, with stirring, to 70°C, then 0.50 g of bismuth III octanoate (25% active in mineral oil) was added. After 30 minutes, 124.81 g of butyl isocyanate and 33 g of a 10% solution by weight of 3-methyl-1-phenyl-2-phospholene-1-oxide in xylene were charged. The solution was heated, with stirring, at 140°C for 19 hours, then the solids adjusted to 43% by the addition of 128.93 g of amyl acetate. The product was cooled and packaged (1055.2 g). The infrared spectrum of the surface-active polycarbodilimide showed elimination of the isocyanate peak (2260 cm⁻¹) with formation of the carbodilimide peak (2130 cm⁻¹).

Example 2**20 Dispersion of Product of Example 1 in Water**

To 42.21 g of a water solution (2.08% triethylamine, by weight) were added 57.61 g of the surface-active polycarbodilimide from example 1, while stirring with a 3-blade impeller. After the addition of the polycarbodilimide, the mixture was stirred for 3 minutes with a 3-blade impeller, then the emulsion was homogenized for 3 minutes with a VirTus homogenizer. Analysis showed the droplet size to be about 1.44 microns.

Example 3**30 Preparation of Surface-Active α/ω -Dibutyl poly(isophorone carbodilimide) using CARBOWAX® Methoxypolyethylene glycol 3000 as Hydrophile**

The procedure was similar to that described in Example 1 except that Carbowax MPEG 3000 was substituted for Carbowax MPEG 5000.

35 Example 4**Dispersion of the Product of Example 3 in Water**

The surface-active polycarbodilimide described in Example 3 was emulsified using the procedure described in Example 2. Analysis showed the droplet size to be about 1.82 microns.

Example 5**45 Preparation of Surface-Active α/ω -Dibutyl poly(isophorone carbodilimide) using CARBOWAX® Methoxypolyethylene glycol 750 as Hydrophile**

The procedure was similar to that described in Example 1 except that Carbowax MPEG 750 was substituted for Carbowax MPEG 5000.

50 Example 6**Dispersion of Product of Example 5 in Water**

The surface-active polycarbodilimide described in Example 5 was emulsified using the procedure described in Example 2. Analysis showed the droplet size to be about 13.24 microns.

Example 7**Evaluation of the Products of Examples 1, 3, and 5 in the presence of Anionic Surfactants**

5 The nonionic surface-active polycarbodiimides of examples 1, 3, and 5 were evaluated in combination with various anionic surfactants. The desired nonionic surfactant levels were obtained by blending an α/ω -dibutyl poly(isophorone carbodiimide) which was not surface-active to the polycarbodiimides of Examples 1, 3, or 5. The procedure is general, and is as follows :

10 An oil phase and a water phase are prepared to have the following compositions :

	<u>Solids, %</u>	<u>Mass (g)</u>
<u>Oil Phase</u>		
Example 1	43.0	26.65
15 α,ω -dibutyl poly(isophorone carbodiimide)	49.2	30.96
Foamaster VF	-	0.28
<u>Water Phase</u>		
20 Water		41.33
Triethylamine		0.88

25 The oil phase is added to the water phase while stirring with a 3-blade impeller. The emulsion which forms is then homogenized for 3 minutes with a VirTus homogenizer. The solids level of the emulsion is 26.7%.

Using the above procedure, a series of samples was prepared as shown in Table I. In this table, all anionic surfactants are sulfonated soaps available from American Cyanamid. In order of increasing hydrophobicity, AY < AOT < TR.

Table I

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Examples</u>	<u>Mol. Wt. MPEG</u>	<u>Anionic Surfactant</u>	<u>Anionic/Nonionic Surfactant</u>	<u>Percent Total Surfactant</u>
35 1	1	5000	AY-65	40/60	1.5
2	1	5000	AOT-75	50/50	3.0
3	1	5000	TR-70	60/40	2.25
4	2	3000	AY-65	50/50	2.25
40 5	2	3000	AOT-75	60/40	1.5
6	2	3000	TR-70	40/60	3.0
7	3	750	AY-65	60/40	3.0
8	3	750	AOT-75	40/60	2.25
9	3	750	TR-70	50/50	1.5

45 Evaluations of Samples 1-9 are shown in Table II.

Table II

Trials	Droplet Size (Microns)	Brookfield Viscosity at 60 RPM (cps)	Appearance of Emulsion After		Number of Freeze-Thaw Cycles Before Appearance of Oil Phase
			48 hours at 47°C	18 days at 25°C	
1	1.05	2900	No change	No change	>4
2	0.49	5600	No change	No change	>4
3	0.64	3500	No change	No change	>4
4	0.63	787	No change	No change	>4
5	0.68	86	No change	No change	>4
6	0.58	125	No change	No change	>4
7	9.29	76	Oil separation	Oil separation	0
8	0.54	85	Oil separation	Oil separation	0
9	0.66	65	Oil separation	Oil separation	0

Example 8**Preparation of a Water-dispersible Carbodilimide using CARBOWAX Methoxypolyethylene glycol 750 as Hydrophile**

To a 3-neck, 500 ml round bottom flask equipped with a mechanical stirrer and thermometer were charged 200 g of amyl acetate, 20.0 g (0.0900 mole) of isophorone diisocyanate, 40.0 g (0.0533 mole) of CARBOWAX methoxypolyethylene glycol 750, and 0.5 g of bismuth III octanoate (25% active in mineral oil). The contents of the flask were heated at 100°C for 2 hours. The flask was then cooled and the crude isocyanate-terminated CARBOWAX methoxypolyethylene glycol precipitated by adding the contents of the flask to 500 ml of hexane. The product was washed 3 times with 50 ml portions of hexane, then dried overnight in a vacuum oven. The infrared spectrum of the material showed an isocyanate band (2240 cm⁻¹). The yield was 87.5%.

To prepare the "surface-active" carbodilimide, 7 g of 1,3,6-tri(N-isopropyl-N'-methylenecarbodilimide) hexane (prepared by the bromotriphenyl phosphine bromide process (see Example 12), then made 47.8% active in amyl acetate) and 0.105 g of the above isocyanate-terminated CARBOWAX methoxypolyethylene glycol were heated in a small vial to 50°C to form a homogeneous solution, then cooled to room temperature. After 24 hours, an infrared spectrum of the above material showed no detectable isocyanate band.

The dispersibility and reactivity of the above carbodilimide were evaluated in the formulation described below.

UCAR 4620 (46.33% solids)	100.91 g
Dimethylethanolamine in water (50%)	0.40 g
Butyl CELLOSOLVE	7.48 g
Water	7.48 g

While rapidly stirring the above partial formulation with a 3-blade impeller, 3.05 g (3 PHR) of the chemically modified carbodilimide described above were added and stirring continued for 5 minutes. Evaluations of the above formulation are shown in Table III.

Table I II

	Oven Temperature		Time (minutes)	Methyl Ethyl Ketone Double Rubs	Percent Carbodiimide Remaining in Polymer
	°C	°F			
10	60	140	15	71	28.0
	85	185	5	167	25.6
	93	200	5	+300	20.5
	104	220	5	+300	19.2
15	127	260	15	+300	0.1

Notes :

- 20 a. Formulation : UCAR 4620, Butyl CELLOSOLVE, 16 PHR ; Base, Dimethylethanolamine ; pH, 8.4 ; Crosslinker, surface-active form of 1,3,6-tri(N-isopropyl-N'-methylene carbodiimide) hexane, 3 PHR.
- b. The 1,3,6-tri(N-isopropyl-N'-methylene carbodiimide) hexane was prepared by dehydration of the corresponding urea using bromotriphenylphosphine bromide ; % NCN of theory was 84%.
- 25 c. The 1,3,6-tri(N-isopropyl-N'-methylene carbodiimide) hexane was chemically modified with 1% of an isocyanate-terminated CARBOWAX methoxy polyethylene glycol with an average molecular weight of 972 g/mole.
- d. The percent of carbodiimide remaining unreacted in the coating was determined by FT-IR ATR.
- 30 e. Wet films of the formulation were drawn down on Leneta paper using a #60 wire-wound rod, then cured in a forced air oven. The thickness of the dried coating was $(1.2 \pm 0.2 \text{ mils})$ $30.5 \pm 5 \mu\text{m}$.

Example 9Preparation of a Water-dispersible Carbodiimide Prepared from a Trifunctional Carbodiimide

35 To a 3-neck, 500 ml round bottom flask equipped with a mechanical stirrer and thermometer were charged 200 g of amyl acetate, 20.0 g (0.0900 mole) of isophorone diisocyanate, 10.0 g (0.00200 mole) of CARBOWAX methoxypolyethylene glycol 5000, and 0.5 g of bismuth III octanoate (25% active in mineral oil). The contents of the flask were heated at 100°C for 2 hours. The flask was then cooled and the crude

40 isocyanate-terminated CARBOWAX methoxypolyethylene glycol precipitated by adding the contents of the flask to 500 ml of hexane. The product was washed with 50 ml of hexane, then dried in a vacuum oven at 25°C to constant weight. The yield of the product was 100%.

To prepare the "surface-active" carbodiimide, 7.0 g of 1,3,6-tri(N-isopropyl-N-methylene carbodiimide) hexane (prepared by the phosphine bromide process then made 47.8% active in amyl acetate) and 0.105 g of the above isocyanate-terminated CARBOWAX methoxypolyethylene glycol were heated in a small vial

45 to 70°C, then cooled to room temperature.

The dispersibility and reactivity of the above carbodiimide were evaluated in the formulation described below.

50	UCAR 4620 (46.33% solids)	100.91 g
	Dimethylethanolamine in water (50%)	0.40 g
55	Butyl CELLOSOLVE	7.48 g
	Water	7.48 g

While rapidly stirring the above partial formulation with a 3-blade impeller, 3.05 g (3 PHR) of the chemically modified carbodiimide described above were added and stirring continued for 5 minutes. Evaluations of the above formulation are shown in Table IV.

Table IV

	Oven Temperature		Time (minutes)	Methyl Ethyl Ketone Double Rubs	Percent Carbodiimide Remaining in Polymer
	°C	°F			
	60	140	15	91	25.7
	85	185	5	209	22.6
	93	200	5	+300	19.3
	104	220	5	+300	17.6
	127	260	5	+300	1.1

Notes :

- Formulation : UCAR 4620, Butyl CELLOSOLVE, 16 PHR ; Base, Dimethylethanolamine ; pH, 8.4 ; Crosslinker, surface-active form of 1,3,6-tri(N-isopropyl-N'-methylene carbodiimide)hexane, 3 PHR.
- The 1,3,6-tri(N-isopropyl-N'-methylene carbodiimide) hexane was prepared using the bromotriphenylphosphine bromide process ; percent NCN of theory of 84%.
- The 1,3,6-tri(N-isopropyl-N'-methylene carbodiimide) hexane was chemically modified with 1% of an isocyanate-terminated CARBOWAX methoxy polyethylene glycol with an average molecular weight of 5222 g/mole.
- The percent of carbodiimide remaining unreacted in the coating was determined by FT-IR ATR.
- Wet films of the formulation were drawn down on Leneta paper using a # 60 wire-wound rod, then cured in a forced air oven. The thickness of the dried coating was $(1.2 \pm 0.2 \text{ mils})$ $30.5 \pm 5 \text{ } \mu\text{m}$.

Example 10**Preparation of a Water-Dispersible Carbodiimide**

To prepare the "surface-active" carbodiimide, 14.0 g of 1,3,6-tri(N-cyclohexyl-N'-methylene carbodiimide) hexane (prepared by the hypochlorite process (see Example 13), then made 47.8% active in amyl acetate) and 0.211 g of an isocyanate-terminated CARBOWAX methoxypolyethylene glycol (average molecular weight, 972 g/mole, were heated in a small vial to 50°C to obtain a homogeneous solution (< 2 hours), then the solution was allowed to cool. An infrared spectrum of the above material showed no detectable isocyanate band

The dispersibility and reactivity of the "surface-active" 1,3,6-tri(N-cyclohexyl-N'-methylene carbodiimide) hexane were evaluated in the formulation described below :

UCAR 4431 (42.3% solids)	55.36 g
Dimethylethanolamine in water (50%)	0.30 g
Butyl CELLOSOLVE	3.74 g
Water	3.74 g

While rapidly stirring the above partial formulation with a 3-blade impeller, 1.98 g (4 PHR) of the chemically modified carbodiimide described above were added and then stirring continued for 5 minutes. Evaluations of the above formulation are shown in Table V.

Table V.

	Oven Temperature		Time (minutes)	Methyl Ethyl Ketone Double Rubs
	°C	°F		
5	60	140	2	73
10	60	140	15	126
	85	185	5	185
	93	200	5	182
15	127	260	15	+300

Notes :

- a. Formulation : UCAR 4431 ; Butyl CELLOSOLVE, 15.9 PHR ; Base, Dimethylethanolamine, 0.83 PHR ; pH, 8.13 ; Crosslinker, surface-active form of 1,3,6-tri(N-cyclohexyl-N'-methylene carbodilimide) hexane, 4 PHR.
- b. Crosslinker was prepared by the hypochlorite process ; percent NCN of theory was 73.7%.
- c. The 1,3,6-tri(N-cyclohexyl-N'-methylene carbodilimide) hexane was chemically modified with 1% of an isocyanate-terminated CARBOWAX methoxypolyethylene glycol with an average molecular weight of 972 g/mole.
- d. Wet films of the formulation were drawn down on Leneta paper using a #60 wire-wound rod, then cured in a forced air oven. The thickness of the dried coating was $(1.2 \pm 0.2 \text{ mils})$ $30.5 \pm 5 \mu\text{m}$.

Example 11Preparation of a Water-dispersible Carbodilimide

To prepare the "surface-active" carbodilimide of higher surfactant level, 14.0 g of 1,3,6-tri(N-cyclohexyl-N'-methylene carbodilimide) hexane (prepared by the hypochlorite process, then made 47.8% active in amyl acetate) and 1.02 g of an isocyanate-terminated CARBOWAX methoxypolyethylene glycol (average molecular weight, 972 g/mole) were heated in a small vial to 50°C to obtain a homogeneous solution (< 2 hours), then the solution was allowed to cool.

The dispersibility and reactivity of the "surface-active" 1,3,6-tri(N-cyclohexyl-N'-methylene carbodilimide) hexane were evaluated in the formulation described below.

40	UCAR 4431 (42.3% solids)	55.36 g
	Dimethylethanolamine in water (50%)	0.30 g
45	Butyl CELLOSOLVE	3.74 g
	Water	3.74 g

While rapidly stirring the above partial formulation with a 3-blade impeller, 2.11 g (4 PHR) of the chemically-modified carbodilimide described above were added. The stirring was continued for 5 minutes. Evaluations of the above formulation are shown in Table VI.

Table VI

5	Oven		Time (minutes)	Methyl Ethyl Ketone
	Temperature °C °F			Double Rubs
	60	140	2	101
	85	185	5	300
	93	200	5	+300
10	127	260	15	+300

Notes :

- 15 a. Formulation : UCAR 4431 ; Butyl CELLOSOLVE, 15.9 PHR ; Base, Dimethylethanolamine, 0.63 PHR ; pH, 8.02 ; Crosslinker, surface-active form of 1,3,6-tri(N-cyclohexyl-N'-methylene carbodiimide) hexane, 4 PHR.
- b. Crosslinker was prepared by the hypochlorite process ; percent NCN of theory was 73.7%.
- 20 c. The 1,3,6-tri(N-cyclohexyl-N'-methylene carbodiimide) hexane was chemically modified with 7% of an isocyanate-terminated CARBOWAX methoxypolyethylene glycol with an average molecular weight of 972 g/mole.
- d. Wet films of the formulation were drawn down on Leneta paper using a #60 wire-wound rod, then cured in a forced air oven. The thickness of the dried coating was $(1.2 \pm 0.2 \text{ mils})$ $30.5 \pm 5 \text{ } \mu\text{m}$.

Example 12

25

Preparation of 1,3,6-tri(N-isopropyl-N'-methylene carbodiimide) hexane

30 Into a 3-neck, 5000 ml, round-bottom flask equipped with a thermometer, mechanical stirrer, and pressure-equalizing dropping funnel were charged 484.59g (1.847 moles of triphenylphosphine and 2585 ml of dried methylene chloride. The contents of the flask were cooled to 1°C, then 295.2g (1.847 moles) of bromine dissolved in 200 ml of methylene chloride were dropped into the stirred triphenylphosphine solution over a 1.73-hour period while maintaining the temperature of the contents of the flask between 1° and 6°C. After the addition of the bromine solution, 377.7g (3.733 moles) of triethylamine were added to the bromotriphenylphosphine bromide solution over a 1.3-hour period while maintaining the temperature between 0° and 1°C.

35 To prepare the multifunctional carbodiimide, 220.0g (0.5132 mole) of 1,3,6-tri(N-isopropyl-N'-methylene urea) hexane were added portionwise to the stirred solution of bromotriphenylphosphine bromide solution over a 1-hour period while maintaining the temperature of the contents in the flask between 0° and 2°C. After the addition of the urea, the contents of the flask were stirred for 1.75 hours.

40 After the reaction period, triphenylphosphine oxide and triethyl amine hydrogen bromide were filtered from the methylene chloride solution containing the carbodiimide. The solution containing the multifunctional carbodiimide was then washed with 4175g of cold water. The polycarbodiimide solution was then dried overnight over 0.4 nm molecular sieves.

45 The methylene chloride was then removed using a roto-evaporator at 38°C (459 mbar). The vacuum was gradually increased to 6.7 mbar. The 1,3,6-tri(N-isopropyl-N'-methylene carbodiimide) hexane was then extracted from the triphenylphosphine oxide residue with four 1400 ml portions of hexane. The extracts were filtered, then combined to form a clear solution of the multifunctional carbodiimide in hexane. The hexane was removed using a roto-evaporator at 38°C (153 mbar) until 350 ml of solution remained. The solution was refiltered, and most of the remaining hexane removed using a roto-evaporator at 38°C (9.3 mbar).

50 The infrared spectrum of the clear amber oil showed a large carbodiimide band (2130 cm^{-1}). The carbodiimide solution, which was 94.2% active in hexane, had a Brookfield viscosity of 14 mPa.s (LVT #1 spindle at 60 rpm). The equivalent Gardner Bubble viscosity was 0.144 cm^2/s . The yield of the carbodiimide was 80.3%. Titration of an aliquot by the procedure of Zarembo and Watts (Microchem. J. Symp. Ser., 2, 591 (1962)) yielded a carbodiimide functionality of 26.8% (theory 32.0%). The theoretical functionality of the material was 3.

Example 13**Preparation of 1,3,6-tri(N-cyclohexyl-N'-methylene carbodiimide) hexane from a Trifunctional Thiourea) by the Hypochlorite Process**

Into a 3-neck, 500 ml round bottom flask equipped with a thermometer, bubbler, and mechanical stirrer were charged 3665 ml of water and 426.99 g (10.676 moles) of sodium hydroxide. The basic water solution was cooled to -5°C, then 257.91 g (3.628 moles) of chlorine were bubbled into the basic water solution while maintaining the temperature between -3 and -5°C.

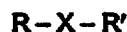
To prepare the carbodiimide, 173.92 g (0.2913 moles) of 1,3,6-tri(N-cyclohexyl-N'-methylene thiourea) hexane in 376.55 g of methylene chloride were added to the stirred hypochlorite solution over a 3-minute period. After the addition of the thiourea, the reaction was run for 4 hours while maintaining the temperature between 5° and 8°C. The contents of the reactor were then cooled to -5°C, then the organic phase separated from the water layer. The organic phase was filtered to remove residual sulfur, washed with 100 ml of water, then dried overnight over a bed of 0.4 nm lecular sieves.

After drying, the organic phase was refiltered, and the methylene chloride removed using a roto-evaporator at 38°C (459 mbar). During the removal of the methylene chloride, the temperature was gradually increased over a 2-hour period to 50°C (9.3 mbar). The infrared spectrum of the amber oil showed large carbodiimide band (2130 cm⁻¹). The carbodiimide solution was 90.3% active carbodiimide in methylene chloride. The yield of carbodiimide was 69.1%. Titration of an aliquot by the procedure of Zarembo and Watts yielded a percent carbodiimide functionality of 18.8% (theory 25.5%). The theoretical functionality of the material was 3.

Claims

Claims for the Contracting States : BE CH DE FR GB IT LI LU NL SE

1. A surface-active polycarbodiimide of the formula

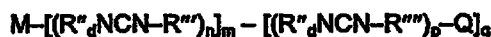


wherein R is a residue of a hydrophobic organic compound containing at least two carbodiimide groups ; R' is a residue of an organic compound having a hydrophilic segment and at least one functional group capable of reacting with a carbodiimide group ; and X is a group formed by the reaction of a said carbodiimide group with a said functional group.

2. A surface-active polycarbodiimide of claim 1 wherein X is selected from the group consisting of uretidinone, diazetidine thione, N-acyl urea, guanidine, isourea, isothiurea, and carbodiimide.

3. A surface-active polycarbodiimide of Claim 1 wherein R' is a residue of a hydroxyl-containing poly(alkylene oxide)-based surfactant, preferably is alkoxycapped, the number of alkylene oxide repeating unites (n) preferably being from 15 to 120, and especially the poly(alkylene oxide)-based surfactant is a methoxypolyethylene glycol.

4. A surface-active polycarbodiimide of Claim 1 wherein R is a residue of a monodisperse, branched polycarbodiimide, which preferably has the generalized structure :



wherein : M and Q may be the same or different and each represents the residue of a compound adapted to function as a site for branching ; R'' and R''' may be the same or different and represent an alkyl (including cycloalkyl) or aryl, radical or diradical which may be or contain cyano, nitro, halo, alkyl sulfide, dialkylaminoalkyl, substituted silane, alkoxy, and aryloxy moieties, and other substituted species of any of the foregoing ; R'' represents the same or different alkyl (including cycloalkyl) or aryl diradical which may contain cyano, nitro, halo, alkyl sulfide, dialkylamino, substituted silane, alkoxy, and aryloxy moieties, and other substituted species of any of the foregoing ; and wherein d is 0 to 12, n is 1 to 6, m is 3 to 5, p is 1 to 6, and q is 0 to 4.

5. A surface-active polycarbodiimide of Claim 4 wherein the monodisperse, branched polycarbodiimide has the generalized structure :

**Example 13****Preparation of 1,3,6-tri(N-cyclohexyl-N'-methylene carbodiimide) hexane from a Trifunctional Thiourea) by the Hypochlorite Process**

Into a 3-neck, 500 ml round bottom flask equipped with a thermometer, bubbler, and mechanical stirrer were charged 3665 ml of water and 426.99 g (10.676 moles) of sodium hydroxide. The basic water solution was cooled to -5°C , then 257.91 g (3.628 moles) of chlorine were bubbled into the basic water solution while maintaining the temperature between -3 and -5°C .

To prepare the carbodiimide, 173.92 g (0.2913 moles) of 1,3,6-tri(N-cyclohexyl-N'-methylene thiourea) hexane in 376.55 g of methylene chloride were added to the stirred hypochlorite solution over a 3-minute period. After the addition of the thiourea, the reaction was run for 4 hours while maintaining the temperature between 5° and 8°C . The contents of the reactor were then cooled to -5°C , then the organic phase separated from the water layer. The organic phase was filtered to remove residual sulfur, washed with 100 ml of water, then dried overnight over a bed of 0.4 nm lecular sieves.

After drying, the organic phase was refiltered, and the methylene chloride removed using a roto-evaporator at 38°C (459 mbar). During the removal of the methylene chloride, the temperature was gradually increased over a 2-hour period to 50°C (9.3 mbar). The infrared spectrum of the amber oil showed large carbodiimide band (2130 cm^{-1}). The carbodiimide solution was 90.3% active carbodiimide in methylene chloride. The yield of carbodiimide was 69.1%. Titration of an aliquot by the procedure of Zarembo and Watts yielded a percent carbodiimide functionality of 18.8% (theory 25.5%). The theoretical functionality of the material was 3.

Claims

Claims for the Contracting States : BE CH DE FR GB IT LI LU NL SE

1. A surface-active polycarbodiimide of the formula

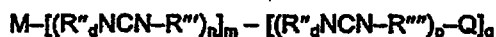


wherein R is a residue of a hydrophobic organic compound containing at least two carbodiimide groups ; R' is a residue of an organic compound having a hydrophilic segment and at least one functional group capable of reacting with a carbodiimide group ; and X is a group formed by the reaction of a said carbodiimide group with a said functional group.

2. A surface-active polycarbodiimide of claim 1 wherein X is selected from the group consisting of uretidinone, diazetidine thione, N-acyl urea, guanidine, isourea, isothiurea, and carbodiimide.

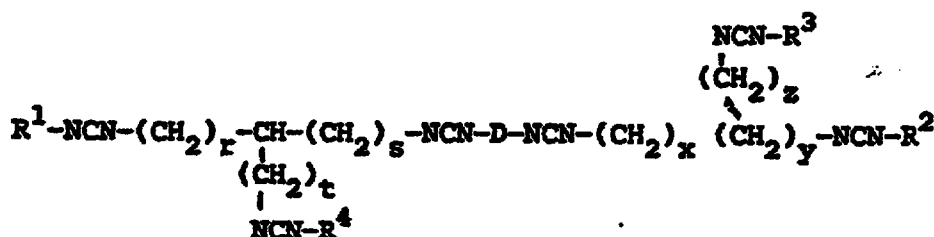
3. A surface-active polycarbodiimide of Claim 1 wherein R' is a residue of a hydroxyl-containing poly(alkylene oxide)-based surfactant, preferably is alkoxycapped, the number of alkylene oxide repeating unites (n) preferably being from 15 to 120, and especially the poly(alkylene oxide)-based surfactant is a methoxypolyethylene glycol.

4. A surface-active polycarbodiimide of Claim 1 wherein R is a residue of a monodisperse, branched polycarbodiimide, which preferably has the generalized structure :

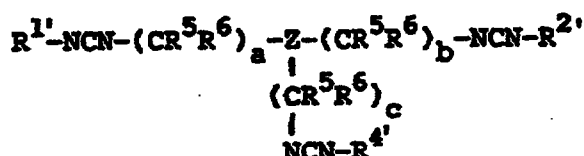


wherein : M and Q may be the same or different and each represents the residue of a compound adapted to function as a site for branching ; R''' and R''' may be the same or different and represent an alkyl (including cycloalkyl) or aryl, radical or diradical which may be or contain cyano, nitro, halo, alkyl sulfide, dialkylaminoalkyl, substituted silane, alkoxy, and aryloxy moieties, and other substituted species of any of the foregoing ; R'' represents the same or different alkyl (including cycloalkyl) or aryl diradical which may contain cyano, nitro, halo, alkyl sulfide, dialkylamino, substituted silane, alkoxy, and aryloxy moieties, and other substituted species of any of the foregoing ; and wherein d is 0 to 12, n is 1 to 6, m is 3 to 5, p is 1 to 6, and q is 0 to 4.

5. A surface-active polycarbodiimide of Claim 4 wherein the monodisperse, branched polycarbodiimide has the generalized structure :



Wherein : R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ may be the same or different and represent organic residues which do not substantially interfere with the multifunctional carbodiimide for its intended purpose ; and D is an organic residue ; and r, s, t, x and y are 1 to 6, or the generalized structure :



wherein : R¹, R², and R⁴ may be the same or different and represent alkyl groups having 1 to 12 carbon atoms ; R⁵ and R⁶ may be the same or different and represent hydrogen, alkyl (including cycloalkyl), aryl, aralkyl, alkaryl, heterocyclic, cyano, nitro, halo, alkyl sulfide, dialkylaminoalkyl, silane, alkoxy, and aryloxy groups, and substituted species of any of the foregoing ; Z is the residue of a compound adapted to function as a site for branching ; and wherein a, b, and c are 0 to 12.

6. A surface-active polycarbodiimide of claim 4 wherein the monodisperse, branched polycarbodiimide is 1,3,6-tri-(N-isopropyl-N'-methylene carbodiimide) hexane, 1,3,6-tri-(N-cyclohexyl-N'-methylene carbodiimide) hexane or 1,3,6-tri-(N-n-butyl-N'-methylene carbodiimide) hexane.

7. A surface-active polycarbodiimide of claim 1 wherein R is a residue of a polydisperse, linear polycarbodiimide, preferably a residue of a polyfunctional polycarbodiimide (PCDI) derived from the reaction of mono-, di-, and tri-cycloaliphatic or saturated aliphatic isocyanates wherein the cycloaliphatic moieties contain from 5 to 7 carbons and can be substituted with alkyl having 1 to 6 carbons, and oxygen, and the saturated aliphatic moieties contain from 1 to 18 carbons, wherein the mono- and trisocyanates are optional.

8. An emulsion comprising an admixture in aqueous medium of :

- (a) a hydrophobic polycarbodiimide, and
- (b) a surface-active polycarbodiimide according to anyone of claims 1 to 7 and optionally
- (c) a supplemental surfactant.

9. A cross-linkable composition comprising an admixture of

- (a) an emulsion of a carboxyl-containing resin or neutralized, carboxylated, water-soluble organic resin, and
- (b) a surface-active polycarbodiimide according to anyone of claims 1 to 7 and/or
- (c) an emulsion according to Claim 8, and optionally
- (d) a supplemental surfactant.

10. A method of making a surface-active polycarbodiimide comprising reacting, in the presence of a catalyst, a hydrophobic organic compound containing at least two carbodiimide groups with an organic compound having a hydrophilic segment and at least one functional group capable of reacting with a carbodiimide group.

11. A method of making an emulsion comprising mixing, in aqueous medium :

- (a) a hydrophobic carbodiimide, and
- (b) the surface-active carbodiimide of anyone of claims 1 to 7, wherein the surface-active carbodiimide preferably is formed in situ in a matrix of the hydrophobic carbodiimide.

12. A method of making a cross-linkable composition comprising mixing :

- (a) an emulsion of a carboxyl-containing resin,
- (b) a surface-active polycarbodiimide according to anyone of claims 1 to 7 and/or



(c) an emulsion according to claim 8.

13. A method for cross-linking a carboxyl-containing resin or a neutralized, carboxylated, water-soluble organic resin comprising :

(a) mixing said resin with an emulsion of a surface-active carbodilimide of anyone of claims 1 to 7 and

(b) allowing volatilization of certain formulated materials, to produce a cross-linked product.

Claims for the Contracting States : AT, ES

1. A method for preparing a surface-active polycarbodilimide of the formula



wherein R is a residue of a hydrophobic organic compound containing at least two carbodilimide groups ; R' is a residue of an organic compound having a hydrophilic segment and at least one functional group capable of reacting with a carbodilimide group ; and X is a group formed by the reaction of a said carbodilimide group with a said functional group.

2. A method of claim 1 wherein X is selected from the group consisting of uretidinone, diazetidine thione, N-acyl urea, guanidine, isourea, isothiurea, and carbodilimide, comprising reacting, in the presence of a catalyst, a hydrophobic organic compound containing at least two carbodilimide groups with an organic compound having a hydrophilic segment and at least one functional group capable of reacting with a carbodilimide group.

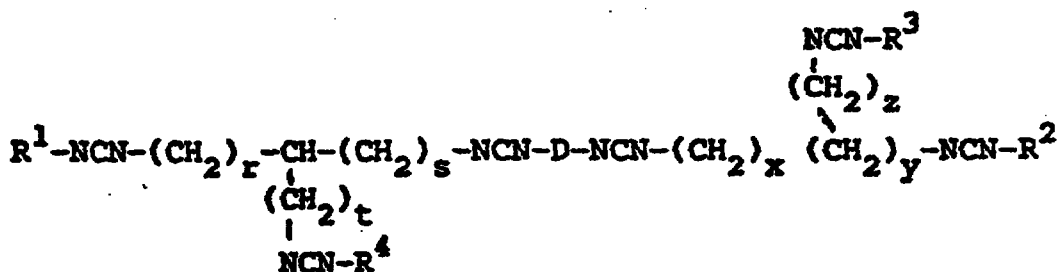
3. A method of claim 1 wherein R' is a residue of a hydroxyl-containing poly-(alkylene oxide)-based surfactant, preferably is alkoxycapped, the number of alkylene oxide repeating unites (n) preferably being from 15 to 120, and especially the poly-(alkylene oxide)-based surfactant is a methoxypolyethylene glycol.

4. A method of claim 1 wherein R is a residue of a monodisperse, branched polycarbodilimide, which preferably has the generalized structure :

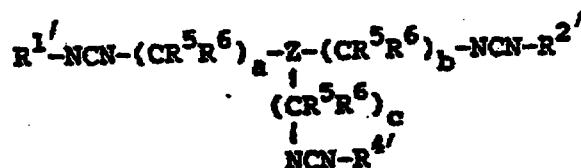


wherein : M and Q may be the same or different and each represents the residue of a compound adapted to function as a site for branching ; R''' and R''' may be the same or different and represent an alkyl (including cycloalkyl) or aryl, radical or diradical which may be or contain cyano, nitro, halo, alkyl sulfide, dialkylaminoalkyl, substituted silane, alkoxy, and aryloxy moieties, and other substituted species of any of the foregoing ; R'' represents the same or different alkyl (including cycloalkyl) or aryl diradical which may contain cyano, nitro, halo, alkyl sulfide, dialkylamino, substituted silane, alkoxy, and aryloxy moieties, and other substituted species of any of the foregoing ; and wherein d is 0 to 12, n is 1 to 6, m is 3 to 5, p is 1 to 6, and q is 0 to 4.

5. A method of Claim 4 wherein the monodisperse, branched polycarbodilimide has the generalized structure :



Wherein : R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ may be the same or different and represent organic residues which do not substantially interfere with the multifunctional carbodilimide for its intended purpose ; and D is an organic residue ; and r, s, t, x and y are 1 to 6, or the generalized structure :



wherein : $R^{1'}$, $R^{2'}$, and $R^{4'}$ may be the same or different and represent alkyl groups having 1 to 12 carbon atoms ; R^5 and R^6 may be the same or different and represent hydrogen, alkyl (including cycloalkyl), aryl, aralkyl, alkaryl, heterocyclic, cyano, nitro, halo, alkyl sulfide, dialkylaminoalkyl, silane, alkoxy, and aryloxy groups, and substituted species of any of the foregoing ; Z is the residue of a compound adapted to function as a site for branching ; and wherein a, b, and c are 0 to 12.

6. A method of claim 4 wherein the monodisperse, branched polycarbodiimide is 1,3,6-tri-(N-isopropyl-N'-methylene carbodiimide) hexane 1,3,6-tri-(N-cyclohexyl-N'-methylene carbodiimide) hexane or 1,3,6-tri-(N-n-butyl-N'-methylene carbodiimide) hexane.

7. A method of Claim 1 wherein R is a residue of a polydisperse, linear polycarbodiimide, preferably a residue of a polyfunctional polycarbodiimide (PCDI) derived from the reaction of mono-, di-, and tri-cycloaliphatic or saturated aliphatic isocyanates wherein the cycloaliphatic moieties contain from 5 to 7 carbons and can be substituted with alkyl having 1 to 6 carbons, and oxygen, and the saturated aliphatic moieties contain from 1 to 18 carbons, wherein the mono- and trisocyanates are optional.

8. An emulsion comprising an admixture in aqueous medium of :

- (a) a hydrophobic polycarbodiimide, and
- (b) a surface-active polycarbodiimide according to anyone of claims 1 to 7 and optionally
- (c) a supplemental surfactant.

9. A cross-linkable composition comprising an admixture of

- (a) an emulsion of a carboxyl-containing resin or neutralized, carboxylated, water-soluble organic resin, and
- (b) a surface-active polycarbodiimide prepared according to anyone of claims 1 to 7 and/or
- (c) an emulsion according to Claim 8, and optionally
- (d) a supplemental surfactant.

10. A method of making an emulsion comprising mixing, in aqueous medium :

- (a) a hydrophobic carbodiimide, and
- (b) the surface-active carbodiimide of anyone of claims 1 to 7, wherein the surface-active carbodiimide preferably is formed in situ in a matrix of the hydrophobic carbodiimide.

11. A method of making a cross-linkable composition comprising mixing :

- (a) an emulsion of a carboxyl-containing resin,
- (b) a surface-active polycarbodiimide according to anyone of claims 1 to 7 and/or
- (c) an emulsion according to claim 8.

12. A method for cross-linking a carboxyl-containing resin or a neutralized, carboxylated, water-soluble organic resin comprising :

- (a) mixing said resin with an emulsion of a surface-active carbodiimide of anyone of claims 1 to 7 and
- (b) allowing volatilization of certain formulated materials, to produce a cross-linked product.

Ansprüche

Patentansprüche für die benannten Vertragsstaaten : BE CH DE FR GB IT LI LU NL SE

1. Oberflächenaktives Polycarbodiimid der Formel



in der R ein Rest einer hydrophoben organischen Verbindung, enthaltend mindestens zwei Carbodiimidgruppen, ist ; R' ein Rest einer organischen Verbindung mit einem hydrophilen Segment und mindestens einer funktionellen Gruppe ist, die in der Lage ist, mit einer Carbodiimidgruppe zu reagieren und X eine Gruppe ist, die gebildet worden ist durch Reaktion einer solchen Carbodiimidgruppe mit einer solchen funktionellen Gruppe.



2. Oberflächenaktives Polycarbodiimid nach Anspruch 1, wobei X ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Uretidinon, Diazetidinthion, N-Acyliarnstoff, Guanidin, Isohamstoff, Isothiohamstoff und Carbodiimid.

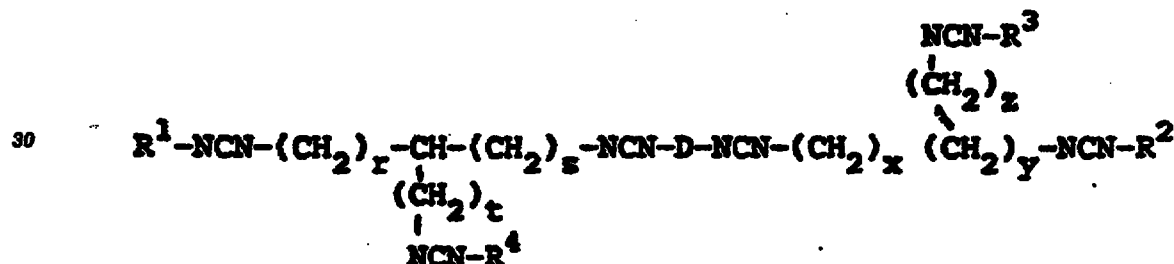
3. Oberflächenaktives Polycarbodiimid nach Anspruch 1, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß R' ein Rest eines oberflächenaktiven Mittels auf der Basis eines Hydroxylgruppen-haltigen Poly(alkylenoxids) ist, vorzugsweise mit einer endständigen Alkoxygruppe, wobei die Anzahl der wiederkehrenden Alkyleneneinheiten (n) vorzugsweise 15 bis 120 beträgt, und insbesondere das oberflächenaktive Mittel auf der Basis von Poly(alkylenoxid) ein Methoxypolyethylenglykol ist.

4. Oberflächenaktives Polycarbodiimid nach Anspruch 1, wobei R ein Rest eines monodispersen, verzweigten Polycarbodimids ist, das vorzugsweise die allgemeine Formel:

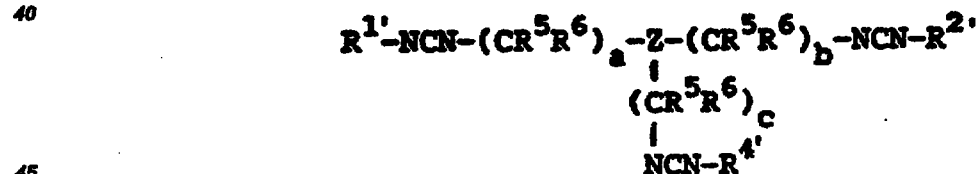


besitzt, in der M und Q gleich oder unten verschieden sein können und jeweils einen Rest einer Verbindung darstellen, die geeignet ist als Verzweigungsstelle zu dienen, R'' und R''' gleich oder verschieden sein können und einen ein- oder zweiwertigen Alkyl- (einschließlich Cycloalkyl-) oder Arylrest bedeuten, der sein oder enthalten kann eine Cyano-, Nitro-, Halogen-, Alkylsulfid-, Dialkylaminoalkyl-, substituierte Silan-, Alkoxy- oder Aryloxygruppen sowie andere substituierte Arten einer der vorgenannten Gruppen; R'' den gleichen oder einen anderen zweiwertigen Alkyl- (einschließlich Cycloalkyl-) oder Arylrest bedeutet, der enthalten kann Cyano-, Nitro-, Halogen-, Alkylsulfid-, Dialkylamino-, substituierte Silan-, Alkoxy- und Aryloxygruppen und andere substituierte Arten einer der vorgenannten Gruppen, und wobei d 0 bis 12 ist, n 1 bis 6, m 3 bis 5, p 1 bis 6 und q 0 bis 4 bedeutet.

5. Oberflächenaktives Polycarbodiimid nach Anspruch 4, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß das monodisperse, verzweigte Polycarbodiimid die folgende allgemeine Formel besitzt:



In der R¹, R², R³ und R⁴ gleich oder verschieden sein können und organische Reste bedeuten, die für den vorgesehenen Zweck das mehrwertige Carbodiimid nicht wesentlich stören, und D ein organisches Rest ist, und r, s, t, x und y 1 bis 6 sind, oder der allgemeinen Formel:



In der R^{1'}, R^{2'} und R^{4'} gleich oder verschieden sein können und Alkylgruppen mit 1 bis 12 Kohlenstoffatomen bedeuten; R^{5'} und R^{6'} gleich oder verschieden sein können und Wasserstoff oder Alkyl- (einschließlich Cycloalkyl-), Aryl-, Aralkyl-, Alkaryl-, heterocyclische, Cyano-, Nitro-, Halogen-, Alkylsulfid-, Dialkylaminoalkyl-, Silan-, Alkoxy- und Aryloxygruppen bedeuten können, und deren substituierte Arten bedeuten; Z der Rest einer Verbindung ist, die geeignet ist als Verzweigungsstelle, und wobei a, b und c 0 bis 12 sind.

6. Oberflächenaktives Polycarbodiimid nach Anspruch 4, wobei das monodisperse, verzweigte Polycarbodiimid 1,3,6-Tri-(N-isopropyl-N'-methylen-carbodiimid)-hexan, 1,3,6-Tri-(N-cyclohexyl-N'-methylen-carbodiimid)-hexan oder 1,3,6-Tri-(N-n-butyl-N'-methylen-carbodiimid)-hexan ist.

7. Oberflächenaktives Polycarbodiimid nach Anspruch 1, wobei R ein Rest eines polydispersen, linearen Polycarbodimids ist, vorzugsweise ein Rest eines polyfunktionellen Polycarbodimids (PCDI), das erhalten worden ist durch Reaktion von mono-, di- und tri-cycloaliphatischen oder gesättigten aliphatischen Isocyanaten, wobei die cycloaliphatischen Gruppen 5 bis 7 Kohlenstoffatome enthalten, und der durch Alkyl



mit 1 bis 6 Kohlenstoffatomen und Sauerstoff substituiert sein kann, und wobei die gesättigten aliphatischen Gruppen 1 bis 18 Kohlenstoffatome enthalten, und wobei die Mono- und Trisocyanate beliebig sind.

8. Emulsion, umfassend ein Gemisch in einem wäßrigen Medium aus :

(a) einem hydrophoben Polycarbodiimid,

(b) einem oberflächenaktiven Polycarbodiimid nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 7 und gegebenenfalls

(c) einem zusätzlichen oberflächenaktiven Mittel.

9. Vernetzbares Mittel, umfassend ein Gemisch aus

(a) einer Emulsion eines Carboxylgruppen-haltigen Harzes oder neutralisierten, carboxylierten, wasserlöslichen organischen Harzes und

(b) einem oberflächenaktiven Polycarbodiimid nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 7 und/oder

(c) einer Emulsion nach Anspruch 8 und gegebenenfalls

(d) einem zusätzlichen oberflächenaktiven Mittel.

10. Verfahren zur Herstellung eines oberflächenaktiven Polycarbodiimids, umfassend die Umsetzung einer hydrophoben organischen Verbindung, enthaltend mindestens zwei Carbodiimidgruppen mit einer organischen Verbindung mit einem hydrophilen Segment und mindestens einer funktionellen Gruppe, die in der Lage ist, mit einer Carbodiimidgruppe zu reagieren, in Gegenwart eines Katalysators.

11. Verfahren zur Herstellung einer Emulsion, umfassend das Vermischen im wäßrigen Medium von :

(a) einem hydrophoben Carbodiimid und

(b) dem oberflächenaktiven Carbodiimid nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 7, wobei das oberflächenaktive Carbodiimid vorzugsweise in situ in einer Matrix des hydrophoben Carbodiimids gebildet worden ist.

12. Verfahren zur Herstellung eines vernetzbaren Gemisches, umfassend das Vermischen von

(a) einer Emulsion eines Carboxylgruppen-haltigen Harzes,

(b) einem oberflächenaktiven Polycarbodiimid nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 7 und/oder

(c) einer Emulsion nach Anspruch 8.

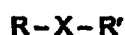
13. Verfahren zum Vernetzen eines Carboxylgruppen-haltigen Harzes oder eines neutralisierten, carboxylierten, wasserlöslichen organischen Harzes, umfassend :

(a) das Vermischen des Harzes mit einer Emulsion eines oberflächenaktiven Carbodiimids nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 7 und

(b) Verdampfenlassen bestimmter zugesetzter Materialien unter Bildung eines vernetzten Produktes.

Patentansprüche für die benannten Vertragsstaaten : AT, ES

1. Verfahren zur Herstellung eines oberflächenaktiven Polycarbodiimids der Formel



in der R ein Rest einer hydrophoben organischen Verbindung, enthaltend mindestens zwei Carbodiimidgruppen, ist ; R' ein Rest einer organischen Verbindung mit einem hydrophilen Segment und mindestens einer funktionellen Gruppe ist, die in der Lage ist, mit einer Carbodiimidgruppe zu reagieren und X eine Gruppe ist, die gebildet worden ist durch Reaktion einer solchen Carbodiimidgruppe mit einer solchen funktionellen Gruppe.

2. Verfahren nach Anspruch 1, wobei X ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Uretidinon, Diazetidinthion, N-Acylharnstoff, Guanidin, Isoharnstoff, Isothioharnstoff und Carbodiimid, umfassend die Umsetzung einer hydrophoben organischen Verbindung, enthaltend mindestens zwei Carbodiimidgruppen mit einer organischen Verbindung mit einem hydrophilen Segment und mindestens einer funktionellen Gruppe, die in der Lage ist, mit einer Carbodiimidgruppe zu reagieren in Gegenwart eines Katalysators.

3. Verfahren nach Anspruch 1, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß R' ein Rest eines oberflächenaktiven Mittels auf der Basis eines Hydroxylgruppen-haltigen Poly(alkylenoxids) ist, vorzugsweise mit einer endständigen Alkoxygruppe, wobei die Anzahl der wiederkehrenden Alkylenheiten (n) vorzugsweise 15 bis 120 beträgt, und insbesondere das oberflächenaktive Mittel auf der Basis von Poly(alkylenoxid) ein Methoxy-polyethylenglykol ist.

4. Verfahren nach Anspruch 1, wobei R ein Rest eines monodispersen, verzweigten Polycarbodiimids ist, das vorzugsweise die allgemeine Formel :

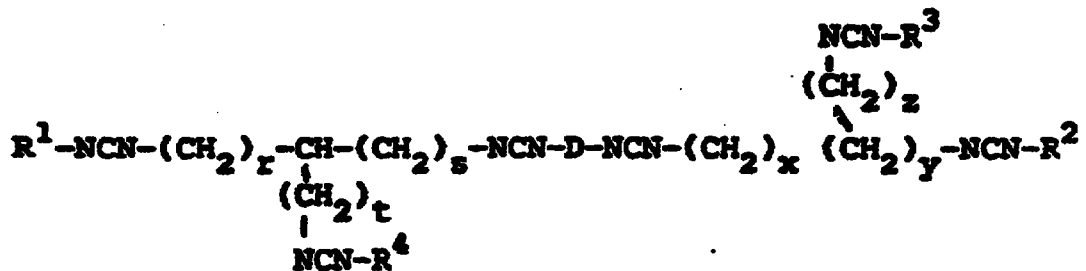


besitzt, in der M und Q gleich oder unten verschieden sein können und jeweils einen Rest einer Verbindung

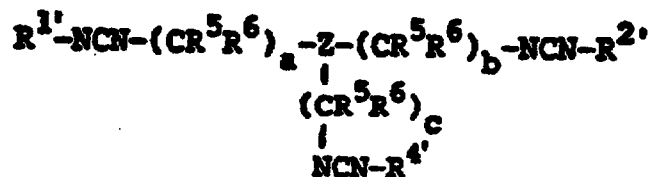


darstellen, die geeignet ist als Verzweigungsstelle zu dienen; R''' und R'''' gleich oder verschieden sein können und einen ein- oder zweiwertigen Alkyl- (einschließlich Cycloalkyl-) oder Arylrest bedeuten, der sein oder enthalten kann eine Cyano-, Nitro-, Halogen-, Alkylsulfid-, Dialkylaminoalkyl-, substituierte Silan-, Alkoxy- oder Aryloxygruppen sowie andere substituierte Arten einer der vorgenannten Gruppen; R'' den gleichen oder einen anderen zweiwertigen Alkyl- (einschließlich Cycloalkyl-) oder Arylrest bedeutet, der enthalten kann Cyano-, Nitro-, Halogen-, Alkylsulfid-, Dialkylamino-, substituierte Silan-, Alkoxy- und Aryloxygruppen und andere substituierte Arten einer der vorgenannten Gruppen; und wobei d 0 bis 12 ist, n 1 bis 6, m 3 bis 5, p 1 bis 6 und q 0 bis 4 bedeutet.

5. Verfahren nach Anspruch 4, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß das monodisperse, verzweigte Polycarbodilimid die folgende allgemeine Formel besitzt:



in der R^1 , R^2 , R^3 und R^4 gleich oder verschieden sein können und organische Reste bedeuten, die für den vorgesehenen Zweck das mehrwertige Carbodilimid nicht wesentlich stören, und D ein organisches Rest ist, und r, s, t, x und y 1 bis 6 sind, oder der allgemeinen Formel:



in der R^1 , R^2 und R^4 gleich oder verschieden sein können und Alkylgruppen mit 1 bis 12 Kohlenstoffatomen bedeuten, R^5 und R^6 gleich oder verschieden sein können und Wasserstoff oder Alkyl(einschließlich Cycloalkyl-), Aryl-, Alkaryl-, heterocyclische, Cyano-, Nitro-, Halogen-, Alkylsulfid-, Dialkyl-aminoalkyl-, Silan-, Alkoxy- und Aryloxygruppen und deren substituierte Arten bedeuten; Z der Rest einer Verbindung ist, die geeignet ist als Verzweigungsstelle, und wobei a, b und c 0 bis 12 sind.

6. Verfahren nach Anspruch 4, wobei das monodisperse, verzweigte Polycarbodilimid 1,3,6-Tri-(N-isopropyl-N'-methylen-carbodilimid)-hexan, 1,3,6-Tri-(N-cyclohexyl-N'-methylen-carbodilimid)-hexan oder 1,3,6-Tri-(N-n-butyl-N'-methylen-carbodilimid)-hexan ist.

7. Verfahren nach Anspruch 1, wobei R ein Rest eines polydispersen, linearen Polycarbodilimids ist, vorzugsweise ein Rest eines polyfunktionellen Polycarbodilimids (PCDI), das erhalten worden ist durch Reaktion von mono-, di- und tri-cycloaliphatischen oder gesättigten aliphatischen Isocyanaten, wobei die cycloaliphatischen Gruppen 5 bis 7 Kohlenstoffatomen enthalten, und der durch Alkyl mit 1 bis 6 Kohlenstoffatomen und Sauerstoff substituiert sein kann, und wobei die gesättigten aliphatischen Gruppen 1 bis 18 Kohlenstoffatome enthalten, und wobei die Mono- und Trisocyanate beliebig sind.

8. Emulsion, umfassend ein Gemisch in einem wäßrigen Medium aus:

- (a) einem hydrophoben Polycarbodilimid,
- (b) einem oberflächenaktiven Polycarbodilimid nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 7 und gegebenenfalls
- (c) einem zusätzlichen oberflächenaktiven Mittel.

9. Vernetzbares Mittel, umfassend ein Gemisch aus

- (a) einer Emulsion eines Carboxylgruppen-haltigen Harzes oder neutralisierten, carboxylierten, wasserlöslichen organischen Harzes und
- (b) einem oberflächenaktiven Polycarbodilimid, das hergestellt worden ist nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 7 und/oder

- (c) einer Emulsion nach Anspruch 8 und gegebenenfalls
- (d) einem zusätzlichen oberflächenaktiven Mittel.

10. Verfahren zur Herstellung einer Emulsion, umfassend das Vermischen im wäßrigen Medium von:



- (a) einem hydrophoben Carbodilimid und
 (b) dem oberflächenaktiven Carbodilimid nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 7, wobei das oberflächenaktive Carbodilimid vorzugsweise in situ in einer Matrix des hydrophoben Carbodilimids gebildet worden ist.
- 5 11. Verfahren zur Herstellung eines vernetzbaren Gemisches, umfassend das Vermischen von
 (a) einer Emulsion eines Carboxylgruppen-haltigen Harzes,
 (b) einem oberflächenaktiven Polycarbodilimid nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 7 und/oder
 (c) einer Emulsion nach Anspruch 8.
- 10 12. Verfahren zum Vernetzen eines Carboxylgruppen-haltigen Harzes oder eines neutralisierten, carboxylierten, wasserlöslichen organischen Harzes, umfassend :
 (a) das Vermischen des Harzes mit einer Emulsion eines oberflächenaktiven Carbodilimids nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 7 und
 (b) Verdampfenlassen bestimmter zugesetzter Materialien unter Bildung eines vernetzten Produktes.

Revendications

Revendications pour les Etats Contractants : BE, CH, DE, FR, GB, IT, LI, LU, NL, SE

- 20 1. Polycarbodilimide tensio-actif de formule



25 dans laquelle R est un résidu d'un composé organique hydrophobe contenant au moins deux groupes carbodilimide ; R' est un résidu d'un composé organique ayant un segment hydrophile et au moins un groupe fonctionnel capable de réagir avec un groupe carbodilimide, et X est groupe formé par la réaction d'un groupe carbodilimide indiqué avec un groupe fonctionnel indiqué.

2. Polycarbodilimide tensio-actif suivant la revendication 1, dans lequel X est choisi parmi les groupes urétidine, diazétidine-thione, N-acylurée, guanidine, iso-urée, iso-thio-urée et carbodilimide.

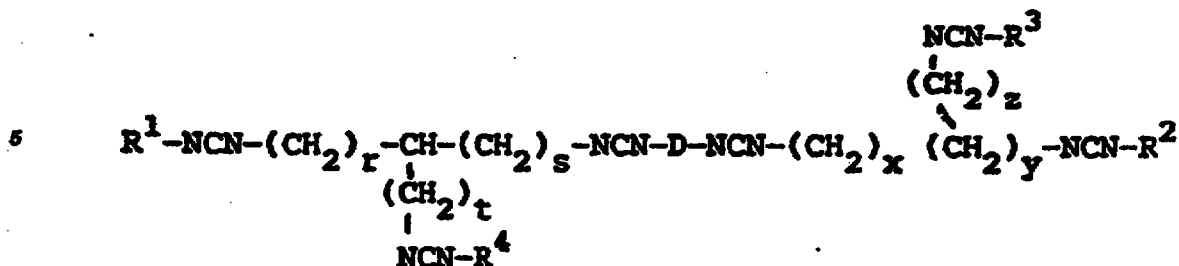
30 3. Polycarbodilimide tensio-actif suivant la revendication 1, dans lequel R' est un résidu d'un surfactant à base de poly(alkylène-oxyde) contenant un groupe hydroxyle, de préférence coiffé d'un groupe alkoxy, le nombre (n) de motifs répétés d'oxyde d'alkylène ayant de préférence une valeur de 15 à 120, et le surfactant à base de poly(alkylène-oxyde) étant notamment un méthoxypolyéthylèneglycol.

35 4. Polycarbodilimide tensio-actif suivant la revendication 1, dans lequel R est un résidu d'un polycarbodilimide ramifié monodispersé qui répond de préférence à la formule générale :

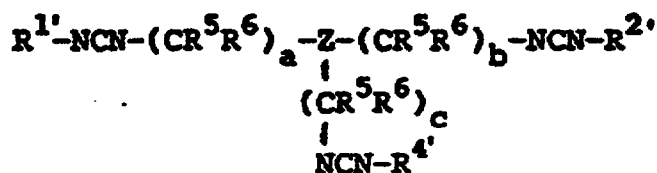


40 dans laquelle : M et Q peuvent être identiques ou différents et représentent chacun le résidu d'un composé apte à se comporter comme un site de ramification ; R'' et R''' peuvent être identiques ou différents et représentent un radical ou diradical alkyle (y compris cycloalkyle) ou aryle qui peut être ou peut contenir des groupements cyano, nitro, halogéno, alkylsulfure, dialkylaminoalkyle, silane substitué, alkoxy et aryloxy et d'autres formes substituées de l'un quelconque des groupements précédents ; R'' représente des diradicaux alkyle (y compris cycloalkyle) ou aryle identiques ou différents qui peuvent contenir des groupements cyano, nitro, halogéno, alkylsulfure, dialkylamino, silane substitué, alkoxy ou aryloxy et d'autres formes substituées de l'un quelconque des groupements précédents, et d a une valeur de 0 à 12, n a une valeur de 1 à 6, m a une valeur de 3 à 5, p a une valeur de 1 à 6 et q a une valeur de 0 à 4.

45 5. Polycarbodilimide tensio-actif suivant la revendication 4, dans lequel le polycarbodilimide ramifié monodispersé répond à la formule générale



dans laquelle : R¹, R², R³ et R⁴ peuvent être identiques ou différents et représentent des résidus organiques qui n'interfèrent pas notablement avec le carbodiimide multifonctionnel pour son but de destination ; et D est un résidu organique ; et r, s, t, x et y ont une valeur de 1 à 6, ou à la formule générale :



dans laquelle : R¹, R² et R⁴ peuvent être identiques ou différents et représentent des groupes alkyle ayant 1 à 12 atomes de carbone, R⁵ et R⁶ peuvent être identiques ou différents et représentent l'hydrogène, des groupes alkyle (y compris cycloalkyle), aryle, aralkyle, alkaryle, hétérocyclique, cyano, nitro, halogéno, alkylsulfure, dialkylaminoalkyle, silane, alkoxy et aryloxy et des formes substituées de l'un quelconque de ces groupes ; Z est le résidu d'un composé apte à fonctionner comme un site de ramification, et a, b, et c ont une valeur de 0 à 12.

6. Polycarbodiimide tensio-actif suivant la revendication 4, dans lequel le polycarbodiimide ramifié monodispersé est le 1,3,6-tri-(N-isopropyl-N'-méthylèncarbodiimide) hexane, le 1,3,6-tri-(N-cyclohexyl-N'-méthylèncarbodiimide) hexane ou le 1,3,6-tri-(N-n-butyl-N'-méthylèncarbodiimide) hexane.

7. Polycarbodiimide tensio-actif suivant la revendication 1, dans lequel R est un résidu d'un polycarbodiimide linéaire polydispersé, de préférence un résidu d'un polycarbodiimide (PCDI) polyfonctionnel obtenu par réaction d'isocyanates mono-, di- et tri-cycloaliphatiques ou aliphatiques saturés dans lesquels les groupements cycloaliphatiques contiennent 5 à 7 atomes de carbone et peuvent être substitués avec des radicaux alkyle ayant 1 à 6 atomes de carbone, et de l'oxygène, et les groupements aliphatiques saturés contiennent 1 à 18 atomes de carbone, les mono- et trisocyanates étant facultatifs.

8. Emulsion comprenant en mélange dans un milieu aqueux :

- (a) un polycarbodiimide hydrophobe et
- (b) un polycarbodiimide tensio-actif suivant l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 7 et, à titre facultatif,
- (c) un surfactant additionnel.

9. Composition réticulable, comprenant en mélange

- (a) une émulsion d'une résine contenant des groupes carboxyle ou d'une résine organique hydrosoluble carboxylée neutralisée, et
- (b) un polycarbodiimide tensio-actif selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 7 et/ou
- (c) une émulsion suivant la revendication 8 et à titre facultatif
- (d) un surfactant additionnel.

10. Procédé de préparation d'un polycarbodiimide tensio-actif, qui consiste à faire réagir, en présence d'un catalyseur, un composé organique hydrophobe contenant au moins deux groupes carbodiimide avec un composé organique portant un segment hydrophile et au moins un groupe fonctionnel capable de réagir avec un groupe carbodiimide.

11. Procédé de préparation d'une émulsion, qui consiste à mélanger, dans un milieu aqueux :

- (a) un carbodiimide hydrophobe et
- (b) le carbodiimide tensio-actif de l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 7, le carbodiimide tensio-actif étant de préférence formé in situ dans une matrice du carbodiimide hydrophobe.

12. Procédé de préparation d'une composition réticulable, qui consiste à mélanger :

- (a) une émulsion d'une résine contenant des groupes carboxyle,
- (b) un polycarbodiimide tensio-actif selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 7 et/ou



(c) une émulsion suivant la revendication 8.

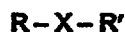
13. Procédé de réticulation d'une résine contenant des groupes carboxyle ou d'une résine organique hydrosoluble carboxylée neutralisée, qui consiste :

(a) à mélanger ladite résine avec une émulsion d'un carbodiimide tensio-actif suivant l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 7 et

(b) à permettre la volatilisation de certaines matières formulées, pour obtenir un produit réticulé.

Revendications pour les Etats Contractants : AT ES

1. Procédé de préparation d'un polycarbodiimide tensio-actif de formule



dans laquelle R est un résidu d'un composé organique hydrophobe contenant au moins deux groupes carbodiimide ; R' est un résidu d'un composé organique ayant un segment hydrophile et au moins un groupe fonctionnel capable de réagir avec un groupe carbodiimide, et X est groupe formé par la réaction d'un groupe carbodiimide indiqué avec un groupe fonctionnel indiqué.

2. Procédé suivant la revendication 1, dans lequel X est choisi parmi les groupes urétidinone, diazétidine-thione, N-acylurée, guanidine, iso-urée, isothio-urée, et carbodiimide, consistant à faire réagir en présence d'un catalyseur un composé organique hydrophobe contenant au moins deux groupes carbodiimide avec un composé organique portant un segment hydrophile et au moins un groupe fonctionnel capable de réagir avec un groupe carbodiimide.

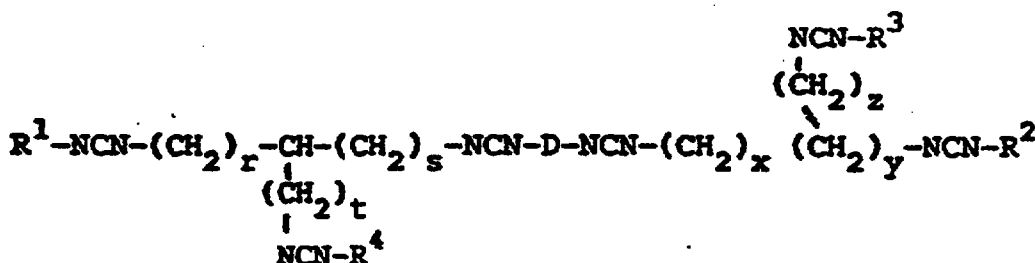
3. Procédé suivant la revendication 1, dans lequel R' est un résidu d'un surfactant à base de poly(alkylène-oxyde) contenant un groupe hydroxyle, de préférence coiffé d'un groupe alkoxy, le nombre (n) de motifs répétés d'oxyde d'alkylène ayant de préférence une valeur de 15 à 120, et le surfactant à base de poly(alkylène-oxyde) étant notamment un méthoxy polyéthylèneglycol.

4. Procédé suivant la revendication 1, dans lequel R est un résidu d'un polycarbodiimide ramifié monodispersé qui répond de préférence à la formule générale :

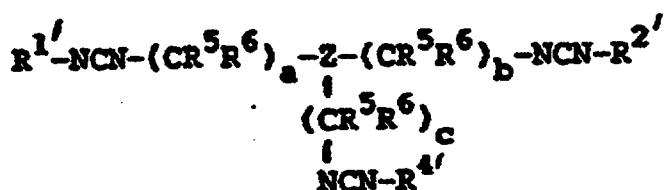


dans laquelle : M et Q peuvent être identiques ou différents et représentent chacun le résidu d'un composé apte à se comporter comme un site de ramification ; R'' et R''' peuvent être identiques ou différents et représentent un radical ou diradical alkyle (y compris cycloalkyle) ou aryle qui peut être ou peut contenir des groupements cyano, nitro, halogéno, alkylsulfure, dialkylaminoalkyle, silane substitué, alkoxy et aryloxy et d'autres formes substituées de l'un quelconque des groupements précédents, R'' représente des diradicaux alkyle (y compris cycloalkyle) ou aryle identiques ou différents qui peuvent contenir des groupements cyano, nitro, halogéno, alkylsulfure, dialkylamino, silane substitué, alkoxy ou aryloxy et d'autres formes substituées de l'un quelconque des groupements précédents, et d a une valeur de 0 à 12, n a une valeur de 1 à 6, m a une valeur de 3 à 5, p a une valeur de 1 à 6 et q a une valeur de 0 à 4.

5. Procédé suivant la revendication 4, dans lequel le polycarbodiimide ramifié monodispersé répond à la formule générale



dans laquelle : R¹, R², R³ et R⁴ peuvent être identiques ou différents et représentent des résidus organiques qui n'interfèrent pas notablement avec le carbodiimide multifonctionnel pour son but de destination, et D est un résidu organique ; et r, s, t, x et y ont une valeur de 1 à 6, ou à la formule générale :



10 dans laquelle : R^{1'}, R^{2'} et R^{4'} peuvent être identiques ou différents et représentent des groupes alkyle ayant 1 à 12 atomes de carbone, R⁵ et R⁶ peuvent être identiques ou différents et représentent l'hydrogène, des groupes alkyle (y compris cycloalkyle), aryle, aralkyle, alkaryle, hétérocyclique, cyano, nitro, halogéno, alkylsulfure, dialkylaminoalkyle, silane, alkoxy et aryloxy et des formes substituées de l'un quelconque de ces groupes ; Z est le résidu d'un composé apte à fonctionner comme un site de ramification ; et a, b, et c ont une valeur de 0 à 12.

15 6. Procédé suivant la revendication 4, dans lequel le polycarbodilimide ramifié monodispersé est le 1,3,6-tri-(N-isopropyl-N'-méthylèncarbodilimide) hexane, le 1,3,6-tri-(N-cyclohexyl-N'-méthylèncarbodilimide) hexane ou le 1,3,6-tri-(N-n-butyl-N'-méthylèncarbodilimide) hexane.

20 7. Procédé suivant la revendication 1, dans lequel R est un résidu d'un polycarbodilimide linéaire polydispersé, de préférence un résidu d'un polycarbodilimide (PCDI) polyfonctionnel obtenu par réaction d'isocyanates mono-, di- et tri-cycloaliphatiques ou aliphatiques saturés dans lesquels les groupements cycloaliphatiques contiennent 5 à 7 atomes de carbone et peuvent être substitués avec des radicaux alkyle ayant 1 à 6 atomes de carbone, et de l'oxygène, et les groupements aliphatiques saturés contiennent 1 à 18 atomes de carbone, les mono- et trisocyanates étant facultatifs.

25 8. Emulsion comprenant en mélange dans un milieu aqueux :

- (a) un polycarbodilimide hydrophobe et
- (b) un polycarbodilimide tensio-actif suivant l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 7 et, à titre facultatif,
- (c) un surfactant additionnel.

30 9. Composition réticulable, comprenant en mélange

- (a) une émulsion d'une résine contenant des groupes carboxyle ou d'une résine organique hydrosoluble carboxylée neutralisée et
- (b) un polycarbodilimide tensio-actif selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 7 et/ou
- (c) une émulsion suivant la revendication 8 et à titre facultatif
- (d) un surfactant additionnel.

35 10. Procédé de préparation d'une émulsion, qui consiste à mélanger, dans un milieu aqueux :

- (a) un carbodilimide hydrophobe et
- (b) le carbodilimide tensio-actif de l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 7, le carbodilimide tensio-actif étant de préférence formé in situ dans une matrice du carbodilimide hydrophobe.

40 11. Procédé de préparation d'une composition réticulable, qui consiste à mélanger :

- (a) une émulsion d'une résine contenant des groupes carboxyle,
- (b) un polycarbodilimide tensio-actif selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 7 et/ou
- (c) une émulsion selon la revendication 8.

45 12. Procédé de réticulation d'une résine contenant des groupes carboxyle ou d'une résine organique hydrosoluble carboxylée neutralisée, consistant

- (a) à mélanger ladite résine avec une émulsion d'un carbodilimide tensio-actif selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 7 et
- (g) à laisser se volatiliser certaines matières formulées, pour obtenir un produit réticulé.

REACTION MECHANISM

FIG. 1

