

## USE OF COMPOSITIONS CONTAINING SILICON FOR IMPROVING THE CORROSION RESISTANCE OF VESSELS

The present patent application claims the benefit of the United States Provisional Patent Application USP 60/976845 filed on 02 October 2007, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference.

5 The present invention relates to the use of a composition containing silicon (Si) and oxygen in equipments. More specifically, the composition is used in an equipment intended to be in contact with a mixture containing a chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water.

Chlorohydrins are reaction intermediates in the manufacture of epoxides. Dichloropropanol, for example, is a reaction intermediate in the manufacture of epichlorohydrin and epoxy resins (Kirk-Othmer Encyclopedia of Chemical  
10 Technology, Fourth Edition, 1992, Vol. 2, page 156, John Wiley & sons Inc.).

According to known processes, dichloropropanol can be obtained in particular by hypochlorination of allyl chloride, by chlorination of allyl alcohol or by hydrochlorination of glycerol. The latter process exhibits the advantage  
15 that the dichloropropanol can be obtained starting from fossil raw materials or renewable raw materials and it is known that petrochemical natural resources, from which fossil materials originate, for example oil, natural gas or coal, available on the earth are limited. The latter process generates mixtures of chlorohydrin, water and hydrogen chloride.

20 International applications WO 2005/054167 and WO 2006/100317 of SOLVAY SA and WO 2006/020234 describe a process for manufacturing dichloropropanol by reaction between glycerol and hydrogen chloride. Several corrosion resistant materials are mentioned for the fabrication of equipment used in the process. However, some of those materials have a resistance to corrosion  
25 by the reaction mixture at the process conditions which is not optimal. This would result in a risk of contamination of the process product by equipment materials components and request therefore replacement of the equipment susceptible of negatively affect the economy of the process.

The invention aims to solve this problem.

30 In a first embodiment, the invention therefore relates to the use of a composition comprising silicon, oxygen and calcium, wherein silicon is present in an amount higher than or equal to 235 g of Si per kg of composition and

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calcium is present in an amount lower than or equal to 25 g of Ca per kg of composition, as a material for coating an equipment or as a constituent material of equipment, intended to be in contact with a mixture containing a chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water.

5           In a second embodiment, the invention therefore relates to the use of a composition comprising silicon, oxygen and potassium, wherein, silicon is present in an amount higher than or equal to 235 g of Si per kg of composition and potassium is present in an amount higher than or equal to 4 g of K per kg of composition, as a material for coating an equipment or as a constituent material  
10 of equipment, intended to be in contact with a mixture containing a chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water.

          In a third embodiment, the invention therefore relates to the use of a composition comprising silicon, oxygen and titanium, wherein silicon is present in an amount higher than or equal to 235 g of Si per kg of composition and  
15 titanium is present in an amount lower than or equal to 10 g of Ti per kg of composition, as a material for coating an equipment or as a constituent material of equipment, intended to be in contact with a mixture containing a chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water.

          In the use according to the invention, the composition may be an organic  
20 composition or an inorganic composition. The composition is preferably an inorganic composition.

          In the use according to the invention, the composition may be in any physical state. It is preferably in a glassy state. By glassy state one intends to denote a rigid uncrystallized state. Some enamels are examples of inorganic  
25 compositions in the glassy state. By enamel, one intends to denote a fused vitreous superficial coating containing mainly silicon oxide.

          In the use according to the invention, the composition is preferably an enamel.

          One of the essential characteristics of the first embodiment of the invention  
30 resides in the low content of calcium in the composition which renders it less prone to corrosion by the mixture containing a chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water.

          One of the essential characteristics of the second embodiment of the invention resides in the high content of potassium in the composition which  
35 renders it less prone to corrosion by the mixture containing a chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water.

One of the essential characteristics of the third embodiment of the invention resides in the low content of titanium in the composition which renders it less prone to corrosion by the mixture containing a chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water.

5 It has indeed surprisingly been found that the above compositions are very resistant to the corrosion by mixtures containing a chlorohydrin, water and hydrogen chloride, which corrosiveness has surprisingly been found higher than that of mixture containing only water and hydrogen chloride.

The advantages of the use according to the invention are among others :

- 10
- A decrease of the frequency of replacement of equipment
  - A lowering of the risks linked to equipment breakage and leak
  - A lessening of the contamination of process products by the equipment material components.

15 In the three embodiments of the use according to the invention, the silicon content of the composition, per kg of composition, is frequently higher than or equal to 275 g of Si, often higher than or equal to 300 g of Si and in many cases higher than or equal to 320 g of Si. That silicon content is generally lower than or equal to 400 g of Si, frequently lower than or equal to 350 g of Si and often lower than or equal to 335 g of Si.

20 In the first embodiment of the use according to the invention, the calcium content of the composition, per kg of composition, is frequently lower than or equal to 20 g of Ca and often lower than or equal to 15 g of Ca. That content is frequently higher than or equal to 0.1g of Ca, often higher than or equal to 1 g of Ca, in many cases higher than or equal to 5 g of Ca and in particular higher  
25 than or equal to 10 g of Ca.

In a first variant of the first embodiment of the use according to the invention, the composition may in addition comprise potassium. The potassium content of the composition, per kg of composition, is generally higher than or equal to 0.1 g of K, often higher than or equal to 1 g of K, in many cases higher  
30 than or equal to 4 g of K and frequently higher than or equal to 10 g of K. That potassium content is usually lower than or equal to 60 g of K, often lower than or equal to 50 g of K, in many cases lower than or equal to 30 g of K and frequently lower than or equal to 25 g of K.

35 In a second variant of the first embodiment of the use according to the invention, the composition may in addition comprise titanium. The titanium content of the composition, per kg of composition, is generally higher than or

equal to 0.1 g of Ti, often higher than or equal to 1 g of Ti, in many cases higher than or equal to 4 g of Ti and frequently higher than or equal to 6 g of Ti. That titanium content is usually lower than or equal to 60 g of Ti, generally lower than or equal to 40 g of Ti, often lower than or equal to 20 g of Ti, in many cases  
5 lower than or equal to 10 g of Ti and frequently lower than or equal to 8 g of Ti.

In a third variant of the first embodiment of the use according to the invention, the composition often contains, per kg of composition, silicon in an amount higher than or equal to 300 g of Si, calcium in an amount lower than or equal to 25 g of Ca, and potassium in an amount higher than or equal to 4 g of K.  
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In a fourth variant of the first embodiment of the use according to the invention, the composition frequently contains, per kg of composition, silicon in an amount higher than or equal to 300 g of Si, calcium in an amount lower than or equal to 25 g of Ca and titanium in an amount lower than or equal to 10 g of Ti.  
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In a fifth variant of the first embodiment of the use according to the invention, the composition often contains, per kg of composition, silicon in an amount higher than or equal to 300 g of Si, calcium in an amount lower than or equal to 25 g of Ca, potassium in an amount higher than or equal to 4 g of K and titanium in an amount lower than or equal to 10 g of Ti.  
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In the second embodiment of the use according to the invention, the potassium content of the composition, per kg of composition, is often higher than or equal to 6 g of K, in many cases higher than or equal to 8 g of K and frequently higher than or equal to 12 g of K. That potassium content is usually lower than or equal to 60 g of K, often lower than or equal to 50 g of K, in many cases lower than or equal to 30 g of K and frequently lower than or equal to 25 g of K.  
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In a first variant of the second embodiment of the use according to the invention, the composition may in addition comprise calcium. The calcium content of the composition, per kg of composition, is usually lower than or equal to 50 g of Ca, often lower than or equal to 25 g of Ca and in many cases lower than or equal to 15 g of Ca. That content is frequently higher than or equal to 0.1g of Ca, often higher than or equal to 1 g of Ca, in many cases higher than or equal to 5 g of Ca and in particular higher than or equal to 10 g of Ca.  
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In a second variant of the second embodiment of the use according to the invention, the composition may in addition comprise titanium. The titanium content of the composition, per kg of composition, is generally higher than or  
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equal to 0.1 g of Ti, often higher than or equal to 1 g of Ti, in many cases higher than or equal to 4 g of Ti and frequently higher than or equal to 6 g of Ti. That titanium content is usually lower than or equal to 60 g of Ti, generally lower than or equal to 40 g of Ti, often lower than or equal to 20 g of Ti, in many cases  
5 lower than or equal to 10 g of Ti and frequently lower than or equal to 8 g of Ti.

In a third variant of the second embodiment of the use according to the invention which is identical to the third variant of the first embodiment, the composition often contains, per kg of composition, silicon in an amount higher than or equal to 300 g of Si, potassium in an amount higher than or equal to 4 g  
10 of K and calcium in an amount lower than or equal to 25 g of Ca.

In a fourth variant of the second embodiment of the use according to the invention, the composition frequently contains, per kg of composition, silicon in an amount higher than or equal to 300 g of Si, potassium in an amount higher than or equal to 4 g of K and titanium in an amount lower than or equal to 10 g  
15 of Ti.

In a fifth variant of the second embodiment of the use according to the invention which is identical to the fifth variant of the first embodiment, the composition often contains, per kg of composition, silicon in an amount higher than or equal to 300 g of Si, potassium in an amount higher than or equal to 4 g  
20 of K, calcium in an amount lower than or equal to 25 g of Ca, and titanium in an amount lower than or equal to 10 g of Ti.

In the third embodiment of the use according to the invention, the titanium content of the composition, per kg of composition, is generally higher than or equal to 0.1 g of Ti, often higher than or equal to 1 g of Ti, in many cases higher than or equal to 4 g of Ti and frequently higher than or equal to 5 g of Ti. That  
25 titanium content is often lower than or equal to 8 g of Ti and in many cases lower than or equal to 6 g of Ti.

In a first variant of the third embodiment of the use according to the invention, the composition may in addition comprise potassium. The potassium content of the composition, per kg of composition, is generally higher than or  
30 equal to 0.1 g of K, often higher than or equal to 1 g of K, in many cases higher than or equal to 4 g of K and frequently higher than or equal to 10 g of K. That potassium content is usually lower than or equal to 60 g of K, often lower than or equal to 50 g of K, in many cases lower than or equal to 30 g of K and frequently  
35 lower than or equal to 25 g of K.

In a second variant of the third embodiment of the use according to the invention, the composition may in addition comprise calcium. The calcium content of the composition, per kg of composition, is usually lower than or equal to 50 g of Ca, often lower than or equal to 25 g of Ca and in many cases lower than or equal to 15 g of Ca. That content is frequently higher than or equal to 0.1g of Ca, often lower than or equal to 1 g of Ca, in many cases higher than or equal to 5 g of Ca and in particular higher than or equal to 10 g of Ca.

In a third variant of the third embodiment of the use according to the invention which is identical to the fourth variant of the second embodiment, the composition often contains, per kg of composition, silicon in an amount higher than or equal to 300 g of Si, titanium in an amount lower than or equal to 10 g of Ti and potassium in an amount higher than or equal to 4 g of K.

In a fourth variant of the third embodiment of the use according to the invention which is identical to the fourth variant of the first embodiment, the composition frequently contains, per kg of composition, silicon in an amount higher than or equal to 300 g of Si, titanium in an amount lower than or equal to 10 g of Ti and calcium in an amount lower than or equal to 25 g of Ca.

In a fifth variant of the third embodiment of the use according to the invention which is identical to the fifth variant of the first embodiment, the composition often contains, per kg of composition, silicon in an amount higher than or equal to 300 g of Si, titanium in an amount lower than or equal to 10 g of Ti, potassium in an amount higher than or equal to 4 g of K and calcium in an amount lower than or equal to 25 g of Ca.

In the first three embodiments of the use according to the invention, the composition may in addition comprise at least one of the elements selected from sodium, aluminium, magnesium, cobalt, zirconium, barium, iron, strontium and zinc.

The content of sodium, per kg of composition, is usually higher than or equal to 70 g of Na, often higher than or equal to 80 g of Na and frequently higher than or equal to 90 g of Na. That sodium content is generally lower than or equal to 150 g of Na, in many cases lower than or equal to 130 g of Na and frequently lower than or equal to 110 g of Na.

The content of aluminium, per kg of composition, is usually higher than or equal to 0.1 g of Al, often higher than or equal to 1 g of Al and frequently higher than or equal to 5 g of Al. That aluminium content is generally lower than or

equal to 15 g of Al, in many cases lower than or equal to 10 g of Al and frequently lower than or equal to 8 g of Al.

The content of magnesium, per kg of composition, is usually higher than or equal to 0.1 g of Mg, often higher than or equal to 1 g of Mg and frequently  
5 higher than or equal to 5 g of Mg. That magnesium content is generally lower than or equal to 10 g of Mg, in many cases lower than or equal to 8 g of Mg and frequently lower than or equal to 6 g of Mg.

The content of cobalt, per kg of composition, is usually higher than or equal to 0.1 g of Co, often higher than or equal to 1 g of Co and frequently  
10 higher than or equal to 5 g of Co. That cobalt content is generally lower than or equal to 10 g of Co and in many cases lower than or equal to 8 g of Co.

The content of zirconium, per kg of composition, is usually higher than or equal to 25 g of Zr, often higher than or equal to 35 g of Zr and frequently higher than or equal to 50 g of Zr. That zirconium content is generally lower than or  
15 equal to 70 g of Zr and in many cases lower than or equal to 60 g of Zr.

The content of barium, per kg of composition, is usually higher than or equal to 0.1 g of Ba, often higher than or equal to 1 g of Ba and frequently higher than or equal to 5 g of Ba. That barium content is generally lower than or equal to 30 g of Ba, in many cases lower than or equal to 20 g of Ba and frequently  
20 lower than or equal to 10 g of Ba.

The content of iron per kg of composition, is usually higher than or equal to 0.1 g of Fe, often higher than or equal to 1 g of Fe and frequently higher than or equal to 5 g of Fe. That iron content is generally lower than or equal to 10 g of Fe and in many cases lower than or equal to 8 g of Fe.

25 The content of strontium, per kg of composition, is usually higher than or equal to 0.1 g of Sr, often higher than or equal to 1 g of Sr and frequently higher than or equal to 5 g of Sr. That strontium content is generally lower than or equal to 15 g of Sr, in many cases lower than or equal to 10 g of Sr and frequently lower than or equal to 8 g of Sr.

30 The content of zinc, per kg of composition, is usually higher than or equal to 0.1 g of Zn, often higher than or equal to 1 g of Zn and frequently higher than or equal to 5 g of Zn. That zinc content is generally lower than or equal to 15 g of Zn, in many cases lower than or equal to 10 g of Zn and frequently lower than or equal to 8 g of Zn.

35 In the first three embodiments of the use according to the invention, the composition may in addition comprise at least one of the elements selected from

chromium, copper, manganese, nickel, phosphorus and vanadium, in traces concentration, i.e., lower than or equal to 0.1 g of element.

In the first three embodiments of the use according to the invention, the ratio between potassium and calcium expressed in equivalent of electrical charges, i.e. number of moles of K divided by 2 times the number of moles of Ca, is usually higher than or equal to 0.05, often higher than or equal to 0.1, frequently higher than or equal to 0.2, in many case higher than or equal to 0.4 and in particular higher than or equal to 0.6. That ratio is generally lower than or equal to 2, frequently lower than or equal to 1 and often lower than or equal to 0.8.

In the first three embodiments of the use according to the invention, the ratio between the alkaline metals and the alkaline-earth metals expressed in equivalent of electrical charges, i.e. the sum of the number of moles of alkali metals divided by 2 times the sum of the number of moles of the alkaline-earth metals, is usually higher than or equal to 2.8, often higher than or equal to 3.0, frequently higher than or equal to 3.2 and in many case higher than or equal to 3.4. That ratio is generally lower than or equal to 4, frequently lower than or equal to 3.8 and often lower than or equal to 3.7.

In the composition used in the invention, those elements are generally present in combination with the oxygen present in the composition, preferably in the form of oxides. These oxides may be hydrated to a greater or lesser extent. The oxides can be single oxides or mixed oxides. Single oxides are for example, alkaline metal oxides such as  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{Na}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{K}_2\text{O}$ , alkaline-earth metal oxides, like  $\text{MgO}$ ,  $\text{CaO}$ ,  $\text{SrO}$ ,  $\text{BaO}$ , oxides of Family IIIa of the Periodic Table of the Elements like  $\text{B}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ , oxides of Families IVa and Va of the Periodic Table of the Elements like  $\text{PbO}$  and  $\text{Sb}_2\text{O}_3$ , and oxides from Families IIb to VIIb and VIII of the Periodic Table of the Elements like  $\text{ZnO}$ ,  $\text{CoO}$ ,  $\text{ZrO}_2$ ,  $\text{TiO}_2$  and  $\text{CeO}_2$ . An example of a mixed oxide is  $\text{KNa}_2\text{O}$ . These elements may also be present as fluorides like for instance  $\text{SiF}_4$ ,  $\text{Na}_2\text{F}_2$  and  $\text{CaF}_2$ .

In the composition used in the invention, those elements are preferably present in combination with the oxygen, preferably in the form of oxides.

One particularly preferred composition in the use according to the invention comprises oxygen and per kg of composition, 100 g of Na, 315 g of Si, 8.1 g of K, 13 g of Ca, 7.6 g of Co, 63 g of Zr and 22 g of Ba. The composition contains, in addition, aluminium, magnesium, titanium, iron, strontium and zinc, each in an amount less than 5 g/kg of composition. That composition has been

obtained by analysis of the outer layer of an enamelled steel bar sample provided by the firm DE DIETRICH.

Another particularly preferred composition in the use according to the invention comprises oxygen and per kg of composition, 78 g of Na, 9.6 g of Al, 330 g of Si, 19 g of K, 14 g of Ca, 6.2 g of Co, 34 g of Zr, 6.3 g of Ba, 5.4 g of Fe, 12 g of Sr and 11 g of Zn. The composition contains, in addition, magnesium and titanium, each in an amount less than 5 g/kg of composition. That composition has been obtained by analysis of the outer layer of an enamelled steel bar sample provided by the firm PFAUDLER.

Another particularly preferred composition in the use according to the invention comprises oxygen and per kg of composition, 82 g of Na, 12 g of Al, 340 g of Si, 14 g of K, 15 g of Ca, 5.4 g of Ti, 7.8 g of Co, 22 g of Zr and 4.3 g of Sr. The composition contains, in addition, barium, iron and zinc, each in an amount less than 5 g/kg. That composition has been obtained by analysis of the outer layer of an enamelled steel bar sample provided by the firm THALE.

The values of the contents of the elements in the compositions are given with a relative error of  $\pm 5\%$ .

It has been found that such compositions have an excellent resistance to corrosion by the mixture containing a chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water. In particular, when used as a coating material, they make it possible to greatly reduce the cost of equipment resistant to corrosion by the aforementioned mixture.

The use of the composition according to the invention as a component of a material for coating equipment or as a constituent material of equipment, depends on the numerous factors linked to the usage conditions of the equipment (temperature and pressure), to the nature of the chlorohydrin (monochlorohydrin, dichlorohydrin, chemical nature), to the presence of another compound such as a carboxylic acid for example, to the hydrogen chloride, to the composition of the mixture containing the chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water, to the nature and to the implementation method of the equipment and to the features of the equipment to be protected.

The factors linked to the hydrogen chloride are, for example, its chemical purity and its physical state (dissolved, dispersed, gaseous).

The factors linked to the equipment are, for example, the shape, size, complexity, access to the surfaces, easiness to control the surface characteristics (like the temperature) of the equipment to be protected.

In the use of the composition according to the invention, the contact with the mixture containing a chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water, is generally carried out at a temperature greater than or equal to 60°C, preferably greater than or equal to 90°C, more preferably greater than or equal to 110°C and most particularly preferably greater than or equal to 125°C. This temperature is generally less than or equal to 200°C, preferably less than or equal to 180°C, more preferably less than or equal to 160°C and most particularly preferably less than or equal to 145°C.

In the use of the composition according to the invention, the contact with the mixture containing a chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water, is generally carried out at a pressure greater than or equal to 0.04 bar absolute, preferably greater than or equal to 0.2 bar absolute, more preferably greater than or equal to 0.5 bar absolute and most particularly preferably greater than or equal to 1.1 bar absolute. This pressure is generally less than or equal to 20 bar absolute, preferably less than or equal to 15 bar absolute, more preferably less than or equal to 5 bar absolute and most particularly preferably less than or equal to 1.3 bar absolute.

The chlorohydrin may be present as is, that is to say not combined chemically, and/or in the form of esters with a carboxylic acid optionally present in the mixture of hydrogen chloride, water and chlorohydrin.

The content of chlorohydrin (as is and/or in the form of esters) of the mixture in the use according to the invention, expressed in moles of chlorohydrin per kg of mixture, is generally greater than or equal to 0.1, often greater than or equal to 0.5, frequently greater than or equal to 1.0 more, frequently greater than or equal to 2.0 and more specifically greater than or equal to 3.5. This chlorohydrin content is generally less than or equal to 8 mol/kg, often less than or equal to 7 mol/kg, frequently less than or equal to 5 mol/kg and more specifically less than or equal to 4.0 mol/kg.

The chlorohydrin is preferably chosen from dichloropropanol, monochloropropanediol, and mixtures thereof.

In this case, the content of chlorohydrin (as is and/or in the form of esters) of the mixture in the use according to the invention, expressed in g of chlorohydrin per kg of mixture, is generally greater than or equal to 50, often greater than or equal to 100, frequently greater than or equal to 200 and more specifically greater than or equal to 500. This chlorohydrin content is generally less than or equal to 994 g/kg, often less than or equal to 950 g/kg, frequently

less than or equal to 900 g/kg and more specifically less than or equal to 800 g/kg.

The hydrogen chloride content of the mixture in the use according to the invention is generally greater than or equal to 1 g per kg of mixture, often greater than or equal to 2 g/kg, frequently greater than or equal to 5 g/kg and more specifically greater than or equal to 7 g/kg. This hydrogen chloride content is commonly less than or equal to 750 g/kg, in many cases less than or equal to 600 g/kg, usually less than or equal to 400 g/kg, generally less than or equal to 250 g/kg, often less than or equal to 200 g/kg, frequently less than or equal to 100 g/kg, in particular less than or equal to 50 g/kg and more specifically less than or equal to 20 g/kg.

The water content of the mixture in the use according to the invention is generally greater than or equal to 5 g per kg of mixture, often greater than or equal to 10 g/kg, frequently greater than or equal to 20 g/kg and more specifically greater than or equal to 50 g/kg. This water content is generally less than or equal to 900 g/kg, usually less than or equal to 800 g/kg, commonly less than or equal to 600 g/kg, in many cases less than or equal to 400 g/kg, often less than or equal to 200 g/kg, frequently less than or equal to 150 g/kg and more specifically less than or equal to 100 g/kg.

Other compounds may be present in the mixture in the use according to the invention. These compounds may, for example, come from the manufacture of the chlorohydrin and/or hydrogen chloride and/or originate from water.

The mixture containing the chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water may be obtained in any way, for example by reacting a polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon, an ester of a polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon or a mixture of the two, with a chlorinating agent that contains hydrogen chloride, or during the hypochlorination reaction of a chloroolefin, or by chlorination of a hydroxylated olefin. The process for obtaining the mixture containing the chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water, may be carried out in any mode, like for instance, the continuous mode, the batch mode and the fed-batch mode.

The term "olefin" is used here to describe a compound containing at least one carbon-carbon double bond. In general the compound may contain atoms other than carbon atoms, such as hydrogen atoms and halogens. The preferred olefins are ethylene, propylene, allyl chloride and mixtures of at least two thereof.

The term "polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon" refers to a hydrocarbon which contains at least two hydroxyl groups attached to two different saturated carbon atoms. The polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon may contain, but is not limited to, from 2 to 60 carbon atoms.

5 Each of the carbons of a polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon carrying the hydroxyl (OH) functional group may not possess more than one OH group and must be of sp<sup>3</sup> hybridization. The carbon atom carrying the OH group may be primary, secondary or tertiary. The polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon used in the present invention must contain at least two sp<sup>3</sup>-hybridized carbon  
10 atoms carrying an OH group. The polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon includes any hydrocarbon containing a vicinal diol (1,2-diol) or a vicinal triol (1,2,3-triol), including higher orders of these repeating units, which are vicinal or contiguous. The definition of the polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon also includes, for example, one or more 1,3-, 1,4-, 1,5- and 1,6-diol  
15 functional groups. The polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon may also be a polymer such as polyvinyl alcohol. Geminal diols, for example, are excluded from this class of polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbons.

The polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbons may contain aromatic moieties or heteroatoms including, for example, heteroatoms of halogen, sulphur,  
20 phosphorus, nitrogen, oxygen, silicon and boron type, and mixtures thereof.

Polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbons which can be used in the present invention include, for example, 1,2-ethanediol (ethylene glycol), 1,2-propanediol (propylene glycol), 1,3-propanediol, 1-chloro-2,3-propanediol (chloropropanediol), 2-chloro-1,3-propanediol (chloropropanediol),  
25 1,4-butanediol, 1,5-pentanediol, cyclohexanediols, 1,2-butanediol, 1,2-cyclohexanedimethanol, 1,2,3-propanetriol (also known as glycerol or glycerin), and mixtures thereof. With preference the polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon used in the present invention includes, for example, 1,2-ethanediol, 1,2-propanediol, 1,3-propanediol, chloropropanediol and 1,2,3-propanetriol, and  
30 mixtures of at least two thereof. More preferably the polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon used in the present invention includes, for example, 1,2-ethanediol, 1,2-propanediol, chloropropanediol and 1,2,3-propanetriol and mixtures of at least two thereof. 1,2,3-Propanetriol, or glycerol, is the most preferred.

The esters of polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon may be present in  
35 the polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon and/or may be produced in the process of preparing the chlorohydrin and/or may be prepared prior to the

process of preparing the chlorohydrin. Examples of esters of polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon include ethylene glycol monoacetate, propanediol monoacetates, glycerol monoacetates, glycerol monostearates, glycerol diacetates and mixtures thereof.

5 In the process according to the invention, the esters of the polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon may originate from the reaction of the polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon with an organic acid, before, during or within the steps which follow the reaction with the chlorinating agent.

The term "chlorohydrin" is used here to describe a compound containing at  
10 least one hydroxyl group and at least one chlorine atom which are attached to different saturated carbon atoms. A chlorohydrin which contains at least two hydroxyl groups is also a polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon. Hence the starting material and the product of the reaction may each be chlorohydrins. In that case the "product" chlorohydrin is more chlorinated than the starting  
15 chlorohydrin ; in other words, it has more chlorine atoms and fewer hydroxyl groups than the starting chlorohydrin. Preferred chlorohydrins are chloroethanol, chloropropanol, chloropropanediol, dichloropropanol and mixtures of at least two thereof. Dichloropropanol is particularly preferred. Chlorohydrins which are more particularly preferred are 2-chloroethanol, 1-chloropropan-2-ol,  
20 2-chloropropan-1-ol, 1-chloropropane-2,3-diol, 2-chloropropane-1,3-diol, 1,3-dichloropropan-2-ol, 2,3-dichloropropan-1-ol and mixtures of at least two thereof.

The polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon is preferably glycerol. The chloroolefin is preferably allyl chloride. The hydroxylated olefin is preferably  
25 allyl alcohol. The chlorohydrin is preferably chosen from monochloropropanediol, dichloropropanol and mixtures thereof.

In the use according to the invention, the polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon may be obtained starting from fossil raw materials or starting from renewable raw materials, preferably starting from renewable raw materials, as  
30 described in WO 2005/054167 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, and especially the passages from page 1, line 26, to page 4, line 2, and as described in WO 2006/100312 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, and especially the passages from page 3, line 29, to page 5, line 24, and as described in PCT/EP/ of  
35 SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, and especially the passages at page 10, lines 16 to 23, and at page 11, lines 4 to 25.

In the use according to the invention, the polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon may have an alkali metal and/or alkaline earth metal content as described in WO 2006/100315 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, and especially the passages from page 7, line 11, to page 9, line 10.

In the use according to the invention, the polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon may contain elements other than alkali metals and alkaline earth metals as described in WO 2006/100319 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages from page 2, line 3 to 8, and from page 6, line 20, to page 9, line 14.

In the use according to the invention, the polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon contains generally an amount of heavy compounds other glycerol and whose boiling temperature under a pressure of 1 bar absolute is at least 15°C greater than the boiling temperature of dichloropropanol as described in WO 2006/100316 of SOLVAY SA the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages from page 15, line 32, to page 17, line 33.

In the use according to the invention, the polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon may contain alkylated ethers of the polyhydroxylated hydrocarbon such as described in WO 2007/144335 of SOLVAY SA the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages from page 1, line 23, to page 3, line 25.

In the use according to the invention, the polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon may contain diols, monoalcohols, ketones, aldehydes, alkyl esters of fatty acids, glycerol esters, carboxylic acids and salt such as described in PCT/EP2008/057876 of SOLVAY SA the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages from page 1, line 30, to page 3, line 21, and from page 4, line 3, to page 6, line 2.

In the use according to the invention, the polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon may contain nitrogen containing compounds as described in FR 07/59891 of SOLVAY SA the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages from page 1, line 28, to page 3, line 20.

In the use according to the invention, the polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon may contain glycerol oligomers as described in FR 08/52206 of SOLVAY SA the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages from page 1, line 19, to page 4, line 18.

In the application according to the invention, the mixture containing the chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water is preferably obtained during the reaction between a polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon, an ester of a polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon or a mixture of the two, with a chlorinating agent that contains hydrogen chloride.

In the reaction for obtaining the mixture containing chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water, the hydrogen chloride may be a gas, optionally anhydrous, or an aqueous solution of hydrogen chloride or a mixture thereof. The hydrogen chloride is often a gas or a mixture of a gas and an aqueous solution of hydrogen chloride. The hydrogen chloride may at least partially be obtained from processes such as described in WO 2005/054167 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages from page 4, line 32, to page 5, line 35, such as described in WO 2006/106153 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages from page 2, line 10, to page 3, line 20, and from page 11, line 1 to page 18, line 29, and such as described in WO 2007/144335 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages from page 12, line 14, to page 14, line 21.

In the reaction for obtaining the mixture containing chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water, the hydrogen chloride may be purified such as described in FR 08/56138 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages from page 2, line 33, to page 16, line 21.

The reaction for obtaining the mixture containing chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water may be carried out in a reaction medium such described in WO 2006/106154 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages from page 14, line 15, to page 17, line 10.

The reaction for obtaining the mixture containing chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water may be carried out in the presence of a catalyst such described in WO 2005/054167 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages from page 6, line 24, to page 8, line 15, and such described in WO 2006/020234, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages from page 12, line 20, to page 18, line 3, and in FR 07/59891, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passage at page 8, lines 18 to 21.

The reaction for obtaining the mixture containing chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water may be carried out for a catalyst concentration, at a

temperature, at a pressure and at a residence time such described in WO 2005/054167 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages from page 8, line 1, to page 10, line 10.

5 The reaction for obtaining the mixture containing chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water may be carried out such described in WO 2007/054505 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages from page 1, line 24 to page 6, line 18.

10 The reaction for obtaining the mixture containing chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water may be carried out in the presence of a solvent such described in WO 2005/054167 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages at page 11, line 12 to 36.

15 The reaction for obtaining the mixture containing chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water may be carried out in the presence of a liquid phase comprising heavy compounds other than glycerol such described in WO 2006/100316 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages at page 2, lines 18 to 25 and from page 15, line 32, to page 17, line 33.

20 The reaction for obtaining the mixture containing chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water may be carried out under stirring with a stirring system such described in PCT/EP2008/056688 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages from page 1, line 30, to page 2, line 33, and from page 6, line 22, to page 14, line 31.

25 The reaction for obtaining the mixture containing chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water may be carried out in a liquid reaction medium such described in WO 2006/106154 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages from page 1, line 29, to page 2, line 6, and from page 14, line 15, to page 17, line 10.

30 The reaction for obtaining the mixture containing chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water may be carried out in a reactor the feeding of which is described in PCT/EP2008/052711 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages from page 1, line 29, to page 4, line 27, and from page 5, line 34, to page 9, line 17.

35 In the process for obtaining the mixture containing chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water, a separation of the chlorohydrin from the other compounds of the reaction mixture may be carried out such described in WO 2005/054167 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference,

especially the passages from page 12, line 1, to page 17, line 20.

In the process for obtaining the mixture containing chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water, a separation of the chlorohydrin from the other compounds of the reaction mixture may be carried out such described in WO 2006/100312 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference,  
5 especially the passages at page 2, lines 3 to 10, at page 20, line 28 to page 28, line 20.

In the process for obtaining the mixture containing chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water, a separation of the chlorohydrin from the other compounds of the reaction mixture may be carried out according to methods such described  
10 in WO 2006/100313 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages at page 2, lines 1 to 23, and from page 21, line 7, to page 25, line 25.

In the process for obtaining the mixture containing chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water, a separation of the chlorohydrin from the other compounds of the reaction mixture may be carried out according to methods such described  
15 in WO 2006/100314 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages at page 2, lines 6 to page 3, line 4, and from page 18, line 33, to page 22, line 29.

In the process for obtaining the mixture containing chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water, a separation of the chlorohydrin from the other compounds of the reaction mixture may be carried out according to methods such described  
20 in WO 2006/100320 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages from page 1, line 30, to page 2, line 23 and from page 6, line 25, to page 10, line 28.

In the process for obtaining the mixture containing chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water, a separation of the chlorohydrin from the other compounds of the reaction mixture may be carried out according to methods such described  
25 in WO 2006/100315 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages at page 2, lines 3 to 29, and from page 23, line 3, to page 24, line 13.

In the process for obtaining the mixture containing chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water, a separation of the chlorohydrin from the other compounds of the reaction mixture may be carried out according to methods such described  
30 in PCT/EP2008/052972 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages from page 1, line 31, to page 27,

line 25.

In the process for obtaining the mixture containing chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water, when the chlorohydrin is dichloropropanol, the dichloropropanol is generally obtained as a mixture of 1,3-dichloropropan-2-ol  
5 and 2,3-dichloropropan-1-ol isomers such described in WO 2006/100319 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages from page 23, line 34, to page 24, line 29.

In the process for obtaining the mixture containing chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water, the chlorohydrin may contain halogenated ketones such  
10 described in WO 2006/100311 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages at page 2, lines 22 to 34, and from page 22, line 8, to page 23, line 35.

In the process for obtaining the mixture containing chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water, water which have been in contact with equipment walls may  
15 be treated such described in FR 08/56059 of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, especially the passages from page 1, line 7, to page 16, line 34.

When the mixture containing the chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water is obtained during the reaction between a polyhydroxylated aliphatic  
20 hydrocarbon, an ester of a polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon or a mixture of the two, with a chlorinating agent that contains hydrogen chloride, it is possible to find, among the compounds which may come from the chlorohydrin manufacturing process, polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbons, esters of a polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon, chlorohydrin esters, carboxylic acids,  
25 oligomers of the polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon that are partially chlorinated and/or esterified.

In the use according to the invention, the mixture containing the chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water, is preferably obtained by reaction  
30 glycerol, glycerol esters, or a mixture thereof, with a chlorinating agent that contains hydrogen chloride, in the presence of a carboxylic acid.

In this case, glycerol oligomers which may be partially chlorinated and/or esterified, are compounds that may be present in the mixture in the use  
according to the invention. The content of these glycerol oligomers per kg of the mixture containing the chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water, is usually  
35 higher than or equal to 1 g, commonly higher than or equal to 10 g, often higher than or equal to 30 g, often higher than or equal to 50 g and frequently higher

than or equal to 75 g. That content is usually lower than or equal to 400 g/kg, generally lower than or equal to 300 g/kg, often lower than or equal to 200 g/kg and frequently lower than or equal to 100 g/kg.

In this case, glycerol and glycerol esters are also compounds that may be present in the mixture in the use according to the invention. The content of glycerol (as is and/or in the form of esters), per kg of the mixture containing the chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water, is usually higher than or equal to 1 g, commonly higher than or equal to 5 g, often higher than or equal to 10 g, often higher than or equal to 15 g and frequently higher than or equal to 20 g. That content is usually lower than or equal to 700 g/kg, commonly lower than or equal to 500 g/kg, in many cases lower than or equal to 400 g/kg, generally lower than or equal to 300 g/kg, frequently lower than or equal to 150 g/kg, often lower than or equal to 100 g/kg, specifically lower than or equal to 60 g/kg and in particular lower than or equal to 30 g/kg of the mixture containing the chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water.

The mixture containing the chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water may be single phase or multiphase. This mixture may, for example, contain one or more liquid phases with optionally one or more solid phases in suspension and/or one or more dispersed gaseous phases.

The mixture containing the chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water may be gaseous.

The mixture containing the chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water may be liquid. The mixture containing the chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water is often liquid.

In a first aspect according to the invention, which is preferred, the composition is used as a material for coating an equipment. In this case, at least one part of the surface of the equipment is covered by the coating material. The surface of the equipment which is covered is preferably that which is intended to be in contact with the mixture containing the chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water. This surface may be an internal surface, an external surface or both. The entire surface may be covered with the material. In this aspect, the composition may be an enamel and is preferably an enamel. By enamel, one intends to denote a fused inorganic vitreous superficial coating containing mainly silicon oxide.

In one version of the first aspect, the material for coating the equipment comprises at least two superposed layers, an inner layer and an outer layer, and

the outer layer comprises the composition used in the application according to the invention. This outer layer is preferably constituted of said composition.

In this version, the outer layer has a thickness, measured by scanning electron microscopy, which is generally greater than or equal to 0.2 mm, often greater than or equal to 0.4 mm, frequently greater than or equal to 0.6 mm and more specifically greater than or equal to 0.8 mm. This thickness is generally less than or equal to 2.5 mm, often less than or equal to 2 mm, frequently less than or equal to 1.6 mm and more specifically less than or equal to 1.4 mm. A thickness of around  $1 \pm 0.1$  mm is particularly suitable. This layer may be obtained by a single deposition or by several successive depositions.

In this version, the coating preferably comprises an intermediate layer between the surface of the equipment and the outer layer of the coating. The purpose of this intermediate layer is to promote the adhesion of the outer layer to the surface of the equipment to be covered. This intermediate layer generally comprises the same elements as the outer layer but generally in different proportions.

In this version, the matter from which the equipment is formed may be of any type. This material generally contains a metal or a metal alloy. Steel is particularly preferred matter. Steel which are dedicated to be enamelled are convenient matter of equipment.

In a second aspect, the composition is used as a constituent material of the equipment, that is to say that the composition constitutes the material from which the equipment is made.

In the application according to the invention, the term "equipment" is understood to mean containers where compounds are stored, chemical reactions and/or physical operations (rings, support grids and distributor plates equipping distillation columns, reactor) are carried out, tubing, valves, stirring and counter agitators, dip pipes (or siphon pipes) and couplings that connect these containers, parts that ensure leak tightness at these couplings, instruments needed to transfer compounds between the containers, instruments and apparatus for measuring the various parameters needed to control storage (pocket temperature probe, for example), transfer of the compounds and to implementation of chemical reactions and physical operations.

The invention also relates to a process for manufacturing a chlorohydrin comprising several steps, in which a polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon, an ester of a polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon or a mixture of the two is

reacted with a chlorinating agent that contains hydrogen chloride, involving the use according to the invention.

In the chlorohydrin manufacturing process according to the invention, the steps are chosen from the steps of chemical reaction, storage, supply, removal, transfer, chemical treatment or physical treatment of compounds used or  
5 produced in the chlorohydrin manufacturing process.

Among the reaction steps, mention may be made of all the reactions that take place during the chlorohydrin manufacturing process such as, for example, during the formation of chlorohydrin, and during the various steps of the process.

10 Among the storage steps, mention may be made, for example, of storage of the chlorinating agent that contains the hydrogen chloride and storage of the polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon, before use, storage of the purges before treatment, storage of the chlorohydrin produced, storage of the catalyst and of its preparations. Among the chemical treatment steps, mention may be made, for  
15 example, of a hydrolysis treatment intended to recover the catalyst and a treatment for dissolving the catalyst. Among the physical treatment steps, mention may be made, for example, of operations for separation via stripping, distillation, evaporation, extraction, settling, and filtration, heat exchange, heating and cooling operations.

20 Among the supply, removal or transfer steps, mention may be made, for example, of operations of recycling, purging and discharging effluents, transport of fluids between the various pieces of equipment in which the chemical reactions, storage and chemical and physical treatments take place.

The chlorohydrin obtained in the process according to the invention may  
25 be subjected to a dehydrochlorination reaction to produce an epoxide.

The term "epoxide" is used here to describe a compound containing at least one oxygen bridged on a carbon-carbon bond. In general the carbon atoms of the carbon-carbon bond are adjacent and the compound may contain atoms other than carbon and oxygen atoms, such as hydrogen atoms and halogens. The  
30 preferred epoxides are ethylene oxide, propylene oxide, glycidol and epichlorohydrin.

The epoxide is preferably epichlorohydrin and the chlorohydrin is preferably dichloropropanol.

Therefore, the invention also relates to a process for manufacturing an  
35 epoxide comprising the process for manufacturing a chlorohydrin according to the invention, followed by a process for dehydrochlorinating the chlorohydrin.

The process for dehydrochlorinating the chlorohydrin may be such as described in WO 2005/054167 in the name of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is hereby incorporated by reference, more specifically the passage from page 19, line 12 to page 22, line 30, in WO 2006/100311 in the name of  
5 SOLVAY SA, the content of which is hereby incorporated by reference, more specifically the passages at page 2, lines 22 to 25, and from page 22, line 28 to page 23, line 35, in WO 2008/101866 in the name of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is hereby incorporated by reference, more specifically the passage from page 2, line 1 to page 13, line 16, in PCT/EP2008/057247 in the name of  
10 SOLVAY SA, the content of which is hereby incorporated by reference, more specifically the passages from page 9, line 22 to page 13, line 31, in PCT/EP2008/057245 in the name of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is hereby incorporated by reference, more specifically the passages from page 6, line 16 to page 7, line 22 and in PCT/EP2008/059862 in the name of  
15 SOLVAY SA, the content of which is hereby incorporated by reference, more specifically the passages from page 1, line 17 to page 10, line 21.

The process for manufacturing the epoxide may be integrated in a global scheme for preparing a chlorohydrin such as described in WO 2006/106155 in the name of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is hereby incorporated by  
20 reference, more specifically the passages at page 2, lines 26 to 31, and from page 22, line 10 to page 23, line 19.

The process for dehydrochlorinating the chlorohydrin may also be carried out such as described in WO 2006/100318 in the name of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is hereby incorporated by reference, more specifically the  
25 passages at page 2, lines 23 to page 3, line 26, and from page 24, line 17 to page 31, line 18.

The process for dehydrochlorinating the chlorohydrin may also comprise a step of treating water effluents such as described in EP 08150925.9 in the name of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is hereby incorporated by reference, more  
30 specifically the passages from page 1, line 18 to page 12, line 10.

The epoxide obtained in the process according to the invention, preferably epichlorohydrin, may be subjected to a reaction with a compound containing at least one active hydrogen atoms in order to produce epoxy resins or glycidyl  
ethers or glycidyl esters or products usable as coagulants or wet-strength resins  
35 or cationizing agents or flame retardants or ingredients for detergents or epichlorohydrin elastomers.

Therefore, the invention also relates to a process for manufacturing epoxy resins comprising the process for manufacturing the epoxide, followed by a process in which the epoxide is subjected to a reaction with a compound containing at least one active hydrogen atom.

5 Therefore, the invention also relates to a process for manufacturing epoxy resins or glycidyl ethers or glycidyl esters or products usable as coagulants or wet-strength resins or cationizing agents or flame retardants or ingredients for detergents or epichlorohydrin elastomers, wherein epichlorohydrin is submitted to a reaction with at least one compound selected from monoalcohols,  
 10 monocarboxylic acids, polyols, polyamines, amino alcohols, polyimides, polyamides, polycarboxylic acids, ammonia, amines, polyaminoamides, polyimines, amine salts, phosphoric acid, phosphoric acid salts, phosphorus oxychlorides, phosphoric acid esters, phosphonic acids, phosphonic acid esters, phosphonic acid salts, phosphinic acids, phosphinic acid esters, phosphinic acid  
 15 salts, phosphine oxides, phosphines, ethoxylated alcohols, alkylene or phenylene oxides, and mixture of at least two of them, or wherein epichlorohydrin is submitted to a reaction of homopolymerization.

The epichlorohydrin and the uses of epichlorohydrin may be such as described in PCT/EP2008/057247 in the name of SOLVAY SA, the content of  
 20 which is hereby incorporated by reference, more specifically the passages from page 1, line 18 to page 9, line 21, and from page 31, line 31 to page 63, line 4 and in PCT/EP2008/057246 in the name of SOLVAY SA, the content of which is hereby incorporated by reference, more specifically the passages from page 1, line 24 to page 10, line 14, and from page 13, line 3 to page 44, line 8.

## 25 Examples

The following compositions have been tested. They are made of steel covered with enamel. They have been obtained from the following manufacturers :

Table 1

| Composition N° | Manufacturer                      |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1              | PFAUDLER Std Dark Blue            |
| 2              | DE DIETRICH Std Dark Blue DD 3009 |
| 3              | THALE Std Dark Blue               |
| 4              | THALE Light Blue TP 2000          |
| 5              | THALE White                       |
| 6              | DÜKER                             |
| 7              | ESTRELLA                          |

All the contents of the elements in the compositions are in g of element per kg of composition. Those contents have been obtained by X-ray Fluorescence analysis using the lithium tetraborate pearls method.

Table 2

| <u>Element</u> | Compositions (g of element/kg of composition) |       |      |      |      |                                |       |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------|------|------|------|--------------------------------|-------|
|                | According to the invention                    |       |      |      |      | Not according to the invention |       |
|                | 1                                             | 2     | 3    | 4    | 5    | 6                              | 7     |
| Na             | 77.5                                          | 100.5 | 82.2 | 89.2 | 84.4 | 98                             | 106   |
| Al             | 9.6                                           | < 5   | 11.9 | 11.8 | 10.4 | 9.2                            | 8.3   |
| Mg             | < 5                                           | < 5   | 3.7  | < 2  | < 5  | 6.3                            | 2.6   |
| Si             | 330                                           | 314   | 340  | 312  | 307  | 316                            | 304   |
| K              | 19.2                                          | 8.1   | 14.4 | 14.9 | 17.1 | 1.9                            | 1.7   |
| Ca             | 14                                            | 13.2  | 14.9 | 22.6 | 23.3 | 32                             | 32    |
| Ti             | < 5                                           | < 5   | 5.4  | < 2  | < 5  | 12                             | 14    |
| Co             | 6.2                                           | 7.6   | 7.8  | < 2  | < 5  | 7.1                            | 7.1   |
| Zr             | 33.7                                          | 63.4  | 21.9 | 34.8 | 33.0 | 40                             | 44    |
| Ba             | 6.3                                           | 22.4  | < 2  | < 2  | < 5  | < 1.4                          | < 1.4 |
| Fe             | 5.4                                           | < 5   | < 2  | < 2  | < 5  | < 1.4                          | < 1.4 |
| Sr             | 12.1                                          | < 5   | 4.3  | < 2  | < 5  | 3.8                            | < 1.4 |
| Zn             | 10.8                                          | < 5   | < 2  | < 2  | < 5  | < 1.4                          | < 1.4 |

5 Example 1 (according to the invention)

In a continuous type process, glycerol, hydrogen chloride and adipic acid have been reacted for around 720 h in a steel reactor covered with enamel so as to generate a mixture containing dichloropropanol, monochloropropanediol, hydrogen chloride and water. The outer enamel layer of the reactor has the composition 1 disclosed in Table 2.

The enamel of composition 1 was shiny before use.

The composition of the enamel of the reactor in contact with the reaction medium comprised, per kg of composition, 77.5 g of Na, 9.6 g of Al, 330 g of Si, 19.2 g of K, 14 g of Ca, 6.2 g of Co, 33.7 g of Zr, 6.3 g of Ba, 5.4 g of Fe, 12.1 g of Sr and 10.8 g of Zn. The composition contained, in addition, magnesium and titanium, each in an amount less than 5 g/kg.

The composition of the reaction medium averaged over the 720 h of operation comprised, per kg of reaction medium : 10.8 g of hydrogen chloride, 292.5 g of dichloropropanol, 73.8 g of water, 202.2 g of monochloropropanediol, 21.1 g of dichloropropanol esters, 81.6 g of monochloropropanediol esters, the balance being composed of adipic acid, glycerol, glycerol esters and partially chlorinated and/or esterified glycerol oligomers.

The average pressure was 1.22 bar absolute and the average temperature was 123°C.

After 720 h of operation ( $\pm 30$  days), the enamel composition 1 has remained shiny (visual inspection) which is indicative of the absence of corrosion of the enamel.

Examples 2 and 3 (not according to the invention)

The mixture containing dichloropropanol, monochloropropanediol, hydrogen chloride and water of example 1 has been circulated through equipment parts made of steel covered with enamel, the outer enamel layer of such parts having the compositions 6 and 7 disclosed in Table 2, during all the continuous process of example 1.

The enamel compositions 6 and 7 were shiny (visual inspection) before use.

After 720 h of operation ( $\pm 30$  days), the enamel compositions 6 and 7 have become dull (visual inspection) which is indicative of a corrosion of the enamel.

Figure 1 top is a picture of the equipment part with enamel composition 6 after the test of example 2. Figure 1 bottom is a magnification of area (c) of Figure 1 top.

Area (a) of Figure 1 is the area of the equipment part protected by a gasket from the contact with the mixture containing dichloropropanol, monochloropropanediol, hydrogen chloride and water.

Area (b) of Figure 1 is the area of the equipment part in contact with the mixture containing dichloropropanol, monochloropropanediol, hydrogen chloride and water.

Rugosity measurements have been performed on dull and shiny areas of the equipment part with enamel composition 6 using an interferometry microscope. This microscope gives 3D images of the surface analyzed, from which rugosity parameters have been obtained according to Method XP E05-030-1 (AFNOR, French Association of Standardization, December 2003). The surface area analyzed are 224x295  $\mu\text{m}$  corresponding to 736x480 pixels and 112x147  $\mu\text{m}$  corresponding to 736X480 pixels. The rugosity parameters are presented in Table 3.

Table 3

| Rugosity parameter | Area (a)<br>(shiny)   |                       | Area (b)<br>(dull)    |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
|                    | 224x295 $\mu\text{m}$ | 112x147 $\mu\text{m}$ | 224x295 $\mu\text{m}$ | 112x147 $\mu\text{m}$ |
| Ra (nm)            | 46.47                 | 34.01                 | 251.82                | 239.36                |
| Rz (nm)            | 673.53                | 312.11                | $3.21 \cdot 10^3$     | $6.35 \cdot 10^3$     |
| Rpm (nm)           | 274.05                | 221.18                | 780.62                | $1.05 \cdot 10^3$     |
| Rvm (nm)           | -399.48               | -90.94                | $-2.43 \cdot 10^3$    | $-5.30 \cdot 10^3$    |
| Rq (nm)            | 56.62                 | 42.29                 | 320.74                | 400.29                |
| Surface Index      | 1.00038183            | 1.00051701            | 1.03568411            | 1.08317665            |

Ra : arithmetic average deviation of the surface

Rz : maximal amplitude of the surface

Rpm : average maximum surface peak height

5 Rvm : average maximum surface valley depth

Rq : average quadratic deviation of the surface

Surface index : ratio of the total exposed three dimensional surface area (XYZ) and the lateral surface area (XY). This is a measure of the relative flatness of a surface. A value of 1 means a totally flat surface.

#### 10 Examples 4 to 8 (according to the invention)

Polytetrafluoroethylene bars holding steel bars covered with enamel, with the outer enamel layer having the compositions 1 to 5 disclosed in Table 2, have been placed in an autoclave :

- In a liquid mixture comprising, per kg of reaction medium : 20 g of hydrogen chloride, 253 g of dichloropropanol, 100 g of water, 294 g of monochloropropanediol, 5 g of dichloropropanol esters, 80 g of monochloropropanediol esters, the balance being composed of adipic acid, glycerol, glycerol esters and partially chlorinated and/or esterified glycerol oligomers, and
- 20 • In the gas phase above the above liquid mixture.

After 741.5 h, i.e. ~ 31 days at a temperature of 130°C and at a pressure of 1.25 bar absolute, the samples have been withdrawn from the autoclave.

The corrosion rates have been obtained by weighing the bars before and after the tests. Those rates are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2

| Example | Composition | Corrosion rate (mm/year) |                |
|---------|-------------|--------------------------|----------------|
|         |             | Gas phase                | Liquid mixture |
| 4       | 1           | 0.0052                   | 0.0029         |
| 5       | 2           | 0.0044                   | 0.0014         |
| 6       | 3           | 0.0033                   | 0.0003         |
| 7       | 4           | n.t.                     | 0.0000         |
| 8       | 5           | n.t.                     | 0.0030         |

n.t. : not tested

CLAIMS

1. Use of a composition comprising silicon, oxygen and calcium, wherein silicon is present in an amount higher than or equal to 235 g of Si per kg of composition and calcium is present in an amount lower than or equal to 25 g of Ca per kg of composition, as a material for coating an equipment or as a constituent material of equipment, intended to be in contact with a mixture containing a chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water.
2. Use according to claim 1 wherein the composition comprises in addition potassium in an amount higher than or equal to 4 g of K per kg of composition.
3. Use according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the composition comprises in addition titanium in an amount lower than or equal to 10 g of Ti per kg of composition.
4. Use of a composition comprising silicon, oxygen and potassium, wherein, silicon is present in an amount higher than or equal to 235 g of Si per kg of composition and potassium is present in an amount higher than or equal to 4 g of K per kg of composition, as a material for coating an equipment or as a constituent material of equipment, intended to be in contact with a mixture containing a chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water.
5. Use according to claim 4 wherein the composition comprises in addition titanium in an amount lower than or equal to 10 g of Ti per kg of composition.
6. Use of a composition comprising silicon, oxygen and titanium, wherein silicon is present in an amount higher than or equal to 235 g of Si per kg of composition and titanium is present in an amount lower than or equal to 10 g of Ti per kg of composition, as a material for coating an equipment or as a constituent material of equipment, intended to be in contact with a mixture containing a chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water.
7. Use according to any of claims 1 to 6 wherein the composition comprises in addition at least one of the elements selected from sodium, aluminium, magnesium, cobalt, zirconium, barium, iron, strontium and zinc.

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8. Use according to claim 2 or 3, wherein the ratio between potassium and calcium expressed in equivalent of electrical charges is higher than or equal to 0.05 and lower than equal to 2.

5 9. Use according to any of claims 1 to 8 wherein the composition is enamel.

10. Use according to any of claims 1 to 9 wherein the composition is a material for coating an equipment, and wherein the equipment is formed in a matter containing a metal or a metal alloy.

11. Use according to claim 10 wherein the matter of the equipment is steel.

10 12. Use according to claim 10 or 11 wherein the material for coating the equipment comprises at least two superposed layers, an inner layer and an outer layer and wherein the outer layer comprises the composition.

15 13. Use according to claim 12 wherein the outer layer has a thickness, measured by scanning electron microscopy, which is greater than or equal to 0.2 mm and lower than or equal to 2 mm.

14. Use according to any of claims 1 to 13, wherein the contact with the mixture containing a chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water, is carried out under at least one of the following conditions :

- 20
- at a temperature higher than or equal to 60°C and lower than or equal to 200°C,
  - at a pressure higher than or equal to 0.04 bar absolute and lower than or equal to 20 bar absolute, and

wherein the chlorohydrin in the mixture is present as is and/or in the form of esters, the mixture containing

- 25
- the chlorohydrin in an amount expressed in moles of chlorohydrin per kg of mixture, greater than or equal to 0.1 and lower than or equal to 8 and/or
  - the hydrogen chloride in an amount greater than or equal to 1 g per kg of mixture and lower than or equal to 750 g/kg of mixture, and/or

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- water in an amount greater than or equal to 5 g/kg of mixture and lower than or equal to 900 g/kg of mixture.

15. Use according to any of claims 1 to 14 wherein the equipment is selected from containers where compounds are stored, chemical reactions and/or physical operations are carried out, tubing, valves, and couplings that connect these containers, parts that ensure the leak tightness at these couplings, instruments needed to transfer compounds between the containers, instruments and apparatus for measuring various parameters needed to control storage, transfer of compounds or to implementation of chemical reactions and physical operations.

16. Use according to any of claims 1 to 15 wherein the mixture containing the chlorohydrin, hydrogen chloride and water is obtained by reacting a polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon, an ester of a polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon or a mixture of the two, with a chlorinating agent that contains hydrogen chloride.

17. Use according to claim 16 wherein the chlorohydrin is chosen from monochloropropanediol, dichloropropanol and mixtures thereof, and the polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon is glycerol.

18. Process for manufacturing a chlorohydrin comprising several steps, in which a polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon, an ester of a polyhydroxylated aliphatic hydrocarbon or a mixture of the two, is reacted with a chlorinating agent that contains hydrogen chloride, comprising the use according to any of claims 1 to 17.

19. Process for manufacturing an epoxide comprising the process for manufacturing a chlorohydrin according to claim 18, followed by a process for dehydrochlorinating the chlorohydrin.

20. Process for manufacturing epoxy resins or glycidyl ethers or glycidyl esters or products usable as coagulants or wet-strenght resins or cationizing agents or flame retardants or ingredients for detergents or epichlorohydrin elastomers, comprising the process of claim 19 wherein the epoxide is epichlorohydrin and wherein epichlorohydrin is submitted to a reaction with at least one compound selected from monoalcohols, monocarboxylic acids, polyols,

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- polyamines, amino alcohols, polyimides, polyamides, polycarboxylic acids, ammonia, amines, polyaminoamides, polyimines, amine salts, phosphoric acid, phosphoric acid salts, phosphorus oxychlorides, phosphoric acid esters, phosphonic acids, phosphonic acid esters, phosphonic acid salts, phosphinic acids, phosphinic acid esters, phosphinic acid salts, phosphine oxides, 5 phosphines, ethoxylated alcohols, alkylene or phenylene oxides, and mixture of at least two of them, or wherein epichlorohydrin is submitted to a reaction of homopolymerization.