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- (71) Applicant: OZEWAVE AUSTRALIA PTY. LIMITED
[AU/AU]; Unit 5, 10 Jijaws Street, Sumner Park, QLD 4074 (AU).
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- (72) Inventor: BURNELL-JONES, Peter; 82 Bateke Road, Tamborine Mountain, QLD 4272 (AU).
- (74) Agent: FISHER ADAMS KELLY; Level 13, AMP Place, 10 Eagle Street, Brisbane, QLD 4000 (AU).
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(54) Title: LUMINESCENT GEL COATS AND MOLDABLE RESINS

(57) Abstract: Luminescent polymers are prepared from thermosetting unsaturated polyesters, suspending fillers and phosphorescent pigments and utilized to make gel coated articles and molded, cast and fiberglass reinforced plastic (FRP) articles. The preferred thermosetting unsaturated polyester resins are prepared by condensing mixtures of ethylenically unsaturated and aromatic dicarboxylic acids and anhydrides with dihydric alcohols and a polymerizable vinylidene monomer. Preferred suspending fillers and thixotropic modifiers include silica flakes (particularly precipitated and fumed silica and fine to coarse sand), microspheres, glass fibers and other short fibers, nepheline syenite, feldspar, mica, pumice, magnesium sulfate, calcium carbonate, bentonite and the various clays and thixotropic modifiers and mixtures thereof. Preferred phosphorescent pigments include alkaline earth aluminate phosphors, zinc sulfide phosphors and mixtures of these phosphors, particularly those phosphors activated by multiple metals and/or rare earths. The luminescent resins may be rendered fire retardant with halogenated polyester resins and/or additives and made flexible by the addition of flexible resins.