

12 **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

21 Application number: 80300973.7

51 Int. Cl.³: **C 06 B 21/00**
C 06 B 47/00

22 Date of filing: 28.03.80

43 Date of publication of application:
21.10.81 Bulletin 81/42

88 Date of deferred publication of search report: 18.11.81

84 Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH DE FR GB IT LU NL SE

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54 **Manufacture of blasting explosive compositions.**

57 Blasting explosive compositions, generally in the form of slurry explosive compositions, which contain ammonium nitrate as the sole or principal inorganic oxidising salt and a methylamine nitrate mixture as the sole or principal sensitizer, are prepared by reacting in the liquid phase ammonium nitrate and formaldehyde to form an oxidizer/sensitizer blend which can then be mixed with other appropriate constituents to form the required blasting explosive composition, the reaction of the ammonium nitrate and formaldehyde being carried out in the presence of urea in order to reduce the amount of free formic acid which is unexpectedly produced in the reaction, since the presence of formic acid in the reaction mixture is undesirable in that it affects the production of a stable gel therefrom and if converted into a formate reduces the strength of the explosive composition.



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

0037862

Application number
EP 80 30 0973

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. ³)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
D/A	<u>GB - A - 1 548 827</u> (I.D.L.) * Claims * ---	1-4	C 06 B 21/00 47/00
A	<u>DE - A - 2 756 261</u> (I.D.L.)		
A	<u>US - A - 3 707 412</u> (A.H. ADAMS)		
A	<u>US - A - 3 660 182</u> (M.A. COOK et al.)		
A	<u>GB - A - 1 307 966</u> (CANADIAN INDUSTRIES) * Table II * -----	1	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. ³) C 06 B 47/14 47/00 31/32
			CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X: particularly relevant A: technological background O: non-written disclosure P: intermediate document T: theory or principle underlying the invention E: conflicting application D: document cited in the application L: citation for other reasons
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			&: member of the same patent family, corresponding document
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 27.08.1981	Examiner VAN MOER