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71 Applicant: **E.I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND COMPANY,**
1007 Market Street, Wilmington Delaware 19898 (US)

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72 Inventor: **Cescon, Lawrence Anthony, 101 Lily Drive**
Garden Spot, Hagerstown Maryland 21740 (US)
Inventor: **Millet, Nolan Joseph, Jr., 20156 Club Hill Drive**
Churchill Square, Germantown Maryland 20874 (US)

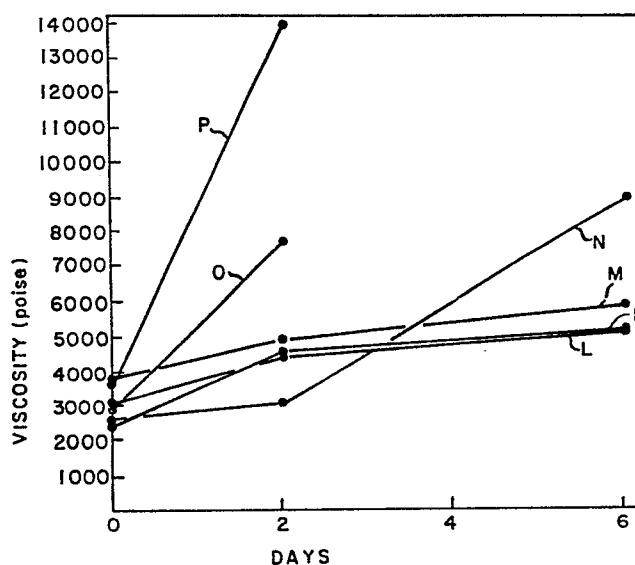
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74 Representative: **Barnard, Eric Edward et al, BROOKES &**
MARTIN High Holborn House 52/54 High Holborn,
London WC1V 6SE (GB)

54 **Stable ammonium nitrate-emulsion explosives and emulsion for use therein.**

57 Explosives that are sensitized blends of a water-in-oil emulsion and AN particles, such as AN or ANFO prills, have improved stability when their structure hinders the loss of water from the aqueous emulsion phase and transportation of such water across the oil phase to the AN particles. Use of an anionic emulsifying agent comprising a fatty acid salt, e.g., as formed *in situ* during the formation of the emulsion, is the preferred way of forming such a blend-stabilizing structure. Emulsion/ANFO and emulsion/AN blends stabilized in this manner make satisfactory storage-stable packaged products. Emulsion/AN blends made with a new low-viscosity emulsion containing essentially all of the oil required to oxygen-balance the blend and a proportionately larger amount of anionic emulsifying agent to stabilize the emulsion structure constitute preferred bulk products owing to their greater adaptability to pumping. Pumping the stabilized blends through an annular stream of aqueous lubricating liquid is advantageous.





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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Application number

EP 84 30 3208

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. ³)
D,Y	US-A-3 161 551 (R.S. EGLY et al.) * Claims 1,2; column 1, lines 66-71 *	1-10, 13-24	C 06 B 47/14 C 06 B 21/00

D,Y	US-A-4 111 727 (R.B. CLAY) * Claims 1,13,15; column 3, lines 35-47 *	1-10, 13-24	

Y	GB-A-2 055 358 (DU PONT) * Claims 1, 15-25 *	1-10, 13-24	
D	& US-A-4 287 010		

D,A,	US-A-4 357 184 (R. BINET et al.) * Column 3, lines 14-25	11	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. ³)

D,A	US-A-4 259 977 (J.W. BROCKINGTON) * Claims 1,2 *	25,26	C 06 B 21/00 C 06 B 45/00 C 06 B 47/00

D,A	US-A-4 181 546 (R.B. CLAY)		

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 04-12-1984	Examiner KESTEN
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			



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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. ³)
A	FR-A-2 096 088 (EXPLOSIVES AND CHEMICAL PROD.)		
D	& GB-A-1 306 546 -----		
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. ³)
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 04-12-1984	Examiner KESTEN
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X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	