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54 **Thickener compositions for water-based hydraulic and metalworking fluid compositions.**

57 The present invention provides for a thickener composition characterized by: (1) at least one water-soluble, thermoplastic, organic polymer having a weight average molecular weight of at least about 10,000 which comprises hydrophobic segments, each containing at least one monovalent hydrophobic group covalently bonded to the polymer, wherein the polymer has an amount of hydrophobe bunching comprising at least two monovalent hydrophobic groups per hydrophobic segment, sufficient to provide for enhanced thickening of aqueous solutions containing the polymer, and (2) at least one ethoxylated alcohol selected from the group consisting of C₉-C₁₅ saturated alcohols with between about 5 and 20 moles of ethylene oxide per mole of alcohol and having an HLB between 11 and 14, and C₉-C₁₈ unsaturated alcohols with between about 5 and 20 moles of ethylene oxide per mole of alcohol and having an HLB between 11 and 14. Said thickener compositions as well as hydraulic fluid and metalworking fluid concentrates, aqueous concentrates and water-based hydraulic fluid and metalworking fluid or lubricant compositions are thickened to an oil-like viscosity by said low solids combination of thickeners.

EP 0 267 558 A3



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 4)
D,X	US-A-4 426 485 (K.L. HOY et al.) * Abstract; column 1, line 6 - column 4, line 2; column 5, line 61 - column 21, line 33; example 51; claims 23-40 * --	1,2,5-8	C 10 M 173/02
X	DE-A-2 529 892 (NIPPON PAINT CO.) * Page 4, lines 10-21; page 8, lines 16-26 * -----	1	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int Cl 4)
			C 10 M
THIS DOCUMENT IS NOT A EUROPEAN PATENT			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 06-12-1988	Examiner FISCHER
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
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	



CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ All claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid,
namely claims:
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

X LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions,

namely:

1. Claims 1,2,5-8
2. Claim 3
3. Claim 4
4. Claim 9

- ☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid,
namely claims:
- ☒ None of the further search fees has been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims,

namely claims: 1,2,5-8