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54 **Explosive.**

57 The use of insoluble particulate bentonite for thickening or increasing the viscosity of emulsion explosives is described. The bentonite (swellable clay, montmorillonite) is dispersed throughout the emulsion, without dissolving in either phase and without causing crystallisation, by admixture of the powder with the prepared emulsion in a low shear blender. The resulting emulsions have increased viscosity and rigidity which provide higher gas bubble retention and hence longer shelf life.

EP 0 297 740 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)
E	GB-A-2 199 575 (JEL LTD) * Claims * ---	1,6,7,9,10	C 06 B 47/14 C 06 B 23/00
X	FR-A-2 096 088 (EXPLOSIVES AND CHEMICAL PRODUCTS LTD) * Page 4, lines 9-14; page 13, lines 13-26; claims; page 7, lines 6-8 * ---	1,6-10	
P,X	EP-A-0 250 224 (IRECO, INC.) * Claims * ---	1,2	
A	EP-A-0 123 008 (PRB NOBEL EXPLOSIFS, S.A.) * Claims * ---	1	
A	EP-A-0 213 786 (JCJ AUSTRALIA LTD) * Column 8, lines 1-8 * ---	1	
A	US-A-2 984 556 (S.K. TALLEY) * Column 2, line 47 - column 3, line 22; claims * ---	1,10	
A	GB-A-1 602 187 (NL INDUSTRIES, INC.) * Claims; page 6, lines 15-32 * ---	1	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4) C 06 B
A	US-A-3 126 701 (C.B. HENDERSON et al.) * Column 15, line 70 - column 17, line 34 * -----	1	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 29-12-1988	Examiner SCHUT, R. J.
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			