



⑫

## EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

⑬ Application number: 88305235.9

⑮ Int. Cl.4: C 06 B 47/14  
C 06 B 23/00

⑭ Date of filing: 08.06.88

⑯ Priority: 29.06.87 ZA 874690

⑰ Applicant: AECI LIMITED  
16th Floor Office Tower Carlton Centre Commissioner  
Street P.O. Box 1122  
Johannesburg 2000 Transvaal (ZA)

⑰ Date of publication of application:  
04.01.89 Bulletin 89/01

⑱ Designated Contracting States: DE ES FR IT SE  
⑲ Inventor: Halliday, Pieter Stephanus Jacobus  
85 Market Street  
Johannesburg North Randburg Transvaal (ZA)

⑳ Date of deferred publication of search report:  
05.04.89 Bulletin 89/14

⑳ Hearn, Andrew Victor  
6A Junction Avenue  
Parktown Johannesburg Transvaal (ZA)

㉑ Representative: Reid, Thomas James et al  
Imperial Chemical Industries PLC Legal Department:  
Patents PO Box 6 Bessemer Road  
Welwyn Garden City Herts, AL7 1HD (GB)

㉒ Explosive.

㉓ 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.



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 4)	
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	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	Date of completion of the search	Examiner		
THE HAGUE	29-12-1988	SCHUT, R.J.		
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS				
X : particularly relevant if taken alone	T : theory or principle underlying the invention			
Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category	E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date			
A : technological background	D : document cited in the application			
O : non-written disclosure	L : document cited for other reasons			
P : intermediate document	& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			