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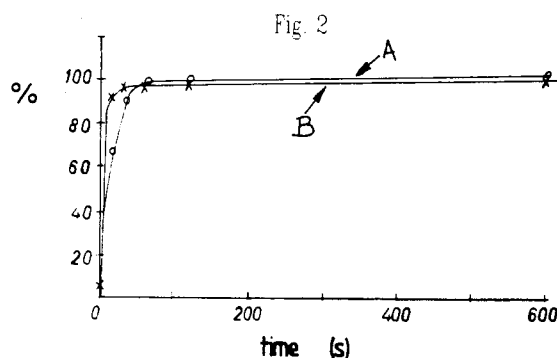
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(54) **Process for preparing condensed detergent granules.**

(57) The present invention relates to a process for making a free flowing granular detergent comprising : mixing an effective amount of an aqueous surfactant paste having a detergency activity of at least 40% and an effective amount of a dry detergency powder, said surfactant paste active and builder or powder having a ratio of 0.05:1 to 19:1 to form a mix; rapidly forming a uniform mixture from said mix at a temperature of from about 0 °C to about 80 °C; granulating said mixture into discrete detergent granules using a high speed mixing at a tip speed of about 5-50 m/sec; and wherein said surfactant paste is comprised of at least one anionic surfactant, and any other surfactants, if present, are selected from the group of anionic, zwitterionic, ampholytic and cationic surfactants and mixtures thereof; and wherein said mixing and granulating are conducted simultaneously, or immediately sequentially.

The nil-surfactant components of the finished granular detergent other than the granulated active paste, comprise a (relatively small) part of the total amount of builder, another part of the builder having been used for granulation. The nil active components can be spray-dried to form a powder having

good color, frangibility, dissolution properties and desirable density and size characteristics for direct dry mixing with other ingredients of the finished granular detergent.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 92 20 0993

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.5)
D,X A	EP-A-0 349 201 (PROCTER & GAMBLE) * claims; examples * ---	1-3,5-7 4	C11D11/00 C11D17/06
A	EP-A-0 402 111 (PROCTER & GAMBLE) * claims 1,2,6,8; examples * ---	1-6	
D,A	CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS, vol. 103, no. 12, September 1985, Columbus, Ohio, US; abstract no. 89343, * abstract * & JP-A-6 072 999 (KAO CORP.) 25 April 1985 ---	1-6	
A	FR-A-2 568 584 (KAO CORP.) * page 30, line 1 - line 22; examples * -----	1,2	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			C11D
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 01 JULY 1993	Examiner GRITTERN A.G.
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			