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(54) **High sulfur mineral oil compositions.**

(57) Copper corrosiveness of compositions comprising a major amount of a base oil of which at least 50% by volume is mineral oil that has an inherent sulfur content of at least 0.2 percent by weight is reduced by adding to the oil a small amount of at least one oil-soluble neutral hydrocarbyl phosphite ester, most preferably triphenyl phosphite. The addition of phosphite can yield composition exhibiting a copper rod rating of 5 or below in the Cincinnati Milacron Thermal Stability test procedure "A", even though in the absence of the addition of phosphite, the composition fails the test. The unpredictability of the invention is shown by the fact that not all high sulfur oils respond to the treatment, and no explanation for the divergence of results is presently known.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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EP 93 30 0041 -6

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)
A	US-A-2 178 610 (P.L. SALZBERG) * page 3; example 4 * ---	1,4,5,9,10	C10M137/02 C10M141/10 C10M167/00 C10M169/04
A	US-A-2 058 344 (R.C. MORAN) * column 1, line 10 - line 15 * * column 2, line 15 - line 50 * * claim 1 * ---	1,4,5,9,10	/(C10M169/04, 101:02,137:02) (C10N30:12) (C10N40:08)
A	GB-A-2 052 505 (THE LUBRIZOL CORPORATION) * page 1, line 22 - line 27 * * page 2, line 30 - line 31 * * page 5; table II * ---	1,4-6,9,10	
A	GB-A-1 262 378 (SHELL INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH MAATSCHAPPIJ) * page 2, line 31 - line 37 * * page 2, line 52 - line 55 * * page 3, line 41 - line 44 * * page 3, line 51 - line 54 * ---	1-5,9	
A	US-A-2 285 855 (F. B. DOWNING) * page 4, left column, line 73 - right column, line 5 * * claim 25 * ---	1,4-6,9,10	C10M
A	US-A-2 260 305 (E.F. ENGELKE) * page 1, right column; example 1 * * page 2, right column, line 33 - line 45 * -----		
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 21 JUNE 1993	Examiner HILGENGA K.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			