(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(21) Application number: 93402245.0

(22) Date of filing: 15.09.93

(51) Int. Cl.5: G03C 1/498

(30) Priority: 16.09.92 US 945524

(43) Date of publication of application : 23.03.94 Bulletin 94/12

Designated Contracting States: BE DE FR GB IT

Bate of deferred publication of search report: 01.06.94 Bulletin 94/22

Applicant: MINNESOTA MINING AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY 3M Center, P.O. Box 33427 St. Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (US)

(72) Inventor: Lepage, Teresa J., c/o Minnesota Mining

and Manufact. Comp., 2501 Hudson Road, P.O. Box 33427

St. Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (US) Inventor : Simpson, Sharon M., c/o Minnesota

Mining and Manufact. Comp., 2501 Hudson Road, P.O. Box 33427

St. Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (US)

Inventor: Bonham, James A., c/o Minnesota Mining

Manufact. Comp.,2501 Hudson Road,

P.O. Box 33427 St.Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (US) Inventor: Lynch, Doreen C., c/o Minnesota Mining

Manufact. Comp., 2501 Hudson Road,

P.O. Box 33427 St.Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (US)

(74) Representative : Warcoin, Jacques et al Cabinet Régimbeau 26, avenue Kléber F-75116 Paris (FR)

(54) Post-processing stabilizers for photothermographic articles.

Photothermographic compositions comprising a photographic silver halide, an organic silver salt, and a reducing agent for the organic silver salt, display improved stabilty in the presence of a compound having a nucleus of the formula:

$$A-(L)_{n}^{C}$$

$$O_{2}N$$

A represents any monovalent group for which the corresponding compound AH functions as a post-processing stabilizer,

L is a -CO₂- or a -CH₂O- group that is lost during or after the deblocking step, with A bonded to a carbon atom of this group, and

n is 0 or 1.



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number EP 93 40 2245

ategory	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages		Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.5)
A	EP-A-O 045 129 (DU P * page 6, line 3 - p 1,2,10,11 *	ONT) age 8, line 8; claims 	1-10	G03C1/498
				TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.5) G03C
 	The present search report has bee	<u>-</u>		
	Place of search THE HAGUE	Date of completion of the search 15 March 1994	Ma.	Examiner
X : par Y : par doc A : tec	IHE HAGUE CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMEN' ticularly relevant if taken alone ticularly relevant if combined with anoti ument of the same category hanological background n-written disclosure	T: theory or princing E: earlier patent de after the filing her D: document cited L: document cited	ple underlying th ocurent, but pub date in the applicatio for other reasons	a