

(19)



Europäisches Patentamt

European Patent Office

Office européen des brevets



(11)

**EP 0 786 539 A3**

(12)

**EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:  
**20.08.1997 Bulletin 1997/34**

(51) Int. Cl.<sup>6</sup>: **C25D 3/22, C25D 3/56**

(43) Date of publication A2:  
**30.07.1997 Bulletin 1997/31**

(21) Application number: **97100964.2**

(22) Date of filing: **22.01.1997**

(84) Designated Contracting States:  
**BE DE ES FR GB IT**

(30) Priority: **26.01.1996 US 592439**

(71) Applicant:  
**ELF ATOCHEM NORTH AMERICA, INC.**  
**Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-3222 (US)**

(72) Inventors:  
• **Martyak, Nicholas M.**  
**Doylestown, PA 18901 (US)**

• **Corsentino, John A.**  
**Hazlet, NJ 07730 (US)**  
• **Rohling, Frederik L.**  
**2023 SM Haarlem (NL)**  
• **Kasper, Marie M.**  
**Redbank, NJ 07701 (US)**

(74) Representative: **Weisert, Annekäte, Dipl.-Ing. Dr.-**  
**Ing. et al**  
**Patentanwälte**  
**Kraus Weisert & Partner**  
**Thomas-Wimmer-Ring 15**  
**80539 München (DE)**

(54) **High current density zinc organosulfonate electrogalvanizing process and composition**

(57) The inventors disclose a process for reducing high current density edge buildup dendrite formation, edge burn, controlling high current density roughness, grain size, and orientation of a zinc coating obtained from an aqueous zinc acidic electrogalvanic coating bath comprising passing a high density current from a zinc anode in the bath to a metal cathode in the bath for a period of time sufficient to deposit a zinc coating on the cathode. The bath contains greater than about 5g/l of a water soluble zinc organosulfonate. A random or block polyoxyalkylene glycol homopolymer or copolymer based on 2 to about 4 carbon atom alkylene oxides. The inventors employ current densities from about 250 to about 4,000 ASF, and optionally, a sulfonated condensation product of naphthalene and formaldehyde, a boron oxide compound, and a lignin compound. The invention also comprises bath compositions.

**EP 0 786 539 A3**



European Patent  
Office

## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 97 10 0964

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.6)
X,D	US 4 207 150 A (CREUTZ) 10 June 1980  * the whole document * ---	1,13,16, 17,19, 30,33,34	C25D3/22 C25D3/56
X	DATABASE WPI Section Ch, Week 9303 Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; Class E12, AN 93-025443 XP002032981 & SU 1 713 987 A (DNEPR CHEM TECHN INST) , 23 February 1992 * abstract * ---	1,19	
X	US 3 928 149 A (STEEG JOACHIM) 23 December 1975  * the whole document * ---	1,2,4,5, 7,8,15, 17, 19-22, 24,25, 32,34	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
X,P	EP 0 727 512 A (ATOTECH USA) 21 August 1996  * claims 1-16 * ---	2,3,7-9, 15,18, 20, 24-26, 32,34,35	C25D
X,P	EP 0 730 047 A (ATOTECH USA) 4 September 1996  * claims 1-62 * ---  -/--	3-15,17, 18, 21-32, 34,35	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 13 June 1997	Examiner Van Leeuwen, R
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	

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (PMCOI)



European Patent  
Office

# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 97 10 0964

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.6)
A	US 5 458 764 A (URAKAWA) 17 October 1995	2,3,8, 18,20, 25,35	
	* the whole document *		
	---		
A	DE 38 39 823 A (LWP-CHEMIE)		
	-----		
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 13 June 1997	Examiner Van Leeuwen, R
<p><b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b></p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p>.....  &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 01.82 (P04C01)