

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
11 June 2009 (11.06.2009)

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2009/071999 A3

(51) International Patent Classification:
A01N 25/34 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/IB2008/003809

(22) International Filing Date:
22 September 2008 (22.09.2008)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/974,270 21 September 2007 (21.09.2007) US
60/977,846 5 October 2007 (05.10.2007) US

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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report (Art. 21(3))

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
30 December 2009

(54) Title: PREPARATIONS OF POLY(STYRENE-CO-MALEIC ANHYDRIDE/ACID)

(57) Abstract: The present invention discloses poly(styrene-co-maleic anhydride/acid) and methods for their preparation using solventless techniques. In addition to the absence of potentially toxic solvents, the methods results in reduced amounts of residues, such as unreacted styrene and/or maleic anhydride monomers, which makes the copolymers suitable for bioapplications.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/IB 08/03809

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8) - A01N 25/34 (2009.01)

USPC - 424/408

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC (8) - A01N 25/34 (2009.01)

USPC - 424/408

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
USPC - 424/408;464/41,409,417;525/497

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

PubWEST (PGPB,USPT,USOC,EPAB,JPAB); Google

Search Terms Used: styrene, maleic, monomer, anhydride, acid, ratio, solvent free, initiator, peroxide, azoisobutyronitrile, unreacted, residual, ppm, heat, melt, dissolve, hydrolyzed, partially

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 2004/0043030 A1 (Griffiths et al.) 4 March 2004 (04.03.2004), para [0047]	1-4, 18-22
Y	US 4,243,784 A (Akima et al.) 6 January 1981 (06.01.1981), co. 1, ln 16-21, col. 4, ln 56-57, col. 5, ln 55-56, col. 6, ln 42-48, col. 9, ln 8-23	1, 3-4, 18-22
Y	US 5,451,644 A (Fiarman et al.) 19 September 1995 (19.09.1995), abstract, col. 3, 6-12 & 52-57, col. 5, ln 35-38, col. 6, ln 14-19 & 42, col. 8 ln 4-9, col. 11, ln 64-66	2
A	US 5,442,041 A (Mallikarjun et al.) 15 August 1995 (15.08.1995) entire document	1-4, 18-22
A	US 4,938,900 A (Moriwaki et al.) 3 July 1990 (03.07.1990), col. 2, ln 19-64 entire document	1-4
A	US 6,660,819 B2 (Chmelir et al.) 9 December 2003 (09.12.2003) entire document	1-4
A	US 5,639,801 A (Mallikarjun et al.) 17 June 1997 (17.06.1997) entire document	1-4, 18-22
A	US 7,009,011 B1 (Keoshkerian) 7 March 2006 (07.03.2006) entire document	18-22
A	US 6,646,085 B1 (Craun et al.) 11 November 2003 (11.11.2003) entire document	1-4

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

11 September 2009 (11.09.2009)

Date of mailing of the international search report

21 SEP 2009

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Facsimile No. 571-273-3201

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PCT OSP: 571-272-7774

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/IB 08/03809

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☒ Claims Nos.: 5-17 and 23-50
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.