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Patents Act 1990

NOTICE OF ENTITLEMENT

We, PPG INDUSTRIES, INC.

of One PPG Place, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15272,
United States of America

being the Applicant in respect of the Application No. 35797/89 state the following:-

The person nominated for the grant of the Patent has for the following reasons gained entitlement from the actual inventor:

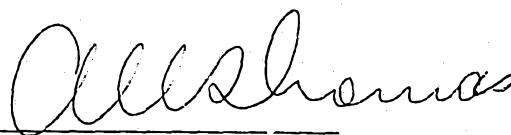
The Nominated Persons are entitled by Deed of Assignment between the inventor and the Nominated Persons.

The persons nominated for the grant of the Patent is entitled to rely on the application listed in the declaration under Article 8 of the PCT.

The basic application in the declaration under Article 8 of the PCT was the first application made in a Convention country in respect of the invention.

Dated this 16th day of April 1992

PPG INDUSTRIES, INC.
By their Patent Attorneys
COLLISON & CO.

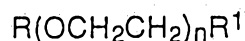

ALUN W THOMAS

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METHOD FOR DEINKING WASTEPAPER
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- (71) Applicant(s)
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- (56) Prior Art Documents
AU 59617/90 D21C 5/02
US 4326912
US 4276118
- (57) Claim

1. A method of removing ink from secondary fiber containing ink used in reprographic processes, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) forming an aqueous slurry of pulped secondary fiber with an aqueous medium;
- (b) contacting the pulped secondary fiber in the aqueous slurry with a polymeric material having a glass transition temperature in the range of from about 20°C. to 70°C. and a compound or mixture of compounds represented by the Formula I:



wherein:

R is C₆ to C₂₀ linear or branched alkyl;

R¹ is selected from halogen, or C₁ to C₄ alkoxy for a time sufficient to agglomerate the ink into discrete masses; and

- (c) separating the agglomerated ink from the pulp-containing aqueous medium.

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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US89/01463 (22) International Filing Date: 7 April 1989 (07.04.89) (30) Priority data: 188,948 2 May 1988 (02.05.88) US (71) Applicant: PPG INDUSTRIES, INC. [US/US]; One PPG Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15272 (US). (72) Inventor: DARLINGTON, William, Bruce ; 386 Winding Way, Wadsworth, OH 44281 (US). (74) Agents: WHITFIELD, Edward, J.; PPG Industries, Inc., One PPG Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15272 (US) et al. (81) Designated States: AT (European patent), AU, BE (European patent), CH (European patent), DE (European patent), FR (European patent), GB (European patent), IT (European patent), JP, KR, LU (European patent), NL (European patent), SE (European patent).		Published <i>With international search report.</i>
(54) Title: METHOD FOR DEINKING WASTEPAPER (57) Abstract The present invention relates to a method of removing ink from secondary fiber by contacting a pulp of said secondary fiber with an aqueous medium in the presence of a polymeric material having a glass transition temperature in the range of from about 20°C to about 70°C and a substituted polyethylene oxide to agglomerate the ink into discrete masses and separating the agglomerated ink from the pulp-containing aqueous medium.		

METHOD FOR DE-INKING WASTEPAPER

Field of the Invention

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The present invention relates to a method of removing ink from secondary fiber by contacting a pulp of said secondary fiber with an aqueous medium containing polymeric material having a glass transition temperature in the range of from about 20°C. to about 70°C. and substituted polyethylene oxide compound to agglomerate the ink into discrete masses and separating the agglomerated ink from the pulp-containing aqueous medium.

Background of The Invention

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Secondary fiber has long served as a source of raw fiber material in paper making. The recycling of secondary fiber continues to increase. Secondary fiber must be processed to remove the ink to permit the manufacture of high quality paper. For years paper was printed with primarily water or oil-based inks which were satisfactorily removed by conventional de-inking procedures. In conventional de-inking procedures, secondary fiber is mechanically pulped and contacted with an aqueous medium containing a surfactant. The mechanical pulping and the action of the surfactant result in separation of the ink from the pulp fibers. The dispersed ink is then separated from the pulp fibers by processes such as washing or flotation.

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Increasing amounts of secondary fiber are generated from reprographic printing processes such as electrophotographic copying, e.g. xerography, and nonimpact printing, e.g., laser or ink-jet printing. The difficulty in the de-inking of xerographically printed secondary fiber has been attributed to the binder of the xerographic ink, which is different from those in common oil-based inks. The xerographic-ink binder is typically a polymeric material which is thermally fixed to the paper. Xerographic-ink binders are not _____



e.g., xerography, and nonimpact printing, e.g., laser or ink-jet printing. The difficulty in the deinking of xerographically printed secondary fiber has been attributed to the binder of the xerographic ink, which is different from those in common oil-based inks. The xerographic-ink binder is typically a polymeric material which is thermally fixed to the paper. Xerographic-ink binders are not easily dispersed by commonly used surfactants such as nonylphenol ethoxylate.

As a result, paper produced from xerographic secondary fiber has a high dirt count, i.e., the paper contains visible ink particles and is a lower grade product.

Often reprographic processes, such as xerography, utilize magnetic inks or magnetic toners. Such magnetic ink also generally includes a polymeric binder that is not effectively removed by conventional deinking procedures. The increasing abundance of secondary fiber containing magnetic ink has made the reclamation of such secondary fiber economically attractive. Yet, the inability to remove magnetic ink from secondary fiber has limited the recycle of such secondary fiber to low-grade paper products.

It is therefore the principal object of this invention to provide a method of deinking secondary fiber printed by reprographic printing processes to provide a deinked pulp suitable for producing paper comparable in quality to paper prepared from virgin pulp.

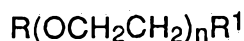
DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

This invention provides a method of removing ink from secondary fiber containing ink used in reprographic processes, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) forming an aqueous slurry of pulped secondary fiber with an aqueous medium;



- (b) contacting the pulped secondary fiber in the aqueous slurry with a polymeric material having a glass transition temperature in the range of from about 20°C. to 70°C. and a compound or mixture of compounds represented by the Formula I:



wherein:

R is C₆ to C₂₀ linear or branched alkyl;

- R¹ is selected from halogen, or C₁ to C₄ alkoxy for a time sufficient to agglomerate the ink into discrete masses; and

- (c) separating the agglomerated ink from the pulp-containing aqueous medium.

- Preferred compounds of the Formula I are those where R is C₁₀ to C₁₅ linear or branched alkyl, R¹ is phenoxy or halogen, especially chlorine or bromine, and n is a whole or fractional number ranging from 3 to 12.

- Preparation of the compounds where R¹ is halogen is described for example, in commonly owned U. S. Patents 4,622,431 and 4,814,524 the teachings of which are incorporated by reference herein. Formula I compounds where R₁ is other than halogen, may be readily prepared by reacting the Formula I halide with a compound of the formula M - OR¹ when M is alkali metal, e.g., sodium or potassium, and R¹ is as defined hereinabove with the exception of halogen.

Suitable polymeric materials for use in accordance with this invention are for example, polystyrene or a styrene-carboxylic acid copolymer.



3A

- The styrene-carboxylic acid copolymer is one having a styrene content of at least about 50 weight percent, preferably from about 60 to about 80 weight percent and a glass transition temperature in the range of from about 20°C. to about 70°C., preferably from about 25°C. to about 50°C. Preferred styrene-carboxylic acid copolymers are styrene-acrylate copolymers such as, for example, styrene-methyl acrylate, styrene-ethyl acrylate, styrene-butyl acrylate and styrene 2-ethylhexyl acrylate, the latter being particularly preferred. The styrene-acrylate copolymers preferred for use in accordance with this invention are commercially available or can be prepared using techniques well-known to the art.

Polystyrene suitable for use in accordance with the invention is one also having a glass transition temperature in the



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range of from about 20°C. to about 70°C. and preferably from about 25 °C. to about 50°C.

More particularly this invention comprises the steps of reducing secondary fiber to pulp, contacting the pulp with an aqueous alkaline medium containing the polymeric material and Formula I compound for a time sufficient to agglomerate the ink particles and separating the agglomerated ink particles from the pulp-containing aqueous alkaline medium.

Pulping of the secondary fiber may be effected using any conventional process and apparatus. Typically secondary fiber is treated in a so called hydropulper which produces an aqueous slurry of paper fibers. Such pulp slurries typically contain from about 3 to about 20 percent by weight and usually from about 4 to about 8 percent by weight of paper fiber basis dry weight of secondary fiber relative to the total weight of slurry. Contacting the pulp with an aqueous medium containing the polymeric material and Formula I compound may be conveniently effected in the pulping apparatus by merely adding the polymeric material and the Formula I compound to the fiber slurry. The pH of the fiber slurry may be acid, neutral or alkaline and is adjusted by addition of acid or base.

Although contact of the pulp with the aqueous medium containing polymeric material and Formula I compound may be conducted at ambient temperature, preferably a moderately elevated temperature, e.g., from about 40°C. to about 90°C., is employed. A contact temperature in the range of from about 45°C. to about 75°C. appears to provide optimal results.

The pulp is contacted with the aqueous medium containing polymeric material and Formula I compound for a time sufficient to agglomerate the ink particles into discrete masses or globules. Depending on the ink loading on the secondary fiber, contact time may vary from as little as ten minutes up to about an hour, although for most applications a contact time in the range of from about 15 to about 45 minutes should provide satisfactory results.

The ink globules typically range from about 2 to 5 millimeters or more in diameter and are readily removed from the

pulp-containing aqueous medium by any conventional means, e.g.,
3 centrifugation, flotation, sedimentation, filtration or the like.
Since the invention process is also applicable to secondary fiber
5 printed with magnetic ink, such ink agglomerates may also be removed
by magnetic separation means.

7 Not to be bound by any particular theory, it is believed
the Formula I compound interacts with the polymeric material so as
9 to effectively reduce its glass transition temperature so that the
surface energy of the polymeric particles is reduced and they become
11 semi-liquid and tacky at the pulping temperature. The tacky
particles attract ink and toner particles in the pulp slurry forming
13 large agglomerates that can be cleanly separated from the pulp
fibers.

15 The amount of Formula I compound used typically ranges
from about 0.1 percent to about 1.5 percent and usually from about
17 0.3 percent to about 1.0 percent by weight basis total weight of dry
secondary fiber undergoing treatment.

19 The polymeric material is typically present in quantity
ranging from about 0.1 percent to about 2.0 percent and usually from
21 about 0.5 percent to 1.5 percent by weight basis total weight of dry
secondary fiber undergoing treatment. Certain electrophotographic
23 inks contain as a binder, a styrene-acrylate copolymer contemplated
for use in accordance with the invention. For example, the toner
25 used in Savin copier Models 7010 and 7015 was analyzed by a
combination of thermal and infrared techniques and found to contain
27 49 wt-% of a copolymer of 80 wt-% styrene/20 wt-% 2-ethylhexyl
acrylate, 38 wt-% magnetite and 13 wt-% carbon black. When
29 secondary fiber printed with such ink is used, the secondary fiber
itself becomes the source of the styrene-acrylate polymer. If at
31 least about 20 weight percent (dry basis) of the total amount of
secondary fiber undergoing treatment is printed with ink containing
33 a suitable styrene-acrylate polymer, then separate addition of
polymeric material to the pulp slurry may be dispensed with.

35 It is of course to be understood that the method of this
invention may be practiced batchwise or continuously. Also, the

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aqueous pulp contact medium may contain other additives commonly used in deinking operations, e.g., surfactants, bleaches, brighteners, softeners, defoamers, dispersants, chelating agents and the like, as well as other conventionally used deinking agents, e.g., ethoxylated alkanols, such as the nonylphenol ethoxylates described in U. S. Patent 4,162,186.

The method of this invention is further illustrated, but it is not intended that it be limited by the following Examples.

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EXAMPLE I

The secondary fiber used in these Examples were 8-1/2 x 11 inch (21.59 x 27.94 cm.) sheets copied on one side with a uniform test pattern generated by a Hewlett-Packard laser printer.

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(A) The test pattern was copied onto one set of sheets using a Savin 7010 copier employing an ink or toner containing 49 wt-% of an 80 wt-%/20 wt-% styrene/2-ethylhexyl acrylate copolymer, 38 wt-% magnetite and 13 wt-% carbon black. Each printed sheet contained 3.3 wt-% of toner.

(B) The test pattern was copied onto another set of sheets using an IBM Series III, Model 60 copier employing an ink or toner containing 60-70 wt-% polymethylmethacrylate, 10-20 wt-% nylon and 20 wt-% carbon black. Each printed sheet contained 1.3 wt-% toner.

The uncopied, i.e., blank test sheets had an average brightness of 84-85% ISO determined in accordance with the Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry (TAPPI) method T-217 and an average dirt count of 9 square millimeters per square meter (mm^2/M^2) determined in accordance with TAPPI method T-437 pm-78. These methods were used to evaluate brightness and dirt count on all paper samples treated in this Example and the following examples.

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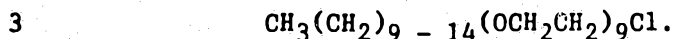
EXAMPLE II

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This Example, illustrates deinking of secondary fiber in accordance with one embodiment the method of this invention, using a Formula I compound wherein R is a mixture of C_{10} to C_{15} straight chain alkyls, n is 9 and R^1 is chlorine which compound is

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represented by the formula:



A number of runs were made using varying weight ratios of
5 test sheets printed with ink (A) containing styrene-acrylate
copolymer and test sheets printed with ink (B) as described in
7 Example I. Pulp slurry preparation was done substantially in
accordance with TAPPI Useful Method 204, except that no bleach was
9 added to the pulp slurry. With minor variations, the procedure used
in each test run was as follows.

11 About 9.1 to 9.5 grams of test sheets were torn into
1-inch (2.54 cm) squares and charged to a beaker containing 400
13 milliliters of warm water, the pH of which was adjusted in the range
of from about 10 to 11 with sodium hydroxide. After soaking for
15 about 30 minutes to an hour the mixture was transferred to a Waring
blender and mixed at high speed for 20 to 30 seconds. The slurry
17 was transferred to the beaker and heated, with continuous stirring,
to a temperature in the range of 60 to 80°C. Varying amounts of
19 Formula I compound were added in the form of a one percent aqueous
solution to provide from 0.1 to 0.5 percent by weight of Formula I
21 compound basis dry weight of paper. The alkaline pulp slurry
containing the Formula I compound was stirred until the ink
23 particles had noticeably agglomerated into discrete masses, the
contact time ranging from about 10 to about 45 minutes. After
25 agglomeration of the ink particles, the pulp slurry was diluted with
water to a volume of about 4 liters and the agglomerated ink was
27 removed by means of a cobalt-samarium magnet. (Alternatively, the
agglomerated ink could just as readily have been removed by
29 conventional centrifugation, filtration, flotation, sedimentation,
decantation or washing means.) The deinked pulp slurry was then
31 passed through a 60 mesh screen and the drained pulp was reslurried
in 4 liters of water. The screening and reslurrying step was
33 repeated and the resulting pulp slurry was made into a handsheet by
passing the same through a Buchner funnel in accordance with TAPPI
35 method T-218om-83. Brightness and dirt count of the finished
handsheet were then determined in accordance with the TAPPI methods

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mentioned in Example I.

3 The following Table summarizes the results of eight runs
wherein:

5 A is the wt. % of magnetic ink printed paper in the pulp;
B is the wt. % of non-magnetic ink printed paper in the
7 pulp;

I is the wt. % of Formula I compound used basis total dry
9 weight of paper;

t is the contact time, in minutes, between the pulp slurry
11 and Formula I compound;

T is the contact temperature in °C;

13 E is the brightness of the handsheet in % ISO; and

D is the dirt count of the handsheet in mm^2/M^2 .

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Run	A	B	I	t	T	E	D
17 1	100	0	0.5	28	75	85.1	115
2	50	50	0.3	15	70	85.7	300
19 3	50	50	0.5	25	75	82.1	21
4	37.5	62.5	0.5	38	65-75	84.8	28
21 5	25	75	0.5	40	69-75	86.9	24
6	14.6	75.4	0.5	44	63-79	84.9	8
23 7	8.3	91.7	0.1	38	67-73	84.0	340
8	6.2	93.8	0.5	46	62-75	86.0	250

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EXAMPLE III

27 A mixture of 23.2 grams of test paper B, 400 milliliters
of deionized water and 10 milliliters of aqueous calcium chloride
29 solution containing 11.76 g/l of $\text{CaCl}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ was mixed in a Waring
blender for 25 seconds. The pulp slurry was transferred to a 600
31 milliliter beaker and the pH was adjusted to 10.5 with dilute sodium
hydroxide solution. The stirred slurry was heated to about 36°C. and
33 0.03 grams of the Formula I compound used in Example II was added.
The temperature was increased to 75°C. and the pulp slurry was
35 vigorously stirred for one hour. The slurry was then diluted to 4
liters and fabricated into hand- sheets. Due to excessive calcium

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precipitation, the ink particles in the handsheets were quite small,
3 having an average area of less than 0.02 mm^2 ; the handsheets having
a brightness of 73.8% ISO.

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EXAMPLE IV

7 A mixture of 121.0 grams of test paper B, 120.47 grams of
test paper A were pulped with 4000 milliliters of deionized water in
9 an Adirondack Machine Co. 2-gallon pulper. The pulp slurry also
contained 19.38 grams of 50% sodium hydroxide solution, 2.03 grams
11 of Bayhibit# AM (a 50% solution of 2-phosphonobutane-1,2,4-tri-
carboxylic acid from Mobay Chemical Co.) and 0.70 gram of the
13 Formula I compound used in Examples II and III. After pulping for
one hour at 75°C ., handsheets made from pulp had a brightness of
15 83.6% ISO; the ink particles contained therein had an average area
of about 1.9 mm^2 .

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EXAMPLE V

19 A styrene-acrylate copolymer latex was prepared by
blending 6 grams of Pliotone# 2503 (product of Goodyear Corp.) in
21 100 milliliters of a 1% aqueous solution of the 9-ethoxylate of
nonylphenol. To a 600 milliliter beaker were charged 27.83 grams of
23 test paper B, 400 milliliters of deionized water, 30 milliliters of
Bayhibit# AM inhibitor, 3.0 grams of the Pliotone# 2503 latex, 0.25
25 gram of Callaway hydrophobic silica defoamer (product Callaway
Chemical Co.) and 0.03 gram of the Formula I compound used in the
27 preceding Examples. The pH of the resulting slurry was adjusted to
10.5 by addition of dilute aqueous sodium hydroxide solution, heated
29 to 75°C . and vigorously stirred for 40 minutes. The pulp slurry was
then diluted to 4 liters and made into handsheets. The ink
31 particles in the handsheets were as large as 0.8 mm^2 and the
handsheets had a brightness of 77.1% ISO.

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EXAMPLE VI

35 A charge of 275 pounds of laser-printed computer printout
waste paper was added to 270 gallons of tap water containing 210 ppm

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calcium carbonate hardness. This mixture was mixed in a pulper with a helical rotor. The pH of the pulp mixture was adjusted to 10.3 with the addition of 582.6 grams of sodium hydroxide. The initial temperature of the pulp mixture was 86°F and was gradually increased by direct injection of steam into the pulper. After three minutes, the temperature had increased to 107°F, and a mixture containing 624 grams of -28 mesh A-75 Picolastic polystyrene (Hercules Incorporated, Wilmington, DE) dispersed in 5 gallons of water containing 316.8 grams of Wetsan-225 (Santek Chemicals, Appleton, WI) was added.

After 10 minutes, the temperature of the pulp had increased to 133°F, and 389.5 grams of a mixture of 95% of the Formula I compound used in Example II and 5% of Dequest 2010 (1-hydroxyethane,1,1-diphosphonic acid from Monsanto Chemical Corp., St. Louis, MO) was added. After 24 minutes of pulping, the temperature was 138°F and 171.2 grams of Foambrake SC-52 (a defoamer obtained from Santek Chemicals, Appleton, WI) was added. Pulping was continued for a total of 45 minutes while maintaining the temperature of 138-141°F.

Samples of the pulp were taken periodically during the pulping and used to prepare hand sheets on a Nobel and Wood sheet machine. The growth of the agglomerated toner particles was apparent during the pulping. Before any chemicals were added, the toner particles in the dispersion were generally less than 0.1 mm in diameter. After five minutes of pulping, the particles had grown in size and many were 0.5 mm in diameter. After 25 minutes of pulping, many of the particles had grown to 1-2 mm in diameter. Further growth of the toner particles occurred and was evident at the end of the 40 minutes of pulping.

After pulping, the contents of the pulper were pumped to a storage chest and diluted to 3% consistency (i.e. 3% dry paper in water) and pumped through a slotted-screen cleaner with 0.014 inch wide slots. The pressure drop across the screen was 10 pounds per square inch. The rejects consisted of 14-18% of the feed.

The accepts from the slotted-screen cleaner were further

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diluted to 0.7% consistency and fed through a 3-inch Bauer centrifugal cleaner. At a feed rate of 20 gallons per minute the pressure drop was 32 pounds per square inch. The reject rate was 12-14%.

The accepts from the centrifugal cleaner were used to prepare handsheets on a Nobel and Wood sheet machine. These sheets had a brightness of 74.8% ISO compared to 75.3% ISO on unprinted areas of the original waste paper. The dirt count of the accepts from the centrifugal cleaner was less than $5 \text{ mm}^2/\text{M}^2$. The ash content of the accepts from the centrifugal cleaner was 1.4% compared to 9.8% for the original paper.

As the foregoing results clearly show, the method of this invention enables preparation of paper products of quite high quality from secondary fiber printed with electrophotographic inks and although the invention has been described in considerable detail herein, it is to be appreciated that many variations may be made therein by one skilled in the art without departing from the spirit and scope thereof.

THE CLAIMS DEFINING THE INVENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

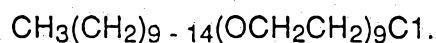
1. A method of removing ink from secondary fiber containing ink used in reprographic processes, said method comprising the steps of:
 - 5 (a) forming an aqueous slurry of pulped secondary fiber with an aqueous medium;
 - (b) contacting the pulped secondary fiber in the aqueous slurry with a polymeric material having a glass transition temperature in the range of from about 20°C. to 70°C. and a compound or mixture of compounds represented
 - 10 by the Formula I:
$$R(OCH_2CH_2)_nR^1$$

wherein:

R is C₆ to C₂₀ linear or branched alkyl;

R¹ is selected from halogen, or C₁ to C₄ alkoxy for a time sufficient to

 - 15 agglomerate the ink into discrete masses; and
 - (c) separating the agglomerated ink from the pulp-containing aqueous medium.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the compound is one wherein R is C₁₀ to C₁₅ linear or branched alkyl; R¹ is halogen and n is a whole or
 - 20 fractional number ranging from 3 to 12.
 3. The method of claim 2 wherein the deinking compound is represented by the formula:



4. The method of claim 1 wherein the polymeric material is polystyrene or styrene-carboxylic acid copolymer.
5. The method of claim 4 wherein the styrene-carboxylic acid copolymer is a styrene-acrylate copolymer.
6. The method of claim 5 wherein the styrene-acrylate copolymer is a copolymer of styrene and 2-ethylhexyl acrylate.
7. The method of claim 1 wherein the aqueous pulping medium contains a chelating agent to inhibit calcium precipitation.
- 10 8. The method of claim 1 wherein the aqueous pulping medium contains a defoaming agent.

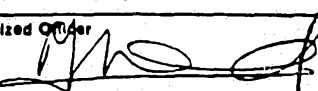
DATED THIS 17TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 1992

PPG INDUSTRIES, INC.
BY THEIR PATENT ATTORNEYS
COLLISON & CO.



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No PCT/US 89/01463

I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER (if several classification symbols apply, indicate all) ⁴		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC		
IPC ⁴ : D 21 C 5/02		
II. FIELDS SEARCHED		
Minimum Documentation Searched ⁷		
Classification System	Classification Symbols	
IPC ⁴	D 21 C	
Documentation Searched other than Minimum Documentation to the Extent that such Documents are Included in the Fields Searched ⁸		
III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT ⁹		
Category ⁹	Citation of Document, ¹¹ with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages ¹²	Relevant to Claim No. ¹³
Y	WO, A, 81/01022 (WEYERHAEUSER CO.) 16 April 1981 see abstract	1
A	--	4,5
Y	Tappi Journal, vol. 66, no. 10, October 1983, (Atlanta, Georgia, US), T. Mah: "Deinking of waste newspaper", pages 81-83 see page 82, column 2; figure 2	1
A	EP, A, 0026616 (PIRA) 8 April 1981 see abstract	1,4
A	LU, A, 75927 (SOLVAY & CIE) 16 May 1978 see claims -----	1
<p>¹⁰ Special categories of cited documents:</p> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"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)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> <p>"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</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step</p> <p>"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.</p> <p>"A" document member of the same patent family</p>		
IV. CERTIFICATION		
Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search	Date of Mailing of this International Search Report	
26th July 1989	21 AOUT 1989	
International Searching Authority	Signature of Authorized Officer	
EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE	M. VAN MOL 	

**ANNEX TO THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
ON INTERNATIONAL PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

US 8901463
SA 28605

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on 14/08/89. The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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