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(54) Title: LOW-DENSITY COMPOSITIONS AND PARTICULATES INCLUDING SAME

(57) Abstract: The present invention provides low-density compositions, as well as particulates formed, at least in part, from such compositions. Preferred low-density materials include, for example, hollowspheres, low-density minerals, and low-density wood materials (e.g., sawdust). The low-density compositions of the invention can be formed as particulates, or cores, suitable for use in forming enzyme granules, e.g., marums, layered granules, prills, drum granules, agglomerated granules, or the like. Granules are disclosed having advantageous properties, e.g., low dusting, storage stable, fast enzyme-release profile, low true density, etc. The granules of the invention are especially useful, for example, in liquid detergents and cleaners, such as predominantly aqueous, liquid laundry detergents. In one embodiment, granules are provided having a true, or volumetric, density within a range of from about 0.95 to about 1.4 g/cm³. The granules can be economically produced in commercial quantities by way of a marumerization, drum granulation, fluid-bed spray-coating, pan-coating, or other suitable process.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 C11D11/00 C11D17/00 C12N11/04 C12N9/98 C11D3/386
 B01J2/02

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 7 C11D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

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

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 99 00471 A (BOUTIQUE JEAN POL ;SMERZNAK MARK ALLEN (US); SURUTZIDIS ATHANASIOS) 7 January 1999 (1999-01-07) the whole document ---	1,4,5, 10,11, 16-18
X	WO 90 09440 A (NOVONORDISK AS) 23 August 1990 (1990-08-23) cited in the application the whole document ---	1,4-6, 10-12, 16-19,22
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search 27 June 2000	Date of mailing of the international search report 06/07/2000
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Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo.nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Mateo Rosell, A.M.
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 97 30145 A (PROCTER & GAMBLE) 21 August 1997 (1997-08-21) abstract page 3, line 34 -page 14, line 2 ---	1-3, 19, 22
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information on patent family members

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