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(54) Title: **MONO AND DIBENZOATE ESTER BLENDS AS CAULK PLASTICIZERS THAT ARE BIORESISTANT TO FUNGAL GROWTH**

(57) Abstract

The present invention comprises dipropylene and diethylene glycol dibenzoate, the improvement comprising the addition of dipropylene glycol monobenzoate or diethylene glycol monobenzoate, whereby the plasticizer is resistant to fungal growth.

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**Mono and Dibenoate Ester Blends as Caulk Plasticizers
that are Bioresistant to Fungal Growth**

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

5 This invention relates to new mono and dibenoate ester blends that can be used as caulk plasticizers. In particular, this invention relates to new ester blends that are unexpectedly more bioresistant to fungal growth than dibenoates. Still another object to the present invention is the creation of plasticizers having good compatibility with various resinous materials.

10 Other objects of the present invention will become apparent from the ensuing description.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

15 Dipropylene glycol dibenoate and diethylene glycol dibenoate have each been used as plasticizers for latex caulk. However, caulks containing these dibenoates are more prone to fungal growth than caulk based on plasticizers such as butyl benzyl phthalate. New plasticizers have now been discovered that have surprisingly good resistance to fungal growth. More specifically, one new plasticizer that has now been discovered comprises dipropylene glycol dibenoate and high levels of dipropylene glycol monobenoate. Another new plasticizer that has now been discovered comprises diethylene glycol dibenoate with high levels of diethylene glycol monobenoate. Thus, it has now been discovered that the addition of a particular monobenoate to a particular dibenoate surprisingly resulted in a plasticizer that was more resistant to fungal growth than the corresponding dibenoate alone. These new plasticizers were tested in caulk and were found to have good performance in latex caulk formulations.

20 A blend of the dipropylene glycol mono and dibenoate blend and the diethylene glycol

25

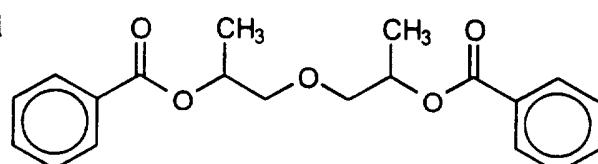
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mono and dibenzoate blend is also more fungal resistant than the dibenzoate only blend and functions well in latex caulk. Based on the performance of these high hydroxyl benzoate blends, it is likely that they will perform in other latex systems such as polyvinyl acetate adhesive systems and in water based coatings as plasticizers and/or coalescents. Use in general plasticizers formulations based on other formulations are 5 envisioned.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

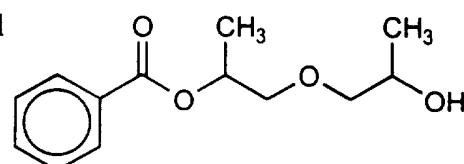
Below are the preferred embodiments of the present invention.

10 Dipropylene glycol dibenzoate:



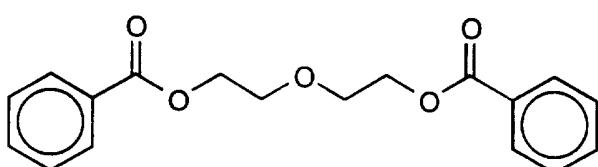
15

Dipropylene glycol monobenzoate:



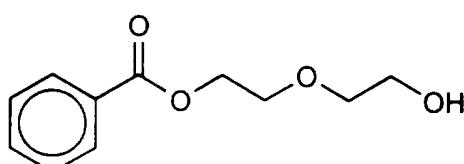
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25 Diethylene glycol dibenzoate:



30

Diethylene glycol monobenzoate:



35

The foregoing embodiments of the present invention demonstrate that there are amounts of dipropylene glycol monobenzoate and diethylene glycol monobenzoate that are suitable to reduce fungal growth with dibenzoate plasticizers. Further, blends of all four plasticizers, e.g. a 50/50 blend of dipropylene glycol mono and dibenzoate with diethylene glycol mono and dibenzoate, also reduce fungal growth as opposed to a 50/50 blend of the dibenzoates alone. The embodiment including diethylene glycol monobenzoate in the plasticizer is believed to be the preferred embodiment.

Typically it is desired that the plasticizer used be fully esterified and partially esterified plasticizers are considered not acceptable for many applications. The DPG monobenzoate and DEG monobenzoate blended with dibenzoates were found surprisingly to function acceptably as latex caulk plasticizers.

Further, the exterior exposure data on the DPGB and DEGB and the blend demonstrate that benzoates blends (with the monobenzoates) outperform typical prior art plasticizers, e.g. butyl benzyl phthalate.

Example 1 -- Neat Biological Growth Resistant of Benzoate Blends

Benzoic acid and dipropylene glycol were placed in a reactor to make plasticizer esters. Samples of plasticizer esters were collected at various intervals during the reaction cycle so that the hydroxyl content of the finished ester would be varied from the normal hydroxyl value of about fifteen upwards to over fifty. Three different samples of the finished ester were collected, each having a different hydroxyl value: (i) high; (ii) medium; and (iii) low (normal for the dibenzoate). Thus, the higher the percentage of dipropylene glycol monobenzoate, the higher the hydroxyl value.

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The same procedure was then repeated with benzoic acid and diethylene glycol.

5 Thus, a total of six different samples of esters were taken at various reaction intervals during typical preparation of dipropylene glycol dibenzoate and diethylene glycol dibenzoate. These samples were then finished in a typical manner by neutralizing any remaining benzoic acid with soda ash, water washing and drying. After these steps, the samples were then analyzed for hydroxyl content using wet chemistry.

10 The hydroxyl values ranged from twelve to forty-five. See Table 1.

15 Using the high, medium and low hydroxyl value samples of dipropylene glycol dibenzoate and diethylene glycol dibenzoate corresponding high, medium and low hydroxyl value 50/50 blend was prepared by blending the two esters together. The hydroxyl values of the blended material was determined in the same manner as the other samples. The hydroxyl value range of the 50/50 blend was from twelve to fifty eight.

20 These nine samples, along with a sample of butyl benzyl phthalate, e.g. Santicizer® 160 (made by Monsanto Chemical Corporation) as a bench mark control, were sent to an independent laboratory (Biosan Laboratories, Inc. of Ferndale, Michigan) for testing to determine resistance to fungal growth by ASTM G-21.

25 The results of this testing showed that by increasing the amount of half ester present in the finished ester, i.e. increasing the hydroxyl value, the resulting plasticizer was more resistant to fungal attack. See Table 2.

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The G-21 test was also conducted on non-nutrient agar, but the data were not definite.

For comparison of the effect of the hydroxyl content of the dibenzoates blends, a series of DPhB samples were prepared with benzoic acid added. Benzoic acid is used as a food preservative. Benzoic acid surprisingly does not retard biological growth.

See Table 3.

These results were sufficient to warrant that the high hydroxyl plasticizers be evaluated in actual latex caulk formulations.

Example 2 -- Performance of the Benzoate Blends in Acrylic Caulks

10 Table 4 lists the identifications of the plasticizer used in the caulk testing.

a. Compatibility

For a plasticizer to function in a caulk, it must be compatible with the polymeric binder. The compatibility of the plasticizers were evaluated in two different ways. A dried film of a blend of plasticizer and base emulsion was observed for film clarity and tackiness. Viscosity response of the plasticizer/polymer blend was also assessed.

A compatible plasticizer will result in a dried film that is clear and free of exudation. The dried film will also be quite tacky with a compatible plasticizer.

20 A plasticizer that is compatible will effect the emulsion viscosity more, making it more viscous, than a plasticizer that is incompatible.

Each plasticizer of Table 4 was mixed with RHOPLEX® 1785 (an acrylic emulsion made by Rohm & Haas, of Philadelphia, PA) and TRITON® X-405 (a non-

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ionic surfactant made by Rohm & Haas) according to Table 5. In this way, all of the plasticizers could then be tested for compatibility with a base emulsion. All of the films were clear and free of exudation, and were all very tacky as well. Then, the viscosity of each of those each mixtures was analyzed, after one hour and then at twenty-four hours. The results of this testing is shown in Table 6.

The viscosity response of the plasticizer/polymer blends indicates that the higher the hydroxyl value, the less the viscosity was increased, but the response was acceptable. The viscosity response observed with butyl benzyl phthalate was comparable to the response of low hydroxyl value plasticizers.

10 b. Caulk Preparation

Actual caulks were prepared using the plasticizers made in Example 1 above. These caulks were made according to the amounts shown in Table 7. To make these caulks, a low speed, high shear mixer was used.

The evaluation of plasticizer in caulk consisted of physical testing of caulks and 15 the measurement of package stability and handling characteristics. Caulks for the evaluation were based upon a formulation recommended by the resin manufacturer for a premium quality caulk. Plasticizers were used with three different levels of hydroxyl values: (1) high; (2) medium; and (3) low, from each of the three plasticizer types. i.e., dipropylene glycol dibenzoate, diethylene glycol dibenzoate, and the 50/50 blend 20 of dipropylene glycol dibenzoate and diethylene glycol dibenzoate. Butyl benzyl phthalate was also included as a bench mark control for comparison.

c. Wet Caulk Stability and Handling Characteristics

The stability of the caulks made herein were measured by a Semco gun (made by Semco Sales and Service, Inc. of Los Angeles, CA). The Semco gun is used for the rate of extrusion of a caulk after being stored at specified conditions. The storage conditions are detailed as follows: 1) Room temperature for 28 days; 2) 50°C for 28 days; 3) after three cycles of freezing and thawing.

5

Initially, the medium hydroxyl value plasticizers seemed to have an advantage over the other plasticizers used, as higher rates of extrusion were observed for these plasticizers than for the high or low plasticizers in the "one" day test at room temperature ("RT"). However, as the aging process proceeded, this advantage waned. 10 After one week and four weeks, all of the caulks were getting close to being equal in terms of stability.

10

The ratio of the four week data to the initial data indicates that the caulks are stable with ratios near one.

15

The freeze/thaw cycles or elevated temperature storage had little effect on the extrusion rates of the caulks, as can be seen by the ratios of this data to the one week data. With the exception of the low hydroxyl diethylene glycol dibenzoate, which did not make three freeze/thaw cycles.

20

The actual results of the Semco gun test are listed in Table 8. The freeze/thaw test was performed in accordance with the following method: (1) freeze for 16 hours at -20°F; (2) thaw for 8 hours at room temperature; (3) repeat steps 1 and 2 twice; and (4) measure viscosity after the last thaw. The Semco gun viscosity test was performed in accordance with ASTM C-731.

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d. 180° Peel Adhesion Test Data

The adhesion characteristics of the cured caulk are considered a primary indicator of caulk performance. Aluminum, glass and wood substrates were used for specific adhesion because they are all common building materials where caulk is likely to be applied. Table 9 lists the results of 180 degree peel testing on each of the substrates and the means by which the caulk failed. This "adhesion" test was performed according to the test procedure of Union Carbide as described below. Actual caulk prepared according to Table 7 using the plasticizers of Table I were tested.

Union Carbide's test procedure for determination of 180 degree peel adhesion was utilized. Listed below is the procedure as it appears in Union Carbide's bulletin, "UCAR Latexes for Water-Based Caulks and Sealants", F-44858, 11/74-5M. (7)

1. Equipment

- a. "Instron" Tensile Tester
- b. Aluminum mold (6" long x 1" wide x .025" thickness)
- c. Substrates free of foreign particles.
- d. 1" strip of desized, grade A airplane fabric (4.2 oz. per yard, 80/84 thread count).
- e. Broadknife or spatula, and razor blade.

2. Procedure

- a. The aluminum mold is placed on the substrate in such a manner that one end of the substrate will fit into the jaws of the "Instron" Tester.

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- b. The mastic is applied to the substrate with a spatula to the thickness of the mold, leaving a smooth surface. The mold is removed and a 1" wide strip of airplane fabric is placed on the mastic surface. The fabric should be long enough to cover the length of the film at 180 degrees, and have enough left over to fit into the "Instron" jaws.
- c. The mold is placed over the fabric and around the mastic film. Additional mastic is applied over the fabric surface inside the mold.
- d. By means of a spatula or broadknife, apply slight pressure and tool and mastic until the fabric is about 1/2 the depth of the mastic and it is covered with a smooth film.
- e. Remove the mold and allow the film to cure about seven days at room temperature and seven days in a forced air oven set at 190°F. Then re-condition one day at room temperature.
- f. The cured specimens of compound are then cut along the outer edges of the fabric to the substrate.
- g. The specimen is then placed on the "Instron" Tensile Tester and the cloth is pulled back over on itself at 180 degrees and fitted into the separation jaws.
- h. The rate of separation of the jaws on the "Instron" Tester is maintained at two inches per minute, with a chart speed of one inch per minute. The values are recorded in pounds per inch.

Variations: Equipment (d) - Test Fabrics, Inc.,

Style 429 substituted for the Grade A airplane fabric.

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Procedure (e) - The specimens were cured for 3 weeks at 23°C and 50% relative humidity.

As shown in Table 9, on the aluminum substrate, the major mode of failure was adhesive failure where the caulk pulls cleanly away from the substrate. In general, all 5 of the caulks in the same series of plasticizer yielded similar results. There were some slight differences from plasticizer to plasticizer, however.

On the glass substrate, all of the caulks performed similarly. The major mode of failure was a combination of adhesive and cohesive failure, where some of the caulk remains on the substrate and some remains on the laminate wire.

10 The wood substrate gave the best results. All of the caulks failed by the cohesive peak mode which indicates a strong caulk and good adhesion to the substrate. The trend in the wood series was that the higher the hydroxyl value, the easier the wire was delaminated from the caulk.

15 Although there was some variations in the results by changing the hydroxyl value of the plasticizer used, it is not believed that these differences do not render the plasticizer unsuitable.

e. Tensile Properties

The following tests were performed on the actual caulks made according to the 20 formulations of Table 7, using the plasticizers of Table 1. All of the following tests were performed according to ASTM No. D-638 adopted for testing of caulks. The results of the following tests are shown in Table 9.

(i) Modulus Values: the modulus value at a specific elongation is an indication of the caulk hardness. A softer cured caulk will have a lower modulus

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value. The more efficient the plasticizer, the softer the cured caulk and therefore, the lower the modulus value. For this study, the modulus was evaluated at fifty percent elongation.

Little difference was seen in the modulus values within a series of plasticizer.

5 Both the dipropylene glycol dibenzoate and dipropylene glycol dibenzoate/diethylene glycol 50/50 blend series had lower modulus values than the diethylene glycol dibenzoate series or Butyl Benzyl Phthalate. This would indicate that the efficiency of the plasticizer is not compromised by increasing the hydroxyl value.

10 (ii) Maximum Tensile: All of the caulks yielded prior to complete failure during the tensile testing. Since the tensile at break was essentially zero, the tensile strength was determined at break. The results indicate that caulks with the low hydroxyl plasticizers have lower but acceptable tensile strength. In all the series, the caulks with the low hydroxyl plasticizers had the lowest tensile strength. The dipropylene glycol dibenzoate/diethylene glycol dibenzoate had the lowest tensile strength of all of the caulks tested.

15 (iii) Elongation: The elongation at break was determined for all of the caulks tested. As would be expected, the elongation results were indicative of the tensile results. The trend was that the higher the tensile strength, the lower the elongation.

20 (iv) Shore A Hardness: The Shore A Hardness is a measure of a plasticizer's efficiency, like the modulus value in nature. A softer cured caulk indicates better plasticizer efficiency. Increasing the hydroxyl value of the plasticizer resulted in a softer caulk. All of the caulks made with plasticizer that had higher hydroxyl

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values were softer than their control. With one exception, all of the benzoate caulks were softer than the Sanitizer 160 caulk. In each series of plasticizers, the medium and high hydroxyl plasticizer resulted in caulks with equal hardness. The hardness data is listed in Table 10, with all of the tests performed in accordance with ASTM D2240.

5

f. Cure Tests

The cure of a latex caulk is best evaluated by examining the tack free time, and cure through time. This data is presented in Table 11. The "cure through time" and "tack free" tests were performed according to tests designed by Rohm & Haas.

10

(i) Tack Free Time: Tack free time is a measure of the speed at which the caulk forms a skin, in other words, how fast the surface of the caulk dries. It is better for a caulk to form a skin that will allow painting as soon as possible.

15

20

The tack-free time test performed was as follows: A sample of compound is stored for 16 to 24 hours at standard conditions. A brass frame with inside dimensions 1-1/2" wide x 5" long x 1/4" deep is centered on a 3" X 6" plate of 16 to 24 gauge aluminum and filled with the conditioned compound. Excess compound is struck off with a flat spatula. A thin knife is then run along the inside edge of the frame to free the frame, and the frame is removed. Tack-free time is determined by placing a polyethylene strip approximately 2" wide x 4" long x 0.004" thick on the top surface of the compound as soon as it appears that the tackiness is gone. The assembly is then overlaid with a 30 gram brass block measuring approximately 1" wide x 1-5/8" long x 1/8" thick. After 30 seconds, the weight is removed and the film is progressively withdrawn at right angles to the compound. The compound is considered tack-free if

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the film pulls away from the specimen without any compound adhering to it. Tack-free time is measured in minutes from the time the frame is removed from the specimen.

The data indicates that the general trend of the tack free time is that caulks having the low hydroxyl plasticizers had the shortest tack free time in the same series of plasticizers. The tack free time rarely increased by more than five minutes over the caulks having low hydroxyl plasticizers when the hydroxyl value of the plasticizer was increased. Five minutes was the interval between testing. All the caulks performed acceptably.

(ii) Cure Through Time: A Rohm & Haas cure-through procedure was employed. Aluminum Q panels (Type A, alloy 3003H14, 3" x 9" x 0.025") were used as the substrate. Two methods of judging cure-through were employed. The first method used attempted to judge complete cure by qualitatively estimating strength development. In the second method, the complete loss of liquid consistency was used as the judgement criteria for cure. The Rohm & Haas test is further described below.

A sample of compound is stored for 16 to 24 hours at standard conditions. A brass frame with inside dimensions 1-1/2" wide by 5" long x 1/4" deep is centered on a 3" x 6" plate of 16 to 24 gauge aluminum and filled with the conditioned compound. Excess compound is struck off with a flat spatula. A thin knife is then run along the inside edge of the frame to free the frame, and the frame is removed. The specimen is allowed to air-cure at standard conditions. Every 24 hours from the time of application, a section not less than 1/4" in width is removed by cutting through the specimen from the top surface to the

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aluminum plate (parallel to the 1-1/2" dimension of the specimen), and the amount of cure is observed with each cutting. The cure-through time is reported in days from the time the specimen is prepared.

5 The results indicate the hydroxyl value had no effect on the amount of time needed to achieve cure through. All of the caulks tested were cured through the quarter inch thickness in the same amount of time.

g. Low Temperature Flexibility -- The procedure used was as follows.

1. Sample Preparation

a. Equipment -- Teflon frame - 5" x 1-1/2" x 1/8" inside dimensions; Spatula

b. Materials -- Caulks, Aluminum Q Panels - Type A Alloy 3003H14 3" x 9" x 0.025"

c. Procedure

1. Place the frame on the degreased Aluminum Q Panel (degreased with acetone) and trowel caulk into cavity.

15 2. Level caulk to frame thickness with spatula.

3. Run thin spatula along inside edge of the cavity to allow the removal of the frame. Remove the frame.

4. Cure - One set is cured at 23°C and 50% relative humidity for three weeks and the other set is cured at 20 70°C for three weeks.

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2. Low Temperature Flexibility Test

a. Equipment

Gardner Laboratories Mandrel Set Cold Box -26°C.

b. Procedure

5 1. Place caulks on aluminum panels (prepared as above) in the cold box and condition for four hours. Also, condition mandrel stand and one inch mandrel.

10 2. Conduct test in the cold box. Place panel in the center of the mandrel, aluminum side down and bend 120 degrees in one second.

15 3. Observe for cracking and adhesive failure. Record observation.

Low temperature flexibility is an important measure of a caulk's durability.

Two sets of caulk samples were prepared for this test. One set was cured at room temperature. The other set was cured at 70° C. All of the samples were cured for three weeks prior to testing. The high temperature curing is a good indication of plasticizer permanence, since some of the plasticizer could be lost from the caulk at the elevated temperature.

20 All of the samples tested passed the flexibility testing. There were no signs of cracking or delamination from the aluminum substrate in any of the twenty panels that were flexed.

These results indicate that all of the plasticizers are all very permanent under the conditions tested. Also the cured caulks are very durable.

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Example 3 -- Environmental Testing

Outdoor testing of caulk having the plasticizers of the present invention demonstrates the surprising and unexpected benefits of the present invention over the prior art.

5 Actual testing of caulk having the plasticizers of the present invention was performed by an independent facility in south Florida. Specifically, various caulk were applied to fences and analyzed for resistance to mold and mildew growth over prolonged periods of time. The results are shown in Table 12. As shown in this table, the caulk having plasticizers with high hydroxyl values had significantly more resistance to fungal growth than caulk having plasticizers with lower hydroxyl values.

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TABLE 1

Plasticizer Identification and Hydroxyl Number for ASTM G-21 Tests

<u>Plasticizer Type</u>	<u>Plasticizer Label</u>	<u>Hydroxyl Number</u>
Dipropylene glycol dibenzoate	A	44.6
Dipropylene glycol dibenzoate	B	27.6
Dipropylene glycol dibenzoate	C	12.7
Dipropylene glycol dibenzoate and Diethylene glycol dibenzoate	D	45.3
Dipropylene glycol dibenzoate and Diethylene glycol dibenzoate	E	27.9
Dipropylene glycol dibenzoate and Diethylene glycol dibenzate	F	12.4
Diethylene glycol dibenzoate	G	12.1
Diethylene glycol dibenzoate	H	28.1
Diethylene glycol dibenzoate	I	46.6
Butyl benzyl phthalate	J	0

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TABLE 2
Results of ASTM G-21 on Nutrient-Type Agar

<u>Plasticizer Label</u>	<u>Week 1</u>	<u>Week 2</u>	<u>Week 3</u>
A	0	0	2
B	1	1	2
C	1	1	4
D	0	0	1
E	0	0	3
F	2	2	3
G	0	0	3
H	1	1	4
I	0	2	3
J	3	4	4
Positive Control, no plasticizer	3	4	4

TABLE 3
Results of ASTM G-21 Test -- Effect of Benzoic Acid Content on Fungal Resistance

Plasticizer/Additive	1**	2 (Day 4)	3 (Day 6)	4 (Day 9)	5 (Day 11)	6 (Day 14)	7 (Day 18)	8 (Day 23)
DPGB*	0	1	2	3	4	4	4	4
DPGB/BA* 0.2%	0	1	2	3	4	4	4	4
DPGB/BA 0.4%	0	1	2	3	4	4	4	4
DPGB/BA 0.8%	1	1	2	3	4	4	4	4
DPGB/BA 1.2%	0	0	2	3	3	4	4	4

■ DPGB - Dipropylene glycol dibenzoate

*BA - benzoic acid **First reading was made two days after inoculation.
 (known fungicide)

Conclusion: Increased BA did not provide any antifungal resistance.

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TABLE 4

**PLASTICIZER IDENTIFICATION AND HYDROXYL NUMBER
FOR CAULK TESTING**

Plasticizer Identification No.	Plasticizer Type	Hydroxyl Number
1	Dipropylene glycol benzoates (abbr. DPGB)	101.7
2	DPGB	72.6
3	DPGB	12.7
4	50/50 Blend of Dipropylene glycol and Diethylene glycol benzoates (abbr. "Blend")	78.0
5	50/50 Blend	55.1
6	50/50 Blend	14.4
7	Diethylene glycol benzoates (abbr. DEGB)	58.4
8	DEGB	39.6
9	DEGB	12.1
10	Butyl benzyl phthalate	0

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TABLE 5
VISCOSITY RESPONSE FORMULA

INGREDIENTS	PARTS BY WEIGHT
Rhoplex® 1785	100.0
Triton® X-405	2.3
Plasticizer	55.0
Total	157.3

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TABLE 6
VISCOSITY RESPONSE DATA

PLASTICIZER IN FORMULA		ONE HOUR	24 HOUR
		VISCOSITY, CPS	VISCOSITY, CPS

HYDROXYL

TYPE	NUMBER		
NONE		430	400
1	101.7	93600	89200
2	72.6	90800	113600
3	12.7	119800	124400
4	78.0	73600	85000
5	55.1	97400	91800
6	14.4	117000	127600
7	58.4	83800	79800
8	39.6	91000	87600
9	12.1	79800	78400
10	0	141600	150400

MEASUREMENTS TAKEN WITH A BROOKFIELD LVT AT 3 RPM'S**READINGS TAKEN AFTER TEN REVOLUTIONS**

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TABLE 7
CAULK FORMULA

INGREDIENTS	PARTS BY WEIGHT
Rhoplex® 1785 (acrylic emulsion)	925.0
Water	2.6
Ethylene Glycol	25.0
Tamol® 850 (Anionic dispersant, sodium salt of polymeric carboxylic acid, made by Rohm & Haas Co.)	2.6
Potassium tripolyphosphate	2.6
Plasticizer	254.0
Varsol #1 (tooling additive, mineral spirits, made by Exxon Co.)	20.0
Silane Z 6040 (glycidoxypropyl trimethoxysilane made by Dow Corning, Midland MI)	1.2
Drikalite® (Calcium carbonate filler made by ECC International, Atlanta, GA)	1250.0
Ti-pure® R-901 (whitening pigment, titanium dioxide made by E.I. DuPont de Nemours, Inc., Wilmington, DL)	20.0
Triton® X-405 (non-ionic surfactant, alkyl aryl polyether alcohol made by Rohm & Haas Co.)	20.0
NH ₃ OH	5.0
TOTAL	2528.0

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TABLE 8
SEMCO GUN CONSISTENCY DATA

Type	Hydroxy Number	Freeze/Thaw		1 Day		7 Days		28 Days		Ratio		3 Cycles		Ratio		28 Days		Ratio	
		In Caulk	Pass/Fail	RT	RT	RT	RT	RT	RT	RT	RT	RT	RT	RT	RT	AT 50°C	AT 50°C/7RT	AT 50°C	AT 50°C/7RT
1	101.7	PASS	4		3		13		3.3		11		3.7		15		5.0		
2	72.6	PASS	15		15		10		0.7		14		0.9		14		0.9		
3	12.7	PASS	10		12		11		1.1		11		0.9		8		0.9		
4	78.0	PASS	14		13		13		0.9		19		1.5		17		1.3		
5	55.1	PASS	21		19		14		0.7		31		1.6		18		0.9		
6	12.4	PASS	16		15		14		0.9		13		0.9		19		1.3		
7	58.4	PASS	12		5		8		0.7		6		1.6		9		1.6		
8	39.6	PASS	17		15		13		0.8		14		0.9		12		0.8		
9	12.1	FAIL	10		7		8		0.8		FAIL		---		8		1.1		
10	0	PASS	21		19		9		0.4		7		0.4		9		0.4		

TABLE 9
CAULK PEEL ADHESION DATA

ALUMINUM		GLASS		WOOD	
PLASTICIZER IN CAULK	MAJOR AVERAGE STD. DEV.	TYPE OF FAILURE	180° PEEL lb/in.	TYPE OF FAILURE	180° PEEL lb/in.
1 101.7	A 8.6	A/C 0.4	10.1 0.5	CP 11.5	0.7
2 72.6	A 9.2	A/C 0.9	10.7 0.4	CP 12.1	0.4
3 122.7	A 9.7	A/C 0.4	10.7 0.6	CP 13.7	0.4
4 78.0	A 7.5	A/C 0.1	10.0 0.5	CP 11.4	0.5
5 55.1	A 7.8	A/C 0.4	10.7 0.8	CP 11.5	0.4
6 14.4	A 9.8	A/C 1.8	11.3 0.7	CP 11.7	0.8
7 58.4	A 8.2	A/C 0.6	11.3 0.5	CP 12.5	0.4
8 39.6	A 7.6	A/C 0.4	11.5 0.6	CP 13.0	0.6
9 12.1	A 7.8	A/C 0.4	12.6 0.5	CP 13.1	0.5
10 0	A 9.5	A/C 0.9	13.1 0.4	CP 13.4	0.7

MAJOR MODE OF FAILURE - A = ADHESIVE, C = COHESIVE, CP = COHESIVE PEAK

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TABLE 10
CURED CAULK TENSILE DATA

TYPE	Hydroxyl Number	50°			MAXIMUM			ELONGATION			
		MODULUS	PSI	STD. DEV.	TENSILE	PSI	STD. DEV.	PER CENT STD. DEV.	AT BREAK	PSI	STD. DEV.
1	101.7	7	1	35	2	720	30	24			
2	72.6	7	2	37	4	630	40	24			
3	12.7	6	1	33	3	690	40	27			
4	78.0	7	1	37	2	650	20	20			
5	55.1	8	1	38	4	660	20	20			
6	12.4	8	1	30	3	680	20	23			
7	58.4	10	1	46	4	660	50	28			
8	39.6	11	1	49	7	640	30	28			
9	12.1	13	1	45	3	610	60	40			
10	0	11	1	41	2	650	20	15			

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TABLE 11

CURE THROUGH AND TACK FREE TIME DATA

PLASTICIZER IN CAULK	CURE THROUGH TIME (DAYS)	TACK FREE TIME (MIN.)
TYPE	HYDROXYL NUMBER	
1	10.17	9
2	72.6	9
3	12.7	9
4	78.0	9
5	55.1	9
6	12.4	9
7	58.4	9
8	39.6	9
9	12.1	9
10	0	9

TABLE 12
Latex Caulk Exterior 90 Degree Northern Exposure Data
South Florida Fence

PLASTICIZER Exposure Time	DPGDB, 101.7 OH	DPGDB, 72.6 OH	DPGDB, 12.7 OH	Blend, 78.0 OH	Blend, 55.1 OH	Blend, 14.4 OH	DEGDB, 58.4 OH	DEGDB, 39.6 OH	DEGDB, 12.1 OH	BBP
1 Month	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
2 Months	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
3 Months	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
4 Months	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
5 Months	10	10	9.5	10	9.5	10	10	10	10	10
6 Months	10	10	9.5	10	9.5	9	10	9.5	9	8
7 Months	9	8.5	8	9	9	8	9	9	9	8
8 Months	9	8	7	9	9	8	9	9	8	8
9 Months	8	7	5	8	7	6	8	8	6	5
10 Months	7	7	4	8	7	4	8	7	6	5
11 Months	7	7	4	7	7	6	7	7	6	4
12 Months	6	6	4	6.5	6	4	6.5	6.5	5	4

Rating of 10 is the best rating. A rating below 8 indicates failure.
DPGDB is dipropylene glycol dibenzate. DEGDB is diethylene dibenzoate.
Blend is a one to one blend of the above dibenzoates.

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Those of skill in the art will recognize that the plasticizers of the present invention can be used in other applications, including but not limited to adhesives, latex coatings (e.g., acrylic, vinyl acrylic, vinyl acetate, etc.) and floor polishes. It is expected that the plasticizers of the present invention will exhibit resistance to fungal growth in these other applications and possess coalescing characteristics as well.

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The foregoing detailed description of the invention has been made in general terms and with respect to several preferred embodiments. Many of the preferred embodiments stated herein may be varied by persons skilled in the art without departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention as set forth in the following claims and equivalents.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A plasticizer for latex caulk, comprising dipropylene glycol dibenzoate, the improvement comprising the addition of dipropylene glycol monobenzoate, whereby the plasticizer is resistant to fungal growth.
- 5 2. A plasticizer for latex caulk, comprising diethylene glycol dibenzoate, the improvement comprising the addition of diethylene glycol monobenzoate, whereby the plasticizer is resistant to fungal growth.
- 10 3. A plasticizer for latex caulk, comprising dipropylene glycol dibenzoate and diethylene glycol dibenzoate, the improvement comprising the addition of dipropylene glycol monobenzoate and/or diethylene glycol monobenzoate, whereby the plasticizer is resistant to fungal growth.
- 15 4. A plasticizer for latex caulk, comprising dipropylene glycol dibenzoate and diethylene glycol dibenzoate, the improvement comprising the addition of dipropylene glycol monobenzoate and/or diethylene glycol monobenzoate, whereby the plasticizer has coalescing characteristics and can be used in acrylic, vinyl acrylic, and vinyl acetate applications.
5. A latex caulk comprising the plasticizer of Claim 1.
6. A latex caulk comprising the plasticizer of Claim 2.
7. A latex caulk comprising the plasticizer of Claim 3.
- 20 8. A plasticizer for adhesives, comprising dipropylene glycol dibenzoate, the improvement comprising the addition of dipropylene glycol monobenzoate, whereby the plasticizer is resistant to fungal growth.

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9. A plasticizer for adhesives, comprising diethylene glycol dibenzoate, the improvement comprising the addition of diethylene glycol monobenzoate, whereby the plasticizer is resistant to fungal growth.
10. A plasticizer for adhesives, comprising dipropylene glycol dibenzoate and diethylene glycol dibenzoate, the improvement comprising the addition of dipropylene glycol monobenzoate and/or diethylene glycol monobenzoate, whereby the plasticizer is resistant to fungal growth.
11. An adhesive comprising the plasticizer of Claim 8.
12. An adhesive comprising the plasticizer of Claim 9.
13. An adhesive comprising the plasticizer of Claim 10.
14. A plasticizer for floor polishes, comprising dipropylene glycol dibenzoate, the improvement comprising the addition of dipropylene glycol monobenzoate, whereby the plasticizer is resistant to fungal growth.
15. A plasticizer for floor polishes, comprising diethylene glycol dibenzoate, the improvement comprising the addition of diethylene glycol monobenzoate, whereby the plasticizer is resistant to fungal growth.
16. A plasticizer for floor polishes, comprising dipropylene glycol dibenzoate and diethylene glycol dibenzoate, the improvement comprising the addition of dipropylene glycol monobenzoate and/or diethylene glycol monobenzoate, whereby the plasticizer is resistant to fungal growth.
17. A floor polish comprising the plasticizer of Claim 14.
18. A floor polish comprising the plasticizer of Claim 15.
19. A floor polish comprising the plasticizer of Claim 16.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US96/17562

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(6) :Please See Extra Sheet.
US CL :106/3, 287.26; 523/122; 514/129, 143, 148; 524/291, 292, 765
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)

U.S. : 106/3, 287.26; 523/122; 514/129, 143, 148; 524/291, 292, 765

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 practicable, search terms used)

Please See Extra Sheet.

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4,277,387 A (JORDAN, JR. et al) 07 JULY 1981.	1-7
A	US 5,216,057 A (PRATT et al) 01 JUNE 1993.	1-7
A,P	US 5,494,947 A (KAPLAN) 27 FEBRUARY 1996	1-7
A	US 5,442,001 A (JONES et al) 15 AUGUST 1995	8-13
A,P	US 5,527,845 A (STRELOW et al) 18 JUNE 1996.	8-13
A,P	US 5,532,300 A (KOUBEK et al) 02 JULY 1996	8-13
A	US 3,785,860 A (ZDANOWSKI) 15 JANUARY 1974.	14-19
A	US 4,070,510 A (KAHN) 24 JANUARY 1978.	14-19
A	US 4,071,645 A (KAHN) 31 JANUARY 1978.	14-19



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

- * Special categories of cited documents:
- "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
- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document 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
- "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

27 MARCH 1997

Date of mailing of the international search report

14 APR 1997

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US96/17562

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4,074,058 A (BAILEY et al) 14 FEBRUARY 1978.	1-19

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US96/17562

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This international 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.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

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

Please See Extra Sheet.

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 an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
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

<input type="checkbox"/>	The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
<input type="checkbox"/>	No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US96/17562

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER:

IPC (6):

C08K 5/10, 5/12; C09G 1/00, 1/06, 1/18; C09J 11/06, 11/08, 133/08, 135/00; C09K 3/10; A01N 31/00

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Electronic data bases consulted (Name of data base and where practicable terms used):

APS, CAS ONLINE

search terms: latex, caulk, adhesive, polish, dipropylene glycol dibenzoate, diethylene glycol dibenzoate, dipropylene glycol (mono)benzoate, diethylene glycol (mono)benzoate

BOX II. OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION WAS LACKING

This ISA found multiple inventions as follows:

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In order for all inventions to be searched, the appropriate additional search fees must be paid.

Group I, claim(s) 1-7, drawn to a plasticizer for a latex caulk and a latex caulk comprising the plasticizer.

Group II, claim(s) 8-13, drawn to a plasticizer for an adhesive and an adhesive comprising the plasticizer.

Group III, claim(s) 14-19, drawn to a plasticizer for a floor polish and a floor polish comprising the plasticizer.

The inventions listed as Groups I, II and III do not relate to a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: The three groups are not drawn to a single general inventive concept. A latex caulk composition, an adhesive composition and a floor polish composition are all independent and distinct inventions.