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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

— *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)*

— *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations*

Published:

— *with international search report*

— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
8 April 2004

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: DETERGENT COMPOSITIONS AND COMPONENTS THEREOF

(57) Abstract: Detergent compositions comprising bleach catalysts are disclosed. In particular, components comprising the bleach catalysts are disclosed. In particular, the bleach catalysts are formed into stable particles having low moisture content and low moisture pick-up. Particles are also described having low surface area. Particles containing bleach catalysts are also described comprising a protective agent which reacts with water to form non-water reaction products, particularly preferred protective agents being bleach activators.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/US 03/12876

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 C11D3/39

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

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 95/06710 A (UNILEVER PLC ;UNILEVER NV (NL)) 9 March 1995 (1995-03-09) page 13, line 16 - line 27; claims 1-12 page 15, line 32 - page 16, line 3 page 4, line 7 - line 11	1,2, 10-18,22
X	WO 95/06711 A (UNILEVER PLC ;UNILEVER NV (NL)) 9 March 1995 (1995-03-09) claims 1-11; examples 2,3 page 15, line 12 - line 16 page 13, line 3 - line 5	2,10-18, 22
A	WO 94/24251 A (UNILEVER PLC ;UNILEVER NV (NL)) 27 October 1994 (1994-10-27) claims 1,8,14; example 35	1,2, 10-18,22
A	EP 0 659 876 A (PROCTER & GAMBLE) 28 June 1995 (1995-06-28) page 6, line 30 - line 36; claim 1	2

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

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

° 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 document 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	Date of mailing of the international search report
31 July 2003	29. 01. 2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA	Authorized officer
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	Loiselet-Taisne, S

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1992)

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US 03/12876

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 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.:
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:

see additional 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.:

Claims 1, 2 completely and 4, 9 - 22 partially.

Remark on Protest

☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1, 2 totally and 4, 9-22 partially

A particle comprising a) a bleach catalyst or component thereof, b) a protective agent and c) optionally, a coating said particle, when measured without said optional coating, having specific physical characteristics selected between particle having a moisture content less then 0.5wt%, and a moisture pick-up of no greater than 0.5wt%, and particle having a surface area of no greater than 0.6m2/g, and a meadian particle size from 200 to 1000 microns; A detergent composition comprising such particle; A method for cleaning fabrics comprising contacting the fabrics with an aqueous solution comprising such particle

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2. claims: 3 totally 4, 9-22 partially

A particle comprising a bleach catalyst or component thereof, and a protective agent comprising a bleach activator; A detergent composition comprising such particle; A method for cleaning fabrics comprising contacting the fabrics with an aqueous solution comprising such particle

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3. claims: 5-8 totally and 9-22 partially

A particle comprising a bleach catalyst or component thereof, and a protective agent wherein the protective agent comprises a reactant for water; A detergent composition comprising such particle; A method for cleaning fabrics comprising contacting the fabrics with an aqueous solution comprising such particle

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No
PCT/US 03/12876

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