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

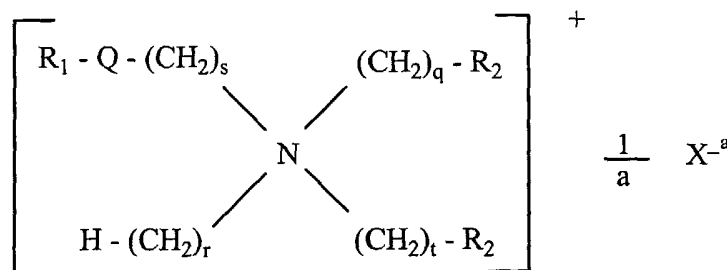
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(54) Title: FABRIC SOFTENING COMPOSITION CONTAINING ESTERQUAT WITH SPECIFIC ESTER DISTRIBUTION AND SEQUESTRANT



(57) Abstract: An aqueous rinse cycle fabric softening composition is provided containing an esterquat softening compound which remains physically stable and which is characterized by a stable viscosity over a wide range of ambient temperatures and for extended periods of time which composition comprises: (a) from about 1 % to about 25 % by weight, of a biodegradable fatty ester quaternary ammonium compound derived from the reaction of an alkanol amine and a fatty acid derivative followed by

quaternization, said fatty ester quaternary ammonium compound being represented by the formula: (I) wherein Q represents a carboxyl group having the structure -OCO- or -COO-; R1 represents an aliphatic hydrocarbon group having from 8 to 22 carbon atoms; R2 represents -Q-R1 or -OH; q, r, s and t, each independently represent a number of from 1 to 3; and X^{-a} is an anion of valence a; and wherein the normalized percentage of monoester compound in said fatty ester quaternary ammonium compound is from 28 % to 39 %; the normalized percentage of diester compound is from 52 % to 62 % and the normalized percentage of triester compound is from 7 % to 14 %; all percentages being by weight; and (b) from about 0.001 % to about 2 %, by weight, of a sequestering agent.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 C11D3/00 C11D1/62 C11D1/645		
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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.
A	EP 0 799 887 A (PROCTER & GAMBLE) 8 October 1997 (1997-10-08) claims examples abstract page 3, line 13 -page 4, line 32 page 9, line 44 -page 10, line 47 -----	1,2,5
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<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex.		
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