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(54) Title: FABRIC CONDITIONING COMPOSITION AND USE

(57) Abstract: The use of a non-ionic ethoxylated surfactant having an EO value of at least about 20, preferably at least 25, more preferably at least 30, in a fabric conditioning composition used in the rinse liquor in a domestic wash process comprising washing-by-hand or non-automatic washing machine, to improve the appearance of the rinse liquor at the end of the rinse.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/EP2006/004891

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. C11D3/00 C11D1/835 C11D3/20 C11D3/37

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)
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 02/072745 A (PROCTER & GAMBLE) 19 September 2002 (2002-09-19) cited in the application page 1, line 10 - page 4, line 18 page 5, line 32 - page 15, line 13 page 17, line 15 - page 18, line 11 page 18, line 33 - page 19, line 4 page 33, lines 12-33 claims	1-12
X	WO 99/42547 A (COLGATE PALMOLIVE) 26 August 1999 (1999-08-26) cited in the application page 1, lines 10,11; claims 1-4,8; examples ----- -/--	1-5

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☒ See patent family 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

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05/02/2007

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/EP2006/004891

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2003/114339 A1 (GRAINGER DAVID STEPHEN [GB] ET AL) 19 June 2003 (2003-06-19) paragraphs [0130], [0134]; claims; examples -----	1-12
X	US 5 505 866 A (BACON DENNIS R [US] ET AL) 9 April 1996 (1996-04-09) column 2, line 56 - column 5, line 61 column 6, lines 3-24 column 8, line 40 column 14, lines 11-19 column 15, lines 62-66 column 16, line 48 column 17, lines 24-30 -----	6-12

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/EP2006/004891

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 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 III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 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.:

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: 1-5

The use of a nonionic ethoxylated surfactant having a EO value of at least 20, in a fabric conditioning composition used in the rinse liquor in a domestic wash process comprising washing-by-hand or non-automatic washing machine, to improve the appearance of the rinse liquor at the end of the rinse.

2. claims: 6-12

A fabric conditioning composition comprising: (i) a quaternary ammonium softening compound, (ii) a water-soluble monoalkyl quaternary ammonium compound, (iii) a nonionic ethoxylated surfactant having a EO value of at least 20, (iv) a polycarboxylic acid as a pH adjuster, (v) a silicone antifoam compound, and (vi) a fatty complexing agent selected from C8-C22 fatty alcohols and C8-C22 fatty acids.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/EP2006/004891

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