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(54) Title: METHODS FOR CONVERTING LINEAR POLYESTERS TO MACROCYCLIC OLIGOESTER COMPOSITIONS AND MACROCYCLIC OLIGOESTERS

(57) Abstract: Macrocyclic oligoesters and compositions comprising macrocyclic oligoesters are prepared from intermediate molecular weight polyesters. In one embodiment, a diol is contacted with a dicarboxylic acid or a dicarboxylate in the presence of a catalyst to produce a composition comprising a hydroxyalkyl-terminated polyester oligomer. The hydroxyalkyl-terminated polyester oligomer is heated to produce a composition comprising an intermediate molecular weight polyester which preferably has a molecular weight between about 20,000 Daltons and about 70,000 Daltons. The intermediate molecular weight polyester is heated and a solvent is added prior to or during the heating process to produce a composition comprising a macrocyclic oligoester. An optional step is to separate the macrocyclic oligoester from the composition comprising the macrocyclic oligoester.

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**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
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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 C08G

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)  
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**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 714 926 A (GEN ELECTRIC) 5 June 1996 (1996-06-05) claims 1-9; examples 1-4 -----	1-44

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.
  Patent family members are listed in annex.

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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  <b>Decocker, L</b>
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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0714926 A	05-06-1996	US 5446122 A	29-08-1995
		EP 0714926 A2	05-06-1996
		JP 8225633 A	03-09-1996
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