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(54) Title: COMPOSITION FOR A PASTY FILLER MATERIAL, PASTY FILLER, AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING A
PASTY FILLER MATERIAL

(57) Abrégé/Abstract:

The invention relates to a composition for a pasty filler material (1), comprising an organic binding agent, fillers, and additives. Furthermore, the composition comprises perlites having an amphiphilic coating. The invention further relates to a corresponding pasty filler material (1), and a method for producing a pasty filler material (1). The inventive pasty filler has a lower tendency to post-thickening than other known pasty fillers.

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(54) Title: COMPOSITION FOR A PASTY FILLER MATERIAL, PASTY FILLER, AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING A PASTY FILLER MATERIAL

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a composition for a pasty filler material (1), comprising an organic binding agent, fillers, and additives. Furthermore, the composition comprises perlites having an amphiphilic coating. The invention further relates to a corresponding pasty filler material (1), and a method for producing a pasty filler material (1). The inventive pasty filler has a lower tendency to post-thickening than other known pasty fillers.

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**Composition for a pasty filler material, pasty filler,
and method for producing a pasty filler material**

10 The invention relates to a composition for a pasty filler material, pasty filler, and a method for producing a pasty filler material according to the respective independent claims.

In prior art, basically two types of fillers are known for filling joints or for being applied
15 to surfaces, such as walls, in order to smooth out unevenness and to additionally function as primer layer for another layer to be applied thereon.

Namely, on one hand, there are powder fillers, and on the other hand, there are
20 pasty fillers. Pasty fillers have the advantage that they are ready to use, whereas powder fillers have to be mixed with water before use. Pasty fillers have to be storable over months without their processing characteristics being modified or deteriorated.

A polymer binder, for example, polyvinyl acetate, polyethylene vinyl acetate,
25 polyacrylate, and/or polyvinyl alcohol is employed, either as aqueous dispersion or as re-dispersible powder. The binders have the function to bind the components of the filler material and to adhesively bond the filler to the substrate, like a wall or similar.

Filler particles, nodular and lamellar materials which are usually of mineral origin are
30 used. The filler particles form the framework or skeleton of the coating and, thus, contribute to the layer thickness and sink characteristics depending on the amount of filler material added. A main mineral filler material is natural calcium carbonate or calcium magnesium carbonate (dolomite).

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As additives thickening agents and biocides are usually used. Thickening agents may be cellulose based additives, such as hydroxypropyl methylcelluloses and hydroxyethyl celluloses which have the effect that the viscosity of the pasty filler is maintained constant, and which ensure a constant processability when stored over a 5 time period of up to one year.

Biocides are added in order to prevent bacterial contamination, and finally, fungicides are added for preventing fungal infestation.

10 The majority of pasty filler materials are applied manually, for example, by means of a trowel. If needed, the person using the filler material adds water for facilitating and improving the processability.

15 With increasing mechanization with respect to processing of chemical building products, pasty filler materials which can be used in processing machines have been developed. Specifically, spray filler materials have been developed which can be applied to a surface with a layer thickness of up to 3 mm and which act as a substrate for further, subsequently applied layers as for example wall paint or wall papers.

20 However, spray fillers on a mineral basis known from prior art have the following shortcomings: When applying the pasty material by spraying, usually the method of hydraulic atomization known as "airless application method" is used. A key requirement for the airless application is that the homogeneous pasty material 25 requires a reduced shear stress once it's being moved through the spraying equipment and spray nozzle during spraying. Therefore pasty spray fillers have to be accordingly prepared prior to being applied to a surface or joint by mechanical homogenization which effects a shear thinning. This additional procedure leads to a substantial increase of the total processing time.

30 Furthermore in pasty spray fillers known from prior art as well as in plaster materials usually organic components are implemented in order to ensure their mechanical workability. The use of organic components, however, usually involves emissions

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and odor nuisance which restricts the use of such products for indoor application. Moreover, organic components are critical with respect to fire behavior.

Pasty spray fillers are used to level unevenness of a surface so as to provide a homogeneous surface for further coatings, for example, decorative coatings. Many pasty fillers which are extremely well suited for being used in mechanical spraying devices, are either not able to provide this compensating function such that additional processing steps are necessary, or entail the above mentioned disadvantages with respect to odor and emissions, or poor fire behavior.

10

As described in US 6,545,066 in particular lightweight pasty fillers contain spherical silicate products, like micro perlite, for reducing the specific weight of the final product and provide an increased surface area yield of the product. Lightweight pasty fillers tend to (post-) thicken for several days to weeks after production and to the generation of air bubbles during storage. The generation of air bubbles and the thickening causes problems during the machine application, in particular with the "airless application method".

15

Finally, in cases where lightweight pasty filler materials are used as substrate layers for subsequent decorative coatings, products having a very high brightness and a high drying capacity have to be employed.

20

Therefore, it is an objective of the present invention, to provide a composition for a lightweight pasty filler material which can be easily machine-processed, provides good crack and shrinkage resistance, and shows only a low tendency of thickening during material storage. It is also an objective of the present invention to provide a corresponding lightweight pasty filler material, and a method for producing such a lightweight pasty filler material.

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30 This objective is solved by a composition of a pasty filler material comprising an organic binding agent, fillers, perlites, and additives. The perlites have an amphiphilic coating. Preferred embodiments of the invention are defined in the respective dependent claims.

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The inventive composition provides lightweight pasty fillers which can be used without any additional processing or preceding preparation steps, in particular in airless spraying applications. Such a pasty filler can be easily manually processed and provides good crack and shrinkage resistance. Additionally, if it uses an additive 5 consisting of a blend of liquid hydrocarbons, modified fatty acid derivatives, nonionic emulsifiers, and silicone oil an excellent workability of the filler over a long time period is ensured. The aliphatic hydrocarbon components of this additive have an anti-foaming/venting effect. Thereby, air bubbles generated during storage of the filler material are removed.

10

The amphiphilic coating of the perlites reduces the water demand of the highly porous perlites and thus, minimizes post-thickening while keeping the rheological properties of the pasty filler material constant. The hydrophobic part of the coating interacts with the aliphatic constituents of the pasty filler and reduces the water 15 demand of the porous perlites and therefore the post-thickening. The hydrophilic part of the coating interacts with the polar constituents of the filler and promotes homogeneity of the material; i.e. prevents separation of the individual constituents during storage.

20

A preferred composition further comprises 0.1 to 0.5 % by weight of an additive consisting of a blend of liquid hydrocarbons, modified fatty components, especially modified fatty acid derivatives, nonionic emulsifiers, and silicone oil. All amounts given in this document refer to the pasty consistency of the filler material, i.e. including the amount of water, except indicated otherwise.

25

The aliphatic hydrocarbons improve the flow characteristics of the sprayable filler material. This allows a reduced shear stress for implementing a continuous material transport, for example, an airless method without a mechanical homogenizing of the material before the application. Once the material is on the surface the shear stress 30 increased again, which allows to achieve a comparably high application thickness.

According to a preferred embodiment of the invention the liquid hydrocarbons are selected from the group consisting of saturated hydrocarbons with the general formula C_nH_{2n+2} , where $n= 5$ to 15 and cycloalkanes, composed of 5 and/or 6

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member rings with the general formula C_nH_{2n} (n being 5 or 6), and mixtures thereof. The saturated hydrocarbons comprise straight or branched carbon chains or both.

Preferably, the modified fatty acid compounds are selected from the group consisting of fatty acid ester, fatty alcohols, alkoxylates, polyglycol-ethers, fatty acids, and mixtures thereof.

As the nonionic emulsifier compounds selected from the group consisting of fatty alcohols, cetyl alcohol, stearyl alcohol, cetostearyl alcohol, oleyl alcohol, and mixtures thereof can advantageously be used.

The silicone oil is preferably selected from the group consisting of liquid polymerized siloxanes with alternating silicone-oxygen atoms and organic side chains. The side chains are attached to the tetravalent silicone centers, preferably comprising alkyl and phenyl groups and mixtures thereof.

According to the present invention, in a composition for a physically drying pasty filler material, the organic binders are polymer binders which can be selected from the group consisting of polyethylene vinyl acetate, polyacrylate, and polyvinyl alcohol, and any combination thereof.

The polymer binders can be added to the composition as aqueous dispersion or as re-dispersible powder. Preferably, they are contained in amounts from 0.5 to 6 % by weight.

According to a preferred embodiment of the invention, the fillers are selected from the group consisting of calcium carbonates, calcium magnesium carbonates, calcium sulfates, and lamellar siliceous materials, and any combination thereof.

Preferably, the composition comprises 10 to 70 % by weight of the fillers. Especially preferred is an amount of 40 to 70 % by weight.

It is also advantageous, if the lamellar siliceous materials comprise kaolin of the illite group. Specifically preferred, kaolin and spherical calcium aluminum silicate are

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comprised in the composition in a ratio of 1 : 2. The lamellar siliceous materials preferably depict a platelet shape.

In another preferred embodiment of the present invention, the composition comprises 5 0.2 to 10 % by weight of palygorskite. Palygorskite has a particularly even and homogeneous surface structure. Further or additionally the composition can comprise mica, especially muscovite in the same amount range as the palygorskite.

The composition comprises perlites to reduce the weight for providing the lightweight 10 pasty filler material.

According to a preferred embodiment of the invention the perlites are micronized and expanded perlites having a particle size D98 of lower than 200 µm, preferably lower than 100 µm. The mean particle size is determined by averaging linear intercepts of 15 the grain boundaries. Especially, the mean particle size D50 is between 20 to 80 µm, preferably between 40 to 50 µm.

The composition can comprise 2 to 40 % by weight of perlites. Preferably, the composition comprises 2 to 10 % by weight of micronized and expanded perlites, 20 especially coated with an amphiphilic coating. Especially preferred the composition comprises 3 to 8 % by weight of the micronized and expanded perlites.

The amphiphilic coating of the perlites comprises preferably alkoxy-modified alkylsilicone resins, especially aminoalky-substituted polydimethylsiloxanes of the 25 formula $(C_2H_6OSi)_n$, wherein n is preferably from 30 to 300.

According to yet a further preferred embodiment of the invention, the composition further comprises modified celluloses and biocides as additives.

30 The modified celluloses may be selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropyl methyl-celluloses and hydroxyethyl celluloses. Moreover, it is preferred, if the composition comprises 0.1 to 0.9 % by weight of the hydroxypropyl-methyl celluloses and/or hydroxyethyl celluloses.

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The biocides added to the composition are on a basis of 2-methyl-2H-isothiazoline-3-one (MIT) and 1,2-benzisothiazol-3(2H)-one (BIT). The composition preferably comprises 0.1 to 2 % by weight of biocides.

- 5 The composition further may comprise a starch as an additive. Modified starches are preferred, especially starch ether modified with alkylene oxides with the general formula $C_nH_{2n} + 1 O$, where $n = 2$ to 5. The starches are in amounts of 0 to 0.4 % by weight contained in the composition.
- 10 Further, the composition may comprise polyethylene glycol which is effective in reducing dust which is produced for example by sanding the dried product. This compound can be contained in a range from 0 to 1.5 % by weight of the pasty composition.

The pasty filler preferably comprises water in amounts from 20 to 60 % by weight.

- 15 According to the present invention, also a pasty filler, in particular physically drying spray filler, which is made from the above specified composition is provided. The inventive filler provides the advantages already described above in connection with its composition.

- 20 Preferably, the specific weight of the pasty filler is below 1.2 kg/l. In particular preferred it is below 1 kg/l. This pasty filler is considered as lightweight pasty filler.

- 25 According to a further preferred embodiment of the present invention, a layer thickness of 1 to 3 mm immediately after application will shrink to layer thicknesses of 65 % up to 80 % after drying.

- 30 The present invention also provides a method for producing pasty filler, in particular also lightweight pasty filler as specified above. The method is based on a two-stage process, according to which in a first step, dry components are homogenized, and in a second step, the homogenized dry components are added to aqueous or water-dilutable components. The dry components comprise fillers, perlites, and optionally other dry additives and/or dry binding agents. The perlites have an amphiphilic coating.

The aqueous or water-dilutable components can comprise an additive consisting of a blend of liquid hydrocarbons, modified fatty acid derivatives, nonionic emulsifiers, and silicone oil, and optionally other liquid additives and/or liquid binding agents. By the 5 inventive method, pasty filler having the above described advantages can be provided.

Preferably, the first and second steps of the two-stage process may be carried out in parallel for more than 80% of the processing time. Thus, the parallel processing 10 saves processing time, and thus renders the method more economical.

The resulting pasty filler generally can be applied by all methods known from the state of the art, e.g. by aid of mechanic tools or by machine processing. The machine processing is preferred.

15 Further details and features of the invention will become clear from the following description in connection with the drawings in which

20 Fig. 1 shows an illustration of a card house structure of lamellar filler particles in an inventive embodiment of a pasty filler material; and

Fig. 2 shows a comparison of the viscosity increase 24 h after production of an example of the inventive and state of the art pasty filler.

25 **Figure 1** shows an illustration of a card house structure. Since kaolin has a plate-shaped morphology, due to the charge distribution, a card house structure can be formed by the platelets to level out defect sites in the surface to be coated and to reach a high application layer thickness without the filler material slipping off the substrate.

30 **Table 1** shows a comparison of a state of the art sample 2 comprising micronized expanded perlites, however, the perlites being used without amphiphilic coating. Sample 1 is an embodiment of the invention and comprises micronized expanded perlites with an amphiphilic coating.

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A lightweight pasty sprayable filler material having a composition according to the present invention provides for a homogeneous substance which still has comparably low shear stress at high shear rates.

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Tab. 1

Raw Material	Raw Material Chemical Description	sample 1		State of the Art sample 2
		g	%	
dolomite powder 90 µm/ Microdol A 520	carbonate	840	48	49-50%
Minugel FG	palygorskite	46	3	1,5-3,5%
Mica-Celia 125	muskovite Mica			
Sil-Cell 35.34	micronised expanded Perlite			5-8%
Volite 200 H	micronised expanded perlites; surface Treatment (0,5%): silicone micro-emulsion (amino-alkyl-functional polydimethylsiloxane)	90	5	
Cellosize QP 52000	hydroxyethyl cellulose (HEC)			0,4-0,6%
Walocel MK 25000 PFV	hydroxypropyl methylcellulose (HPMC)	7		
Agitan 218	blend of liquid hydrocarbons, modified fatty acid components, nonionic emulsifiers, small amounts of silicone			2-2,5%
Vinamul 3171	ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer (EVA)	80	5	0,1-0,4%
Biocide div.	2-methyl-2-H-isothiazolin-3-on (MIT) and 1,2-benzisothiazol-3(2H)-one (BIT)	4	0	
water	water	670	39	30-32%
total kg batch		1736	100	

10 **Figure 2** shows the viscosity increase (difference of viscosity 24 h after production and directly after production) of the state of the art pasty filler according to sample 2

- 10 -

in Tab. 1 and the inventive pasty filler, composition as sample 1 according to Tab. 1. Post-thickening, as indicated by the difference in viscosity, is reduced to about 1/3 for the pasty filler according to the invention compared to the pasty filler according to the state of the art. Both, the pasty filler according to the invention and the pasty filler 5 according to the state of the art, comprise micronized and expanded perlites. The perlites used in the inventive filler are treated with an amphiphilic coating, whereas the perlites used in the state of the art filler an amphiphilic coating is not apparent.

The amphiphilic coating was achieved with a silicone micro-emulsion comprising 10 amino-alkyl functional polydimethylsiloxane.

A respective lightweight pasty spray filler material according to the present invention still has comparatively low shear stress at high shear rates. This enables a continuous material flow for an efficient spray application performance.

5

Claims

1. Composition for a pasty filler material (1), comprising an organic binding agent, fillers, perlites, and additives wherein the perlites have an amphiphilic coating.
- 10 2. Composition according to claim 1, wherein the fillers are selected from the group consisting of calcium carbonates, calcium magnesium carbonates, calcium sulfates, and lamellar siliceous materials, or any combination thereof.
- 15 3. Composition according to claim 2, wherein the lamellar siliceous materials comprise kaolin of the illite group.
4. Composition according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the composition comprises 0.2 to 10 % by weight of palygorskite, preferably 1 to 4 % by weight.
- 20 5. Composition according to claim 4, wherein the composition comprises 2 to 40 % by weight of perlites, especially comprising micronized and expanded perlites with a particle size d98 of less than 200 µm.
- 25 6. Composition according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the amphiphilic coating comprises alkoxy-modified alkylsilicone resins, especially aminoalky-substituted polydimethylsiloxanes of the formula $(C_2H_6OSi)_n$, wherein n is from 30 to 300.
- 30 7. Composition according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the composition further comprises 0.1 to 0.5 % by weight of an additive consisting of a blend of liquid hydrocarbons, modified fatty acid derivatives, nonionic emulsifiers, and silicone oil.

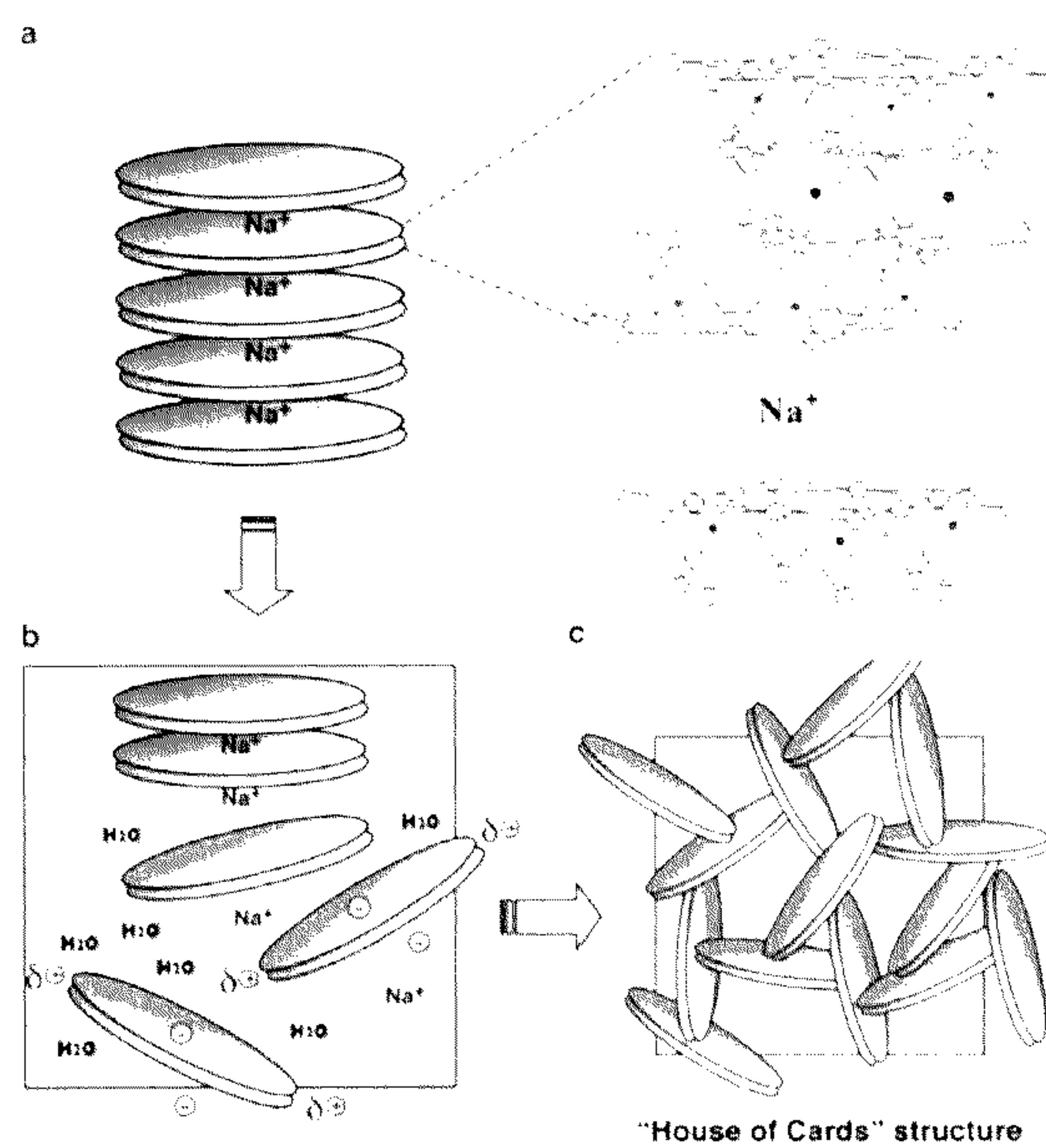
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8. Composition according to claim 7, wherein the liquid hydrocarbons are selected from the group consisting of saturated hydrocarbons with the general formula C_nH_{2n+2} , where $n= 5$ to 15 with straight or branched carbon chains and cycloalkanes composed of 5 and 6 member rings with the general formula C_nH_{2n} , and mixtures thereof.
5
9. Composition according to any one of the claims 7 or 8, wherein the modified fatty acid compounds are selected from the group consisting of fatty acid ester, fatty alcohols, alkoxylates, polyglycol-ethers, fatty acids, and mixtures
10 thereof.
10. Composition according to any one of the claims 7 to 9, wherein the nonionic emulsifiers are selected from the group consisting of fatty alcohols, cetyl alcohol, stearyl alcohol, cetostearyl alcohol, oleyl alcohol, and mixtures
15 thereof.
11. Composition according to any one of the claims 7 to 10, wherein the silicone oil is selected from the group consisting of liquid polymerized siloxane with alternating silicone-oxygen atoms and organic side chains, wherein the side
20 chains are attached to the tetravalent silicone centers comprising alkyl and phenyl groups and mixtures thereof.
12. Composition according to any one of claims 1 to 11, wherein the composition further comprises modified celluloses, starches, biocides, or fungicides as
25 additives.
13. Composition according to any one of claims 12 to 14, wherein the starches are modified starches, especially starch ether modified with alkylene oxides with the general formula $C_nH_{2n} + 1 O$, where $n = 2$ to 5.
30
14. Pasty filler, in particular physically drying spray filler, which is made from the composition according to any one of claims 1 to 13.

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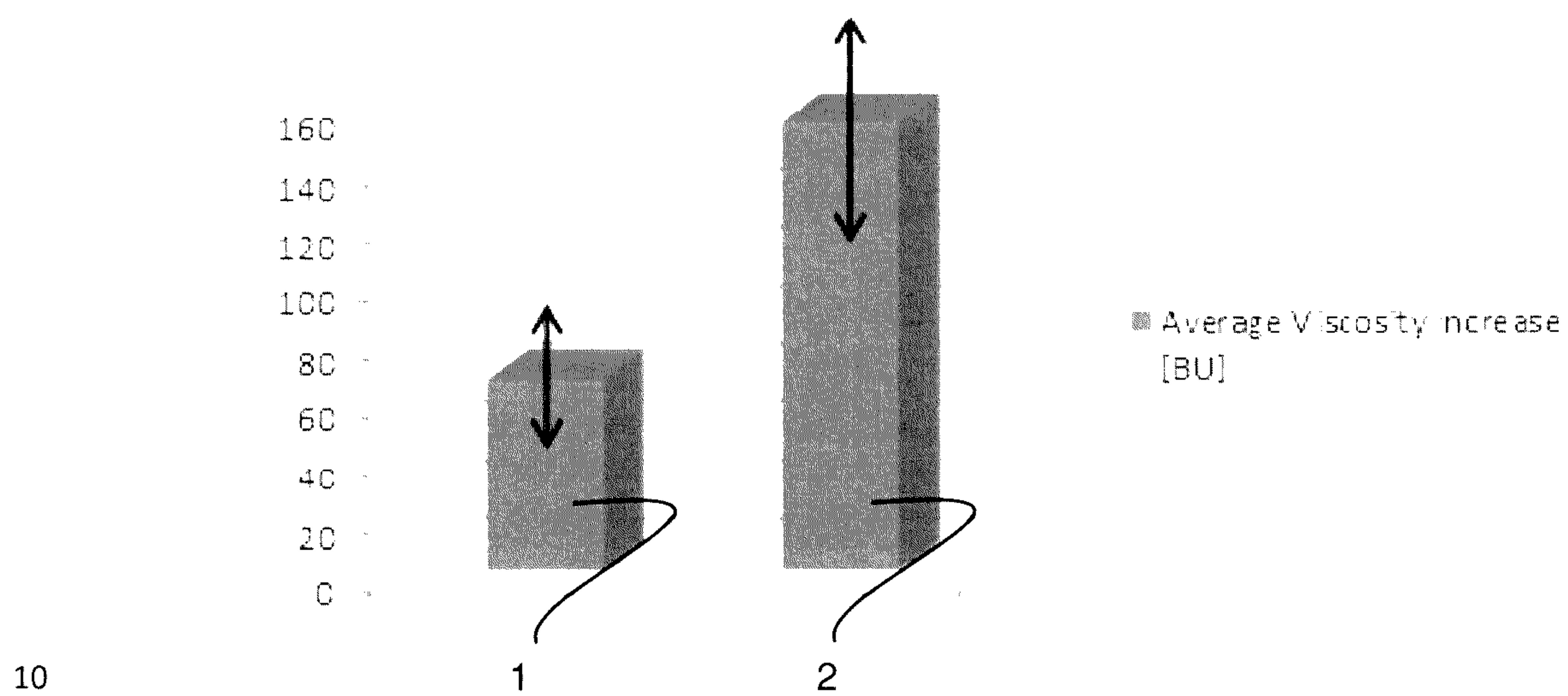
15. Method for producing a pasty filler according to claim 14, wherein the method is based on a two-stage process, according to which in a first step dry components are homogenized, and in a second step, the homogenized dry components are added to aqueous or water-dilutable components.

Fig. 1



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Fig. 2



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