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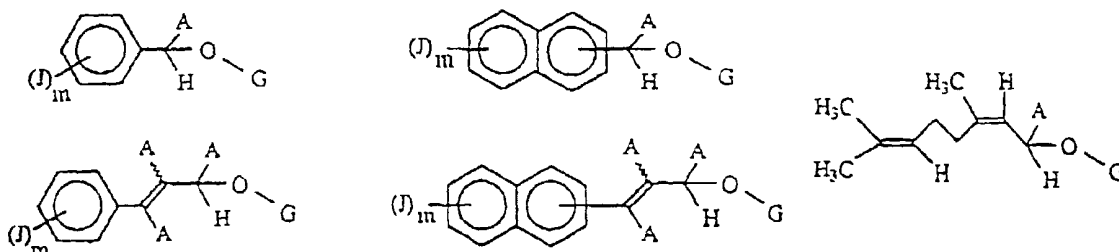
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(54) Title: PREPARING STERILE ARTICLES FROM CERTAIN POLYMERS



(57) Abstract: A method of preparing a sterile article is disclosed. An article is prepared from a polymer into which is incorporated a stabilizer having the general formula: where each A is independently selected from E, OR, SR, and CO-R, and can join the aromatic ring to form an additional ring, E is R or R(OCH<sub>2</sub>R"CH)<sub>n</sub>, G is E, CO-R, -C(E)H-O-R, C(OE)(H)-O-R, -C(E)(R"')R"'-OR, -C(E)(R"')-CO-OR, C(OE)(R"')-E"'-COOR, -C(OE)R"''-O-R, -C(OE)HR, or -C(OE)R<sub>2</sub>, J is A, each R is independently selected from H, R', R"OR', R"COOR', R"C(OR)R", or R"C(OR)R"OR", each R' is independently selected from alkyl from C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>24</sub>, aryl from C<sub>6</sub> to C<sub>24</sub>, alkaryl from C<sub>7</sub> to C<sub>24</sub>, and aralkyl from C<sub>7</sub> to C<sub>24</sub>, R" is H or R', R"'' is alkylene from C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>24</sub>, arylene from C<sub>6</sub> to C<sub>24</sub>, alkarylene from C<sub>7</sub> to C<sub>24</sub>, or aralkylene from C<sub>7</sub> to C<sub>24</sub>, m is 1 to 7, and n is 1 to 20. The article is exposed to gamma radiation; it yellows less after irradiation than it otherwise would.

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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<b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b> IPC 7 C08K5/04 C08L27/06 A61L2/00		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
<b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b> Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 C08K A61L		
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		
<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 1 004 621 A (TEIJIN LTD) 31 May 2000 (2000-05-31) page 3, line 13 - line 24; claims 1,4,8 ---	1,7,22
A	EP 0 345 662 A (GOODRICH CO B F) 13 December 1989 (1989-12-13) the whole document ---	1,2,21
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P,X	WO 00 56812 A (STEPHENS DINAH ;OCCIDENTAL CHEM CO (US)) 28 September 2000 (2000-09-28) the whole document -----	1,8,10, 13,22
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. <span style="margin-left: 100px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex.</span>		
° 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  <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.2em;">5 April 2002</div>		Date of mailing of the international search report  <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.2em;">16/04/2002</div>
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  <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.2em;">Engel, H</div>

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