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(54) Title: OXIDIZED CARBON BLACKS TREATED WITH POLYETHERAMINES AND COATING COMPOSITIONS COMPRISING SAME

(57) Abstract: Disclosed herein are materials and compositions comprising: an oxidized carbon black having a BET surface area ranging from 50 to 700 m<sup>2</sup>/g, a DBP oil adsorption number ranging from 50 to 200 mL/100 g, and a primary particle size ranging from 7 to 30 nm; and a polyetheramine comprising ethylene oxide and propylene oxide monomers, wherein the polyetheramine coats the oxidized carbon black. Also disclosed are coatings and coating compositions comprising these materials and methods of making the same.

## OXIDIZED CARBON BLACKS TREATED WITH POLYETHERAMINES AND COATING COMPOSITIONS COMPRISING SAME

### RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] This application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) to U.S. Prov. App. 61/616,451, filed March 28, 2012, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

### FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0002] Disclosed herein are oxidized carbon blacks treated with polyetheramines and their use in coatings and coating compositions.

### BACKGROUND

[0003] Carbon black is the most widely used black pigment in both water- and solvent-based formulations for surface coatings, which typically include resins. The color of the coating depends on several factors including carbon black loading, the quality of a carbon black dispersion in the resin matrix, the specific carbon black grade, and primary particle size and aggregate size. Accordingly, there remains a need to improve coating formulations.

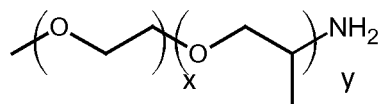
### SUMMARY

[0004] One embodiment provides a pellet or powdered material comprising:  
an oxidized carbon black having a BET surface area ranging from 50 to 700 m<sup>2</sup>/g, a DBP oil adsorption number ranging from 50 to 200 mL/100 g, and a primary particle size ranging from 7 to 30 nm; and  
a polyetheramine comprising ethylene oxide and propylene oxide monomers, wherein the polyetheramine coats the oxidized carbon black.

[0005] Another embodiment provides a pellet or powdered material comprising:

an oxidized carbon black having a BET surface area ranging from 50 to 700 m<sup>2</sup>/g, a DBP oil adsorption number ranging from 50 to 200 mL/100 g, and a primary particle size ranging from 7 to 30 nm, and

a polyetheramine having the formula:



wherein  $x = 1-35$ ,  $y = 3-30$ ,  $x/y$  is at least 0.15, and the polyetheramine coats the oxidized carbon black.

**[0006]** Another embodiment provides a coating composition, comprising:

an oxidized carbon black having a BET surface area ranging from 50 to 700 m<sup>2</sup>/g, a DBP oil adsorption number ranging from 50 to 200 mL/100 g, and a primary particle size ranging from 7 to 30 nm,

a polyetheramine comprising ethylene oxide and propylene oxide monomers, and

a resin having a molecular weight of at least 10,000.

**[0007]** Another embodiment provides a coating composition, comprising:

an oxidized carbon black having a BET surface area ranging from 50 to 700 m<sup>2</sup>/g, a DBP oil adsorption number ranging from 50 to 200 mL/100 g, and a primary particle size ranging from 7 to 30 nm,

a polyetheramine comprising ethylene oxide and propylene oxide monomers, and;

a resin selected from acrylics, polyesters, polyurethanes, alkyds, cellulose acetate butyrate, nitro cellulose, melamines, epoxies, and blends and copolymers thereof.

**[0008]** Another embodiment provides a coating comprising:

an oxidized carbon black having a BET surface area ranging from 50 to 700 m<sup>2</sup>/g, a DBP oil adsorption number ranging from 50 to 200 mL/100 g, and a primary particle size ranging from 7 to 30 nm,

a polyetheramine comprising ethylene oxide and propylene oxide monomers,  
and

a resin selected from acrylics, polyesters, polyurethanes, alkyds, cellulose acetate butyrate, nitro cellulose, melamines, epoxies, and blends and copolymers thereof.

**[0009]** Another embodiment provides a method of preparing a pellet or powdered material, comprising:

coating an oxidized carbon black with a polyetheramine, wherein the oxidized carbon black is obtained by oxidizing an unmodified carbon black having a BET surface area ranging from 50 to 700 m<sup>2</sup>/g, a DBP oil adsorption number ranging from 50 to 200 mL/100 g, and a primary particle size ranging from 7 to 30 nm.

**[0010]** Another embodiment provides a method of preparing a coating composition, comprising:

preparing a millbase comprising:

an oxidized carbon black coated with a polyetheramine comprising ethylene oxide and propylene oxide monomers;

a resin having a molecular weight of at least 10,000; and

a dispersion aid.

#### **DETAILED DESCRIPTION**

**[0011]** Disclosed herein are compositions directed to oxidized carbon blacks having a polyetheramine coating, coating formulations comprising such oxidized carbon blacks, and methods of making the same.

**[0012]** Black surface coatings are often prepared from formulations containing a dispersion of carbon black and resin. Typically, an optimal dispersion of carbon black in the final dry coating (occurring after solvent evaporation) arises from a coating composition comprising a dispersion of the carbon black in a liquid formulation that is applied to a surface. In solvent-based coatings, the stability of carbon black dispersions in solvent is based on steric stabilization of individual pigment particles. Such stability can be provided by dispersion aids.

**[0013]** More specifically, surface-oxidized carbon black grades, which are typically used in solvent-based coating formulations, often include amine functionalized polymers as dispersion aids because amine groups can anchor with acidic groups on the surface of oxidized carbon black through acid/basic interaction. Because dispersion aids are polymeric, they can provide steric stabilization through polymer interaction with the solvent. Thus, typical dispersion aids have a molecular weight of 30,000 to 100,000. The relatively high molecular weight, however, can hinder and/or slow the adsorption of the dispersion aid onto the carbon black surface. This problem can be compounded for carbon blacks having a high surface area and small primary particle size as the number of particle to particle contacts increases, thereby increasing the milling time and the amount of dispersion aid to wet the material and form a good solvent dispersion. Typically, for a high color carbon black dispersion in solvent coating formulations, the typical load of dispersion aid is 50% to 100% by weight of carbon black.

**[0014]** Currently in the solvent-based automotive market for basecoats, the coating formulations balance color ( $L$ ) and blue undertone ( $b^*$ ) properties of the carbon black, which are typically oxidized carbon blacks. The drawback of using many of these carbon black grades is the long dispersion time to obtain a mill base for full color and good hiding power.

**[0015]** It has been discovered that treating the carbon black with polyetheramines prior to forming the dispersions and mill base compositions is beneficial to the coating formulations and methods of preparing the formulations. Accordingly, one embodiment provides a powdered material comprising:

an oxidized carbon black having a BET surface area ranging from 50 to 700  $m^2/g$ , a DBP oil adsorption number ranging from 50 to 200 mL/100 g, and a primary particle size ranging from 7 to 30 nm; and

a polyetheramine comprising ethylene oxide and propylene oxide monomers, wherein the polyether amine coats the oxidized carbon black.

**[0016]** In one embodiment, "oxidized carbon blacks" are carbon black pigments generally having a pH < 7.0 that feature surface-bound ionic or ionizable groups such as

alcohol, phenol, and/or carboxylic acid groups. The extent of oxidation of carbon black can determine the surface concentration of these groups. Exemplary oxidizing agents for carbon blacks include oxygen gas, ozone, peroxides such as hydrogen peroxide, persulfates such as sodium and potassium persulfate, hypohalites such as sodium hypochlorite, nitric acid, and transition metal-containing oxidants such as permanganate salts, osmium tetroxide, chromium oxides, ceric ammonium nitrates, and mixtures thereof (e.g., mixtures of gaseous oxidants such as oxygen and ozone). In one embodiment, the “oxidized carbon blacks” are those pigments having been subjected to an oxidation treatment.

**[0017]** In one embodiment oxidized carbon black is obtained from the oxidation of unmodified carbon blacks, as described above. Unmodified carbon black particles can be selected from channel blacks, furnace blacks, gas blacks, and lamp blacks. Exemplary unmodified carbon blacks include those commercially available as Regal<sup>®</sup>, Black Pearls<sup>®</sup>, Elftex<sup>®</sup>, Monarch<sup>®</sup>, Mogul<sup>®</sup>, and Vulcan<sup>®</sup>, such as Black Pearls<sup>®</sup> 1100, Black Pearls<sup>®</sup> 900, Black Pearls<sup>®</sup> 880, Black Pearls<sup>®</sup> 800, Black Pearls<sup>®</sup> 700, Black Pearls<sup>®</sup> 570, Elftex<sup>®</sup> 8, Monarch<sup>®</sup> 900, Monarch<sup>®</sup> 880, Monarch<sup>®</sup> 800, Monarch<sup>®</sup> 700, Regal<sup>®</sup> 660, and Regal<sup>®</sup> 330.

**[0018]** In another embodiment, the oxidized carbon black is obtained from commercial sources, such as Black Pearls<sup>®</sup> 1400, Black Pearls<sup>®</sup> 1300, Black Pearls<sup>®</sup> 1000, Black Pearls<sup>®</sup> L, Monarch<sup>®</sup> 1000, Mogul<sup>®</sup> L, and Regal<sup>®</sup> 400.

**[0019]** In one embodiment, the oxidized carbon black is unmodified. For example, the oxidized carbon black is formed by oxidation of unmodified carbon black. In other embodiments, the oxidized carbon black is further treated with other surface modification methods to introduce ionic or ionizable groups onto a pigment surface, such as chlorination and sulfonylation. In another embodiment, the oxidized carbon black is modified to include attached organic groups. For example, U.S. Pat. No. 5,851,280 discloses methods for the attachment of organic groups onto pigments including, for example, attachment via a diazonium reaction wherein the organic group is part of the diazonium salt. In yet another embodiment, the oxidized carbon black is formed by oxidation of modified carbon black (e.g., modified by chlorination, sulfonylation, or by attachment of organic groups).

**[0020]** In one embodiment, “coat” or “coating” refers to a physical and/or chemical interaction between the polyetheramine and the carbon black that is not covalent.

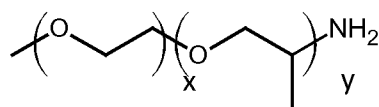
In one embodiment, the polyetheramine and oxidized carbon black interact via adsorption, ionic bonding, van der Waals interaction, etc., and combinations of such interactions. For example, oxidized carbon blacks provide acidic groups (e.g., carboxylic acid or alcohol groups and anions and salts thereof) that can interact with the amine groups (and cations and salts thereof) of the polyetheramine.

**[0021]** In one embodiment, the oxidized carbon black has a BET surface area ranging from 50 to 700 m<sup>2</sup>/g (e.g., from 90 to 650 m<sup>2</sup>/g), a DBP oil adsorption number ranging from 50 to 200 mL/100 g (e.g., from 60 to 160 mL/100g), and a primary particle size ranging from 7 to 30 nm (e.g., from 10 to 25nm). BET surface area can be determined according to ASTM-D6556. DBP can be determined according to ASTM-D2414. Primary particle size can be determined according to ASTM-D3849 (07-2011).

**[0022]** In one embodiment, the polyetheramine is generally a lower molecular weight compound relative to typical dispersion aids. For example, the polyetheramine has a molecular weight ranging from 250 to 5,000, or a molecular weight ranging from 1,000 to 2,500. The polyetheramine can be a mono-, di-, or triamine where the amine groups have sufficient accessibility to interact with the surface of the oxidized carbon black. In one embodiment, the polyetheramine is terminated with one or more amine groups. In one embodiment, the polyetheramine is a monoamine.

**[0023]** In one embodiment, the polyetheramine comprises propylene and ethylene oxide monomers in a ratio ranging from 1:2 to 9:1, such as a ratio ranging from 1:2 to 8:1, 1:2 to 7:1, or 1:2 to 6:1.

**[0024]** The polyetheramine can be branched or linear. In one embodiment, the polyetheramine has the formula:



wherein  $x = 1-35$ ,  $y = 3-30$ ,  $x/y$  is at least 0.15. In other embodiments,  $x/y$  is at least 0.3. For example,  $x/y$  can be 9/1, 3/19, 29/6, 10/31, or 1/1. Exemplary polyetheramines can be obtained commercially from Huntsman Corporation under the trademark JEFFAMINE<sup>®</sup> polyetheramines.

**[0025]** The powdered material is a particulate material and typically comprises aggregates of the primary particles. The powdered material can be present as a dispersion, or as a bulk powder, e.g., a powder substantially free of water or solvent, such as less than 10%, less than 5%, less than 3%, or less than 1% water or solvent. In one embodiment, the polyetheramine is present in the powdered material (e.g., the bulk powdered material) in an amount ranging from 5% to 30% by weight with respect to the total weight of the powdered material, such as an amount ranging from 5% to 30% by weight with respect to the total weight of the powdered material. In another embodiment, the carbon black is present in the powdered material in an amount ranging from 65% to 95% by weight with respect to the total weight of the powdered material.

**[0026]** Another embodiment provides a method of preparing a powdered material, comprising:

coating an oxidized carbon black with a polyetheramine, wherein the oxidized carbon black is obtained by oxidizing a carbon black (e.g., an unmodified carbon black) having a BET surface area ranging from 50 to 700 m<sup>2</sup>/g, a DBP oil adsorption number ranging from 50 to 200 mL/100 g, and a primary particle size ranging from 7 to 30 nm.

**[0027]** In one embodiment, the step of coating comprises spraying the polyetheramine onto the oxidized carbon black. In one embodiment, the spraying is performed on oxidized carbon black powder.

**[0028]** Many high-color carbon blacks are available as either a powder or pellet, which is the compacted form of the powder. While pellets are easier to handle, e.g., due to reduced dusting, they are more difficult to disperse. It has been discovered that pellets formed by compacting/densifying the powdered materials disclosed herein disperse readily while reducing the amount of dusting during handling. In one embodiment, the pellets have a D50 of at least 100 μm, e.g., a D50 ranging from 100 μm to 5000 μm, from 100 μm to 2000 μm, or from 100 μm to 500 μm, or a D50 of at least 125 μm, e.g., a D50 ranging from 125 μm to 5000 μm, from 125 μm to 2000 μm, or from 125 μm to 500 μm.

**[0029]** One embodiment provides a method of making pellets, comprising compacting unoxidized carbon black to form a compacted material, oxidizing the compacted

material, combining the oxidized material with the polyetheramines disclosed herein. In another embodiment, the pellets are prepared by compacting the powdered material disclosed herein. In yet another embodiment, the pellets are prepared by compacting oxidized carbon black and combining the compacted oxidized carbon black with the polyetheramines disclosed herein.

**[0030]** Another embodiment provides compositions for surface coatings, or coating compositions. Accordingly, one embodiment provides a coating composition, comprising:

an oxidized carbon black having a BET surface area ranging from 50 to 700 m<sup>2</sup>/g, a DBP oil adsorption number ranging from 50 to 200 mL/100 g, and a primary particle size ranging from 7 to 30 nm,

a polyetheramine comprising ethylene oxide and propylene oxide monomers, and

a resin having a molecular weight of at least 10,000.

**[0031]** In one embodiment, the polyetheramine coats the oxidized carbon black.

**[0032]** The amount of carbon product used in the coating compositions is generally dependent on the desired performance of the resulting coating. For example, the amount of carbon product can be adjusted to optimize such properties as jetness, viscosity, and dispersion stability. In one embodiment, the carbon black is present in the coating composition in an amount ranging from 1% to 30%, such as an amount ranging from 1% to 20% by weight with respect to the total weight of the coating composition.

**[0033]** The coating composition typically comprises a resin having a higher molecular weight than the polyetheramine, e.g., a molecular weight of at least 10,000. The resin can be of a type that promotes a hydrophobic surface and/or any polymer that chemically or physically locks the carbon black particles to each other and/or to a substrate. In one embodiment, the resin is selected from acrylics, polyesters, polyurethanes, alkyds, cellulose acetate butyrate, nitro cellulose, melamines, epoxies, and blends and copolymers thereof.

**[0034]** In one embodiment, where the resin is capable of cross-linking, the coating composition can further comprise cross-linking agents. For example, where the resin is selected from polyols (e.g., polyester polyols, acrylic polyols, and blends and copolymers thereof), the cross-linking agent can be selected from amine-, imine-, and isocyanate-containing compounds, such as Cymel<sup>®</sup> 325 and Cymel<sup>®</sup> 303, from Cytec Industries, and Resimene<sup>®</sup> 717 from INEOS Melamines. The cross-linking agent can be provided in either the mill base or the let down composition. In one embodiment, the resin (optionally including a cross-linking agent) is present in the composition in an amount of at least 40%, at least 50%, or at least 60% by weight with respect to the total weight of the composition.

**[0035]** In one embodiment, the coating composition further comprises a liquid vehicle. In one embodiment, the liquid vehicle comprises a solvent, such as an organic solvent, or a solvent blend. Suitable examples of organic solvents include alcohols (e.g., methanol and isobutanol), glycols, ethers (e.g., tetrahydrofuran or diethylether), ketones (e.g., acetone, methylethyl ketone, or methylbutyl ketone), esters (e.g., n-butyl propionate), acetates (e.g., methyl-, ethyl-, propyl-, and butyl acetate, and propylene glycol methyl ether acetate (PGMEA)), amides (e.g., dimethylformamide), sulfoxides (e.g., dimethylsulfoxide), hydrocarbons, aromatics (e.g., toluene), halocarbons (e.g., chloroform), and miscible mixtures thereof (e.g., ethylene glycol and methanol). Conventional co-solvents include, but are not limited to, butyl acetate, ethylcellosolve, ethylcellosolve acetate, butylcellosolve, butylcellosolve acetate, ethylcarbitol, ethylcarbitol acetate, diethylene glycol, cyclohexanone, propylene glycol monomethyl ether, propylene glycol monomethyl ether acetate, lactate esters, and mixtures of these may also be employed. In one embodiment, the solvent is present in the coating composition in an amount ranging from 0.1% to 60% by weight, e.g., an amount ranging from 5% to 50% by weight, an amount ranging from 10% to 50% by weight, or an amount ranging from 10% to 40% by weight with respect to the total weight of the composition.

**[0036]** In one embodiment, the coating composition further comprises a dispersing aid. In one embodiment, the dispersing aid is selected from amine-functionalized or amine-terminated compounds such as polyamine, tertiary amine, or quaternary ammonium functionalized compounds, e.g., tetraoctylammonium bromide, block

copolymers e.g., those having both a hydrophobic and a hydrophilic group, and polyalkylene oxides or acrylic polymers comprising amine functional groups, and blends and copolymers thereof. Other dispersing aids in addition, or in alternative, to the amine-functionalized compound include, but are not limited to, polyalkylene oxides (such as polyethylene oxide or polypropylene oxide), polyesters (such as polycaprolactone, polyvalerolactone, poly(hydroxy stearic acid), or poly(hydroxyoleic acid), polyamides such as polycaprolactam, polyacrylates, block copolymers having both a hydrophobic and a hydrophilic group, acid functionalized compounds (such as carboxylic acid or phosphonic acid functionalized compounds), polyalkylene oxides or acrylic polymers comprising acid functional groups.

**[0037]** Exemplary dispersants that may be employed include, but are not limited to, the OLOA series (modified polyisobutylene succinimides) from Chevron Chemical Co. Also included but not limited are: BYK108, BYK 115, BYK116, BYK161, BYK163, BYK 182 BYK 2150 and BYK2050, all available from BYK Chemie, Solsperse™ series of dispersants 27000, 32000, 32500, 38500, and 39000, Efkla™ dispersants such as 4050, 4310, and 4061, available from Noveon, including and K-Sperse™ dispersants such as K-Sperse™ 504XD from King Industries.

**[0038]** The amount of dispersing aid can be determined based on one or more factors, including the coated carbon black, the solvent, and the carbon black loading level. In general, the ratio of the amount of dispersing aid to the amount of coated carbon black can be at least about 0.1 or more (e.g., from about 0.2 or more, or from about 0.3 or more, or from about 0.5 or more, or even about from about 1 or more). Alternatively, or in addition, the ratio of the amount of dispersing aid to the amount of coated carbon black can be about 10 or less (e.g., about 5 or less, or about 4 or less, or about 3 or less, or about 2.5 or less). In another embodiment, the ratio of the amount of dispersing aid to the amount of coated carbon black can range from 0.01 to 10, from 0.1 to 5, from 0.1 to 2.5, from 0.5 to 2.5, or from 1 to 2.5.

**[0039]** The dispersions can be prepared by any method known in the art. For example, the coated carbon black and solvent may be combined with agitation to produce a stable dispersion in the presence of a dispersing aid. Alternatively, the dispersing aid can be combined with the pigment, and the resulting combination can then be combined with the

solvent. The pigment, dispersing aid, and solvent may be combined in any equipment known in the art, such as ceramic media or ball mill, or other high shear mixing equipment, such as a rotor-stator mixer. Various conventional milling media can also be used. Other methods for forming the dispersion/mill base will be known to one skilled in the art.

**[0040]** The coating composition can be a mill base or any coating composition that is eventually applied to a surface (e.g., after let down). Without wishing to be bound by any theory, the polyetheramine treated carbon black is better wetted by solvent in a mill base in which the polyetheramine molecules can bind to the carbon black surface via an acid/base binding interaction. While the invention is not limited to monoamines, such molecules can adsorb more quickly onto carbon black surfaces and provide initial steric stabilization of carbon black particles in solvent dispersion by virtue of the propylene oxide/ethylene oxide chains. During milling or the formation of dispersions, the larger dispersion aid molecules can be adsorbed on carbon black surface and provide long term stability of mill base and paint formulations. Due to the improved efficiency of dispersing the treated oxidized carbon black, the amount of dispersing aid can be reduced by at least 10% by weight, by at least 20% by weight, or by an amount ranging from 10% to 30% by weight, relative to the amount of dispersing aid used to create a dispersion of untreated oxidized carbon black.

**[0041]** Non-aqueous coating formulations vary widely depending on the final use and the components present, including other additives. Two general classes of additives are fillers and modifiers. Examples of fillers are other coloring pigments, clays, talcs, silicas, and carbonates. Fillers can be added in an amount ranging from 0.1% to 60% by weight, depending on final use requirements. Examples of modifiers are flow and leveling aids generally added at less than 5% by weight (e.g., from 0.1% to 5% by weight). The modified pigments disclosed herein can be incorporated into a non-aqueous coating composition using standard techniques, e.g., as a dispersion.

**[0042]** The coating composition can be prepared in any suitable manner, for example, by combining the treated oxidized carbon black with the liquid vehicle and resin, as well as with other components of the coating composition (e.g., other pigment(s), dispersion aid(s), vehicle(s), other colorant(s) (e.g., dyes), coalescing agent(s), flow additive(s), defoamer(s), surfactant(s), rust inhibitor(s), charge control agent(s), and the

like), by any suitable methods, many of which are well known in the art. For example, the modified pigment particles can be added to a mixture of the liquid vehicle and resin in a solvent then dispersed therein using any suitable methods. Alternatively, the modified pigment particles can be added to the liquid vehicle and then dispersed therein, with the carrier or carrier precursor added thereafter. Additional components such as described herein can be added at any suitable stage in the preparation of the coating composition.

**[0043]** Accordingly, another embodiment provides a method of preparing a coating composition, comprising:

preparing a millbase comprising:

an oxidized carbon black coated with a polyetheramine comprising ethylene oxide and propylene oxide monomers;

a resin having a molecular weight of at least 10,000; and

a dispersion aid.

**[0044]** In one embodiment, the method further comprises the step of combining the millbase with a let down comprising a cross-linking agent. The let down can further comprise a resin, which can be the same or different from the resin in the millbase. In one embodiment, the let down includes at least one resin that is the same as in the millbase. The let down can also comprise additional components such as the cross-linking agent, organic solvents, dispersing aids and surfactants, etc.

**[0045]** Also disclosed herein are coatings, e.g., the composition that results after applying the coating composition to a substrate surface followed by removal of the solvent, e.g., by drying. Accordingly, another embodiment provides a coating composition, comprising:

an oxidized carbon black having a BET surface area ranging from 50 to 700 m<sup>2</sup>/g, a DBP oil adsorption number ranging from 50 to 200 mL/100 g, and a primary particle size ranging from 7 to 30 nm,

a polyetheramine comprising ethylene oxide and propylene oxide monomers,  
and

a resin selected from acrylics, polyesters, polyurethanes, alkyds, cellulose acetate butyrate, nitro cellulose, melamines, epoxies, and blends and copolymers thereof.

**[0046]** The resin can be of any resin as disclosed herein. In one embodiment, the resin promotes a hydrophobic surface and/or can chemically or physically lock the carbon black particles to each other and/or to a substrate. In one embodiment, the substrate is selected from glasses, plastics, metals, ceramics, papers, and woods, and painted, coated, or waxed surfaces thereof. In another embodiment, the substrate is selected from metals, such as automotive metal surfaces (such as the automobile body), e.g., steel, aluminum, magnesium, titanium, zinc, and alloys thereof.

**[0047]** The coatings disclosed herein can be used for a variety of different end-use applications, such as, for example, automotive topcoats, to give coatings with improved overall performance properties. The polyetheramine-treated carbon blacks can be readily dispersed in the coating compositions to obtain coatings with improved jetness and blue tone. This will be further clarified by the following examples, which are intended to be purely exemplary of the present invention.

## EXAMPLES

### Example 1

**[0048]** Various medium color grades carbon blacks have been tested, including Monarch<sup>®</sup> 880, a base seed carbon black (CB) particle, and Monarch<sup>®</sup> 1000, which is a nitric acid treated oxidized version of Monarch<sup>®</sup> 880. Monarch<sup>®</sup> 1000 carbon black was mixed with M-2005, M-2070 and XTJ-674 grades of JEFFAMINE<sup>®</sup> polyetheramine and tested in OEM type solvent-based formulations.

**[0049]** Table 1 below lists the combinations of Monarch<sup>®</sup> 880 and Monarch<sup>®</sup> 1000 samples with JEFFAMINE<sup>®</sup> (JA) polyetheramines:

Table 1

Sample #	JA type	CB grade	JA/CB
1	M-2070	M1000	0.05
2	M-2070	M1000	0.1
3	M-2070	M1000	0.25
4	M-2070	M880	0.1
5	XTJ-674	M1000	0.05
6	XTJ-674	M1000	0.1
7	XTJ-674	M1000	0.25
8	XTJ-674	M880	0.1
9	M-2005	M1000	0.05
10	M-2005	M1000	0.1
11	M-2005	M1000	0.25
12	M-2005	M880	0.1

**[0050]** The polyetheramines of sufficient water solubility (JEFFAMINE<sup>®</sup> polyetheramine M-2070 and XTJ-674) were sprayed in various amounts onto the carbon blacks as aqueous solutions. JEFFAMINE<sup>®</sup> polyetheramine M-2005 was sprayed as a suspension in water. The carbon black samples were rolled for 10 hours, and then dried overnight at 85°C. The majority of the samples were powders even before oven drying since the amount of added water was minimal (less than DBP). Dry carbon black samples were pulverized before formulating into mill bases.

### **Example 2**

**[0051]** This Example describes the use of the coated carbon black samples of Example 1 in preparing model automotive solvent-based formulations at 2.45% pigment loading with a standard DisperBYK 163 dispersion aid (product of BYK Chemie / Altana).

**[0052]** Mill bases were prepared using the following equipment:

- Eiger mill;
- 1.0 mm Zirconium media;
- Blue M Vented Drying Oven (Model POM 206); Gar Lab 15 Hour model (VWR);
- air assist spray; and
- coarse paint strainers (Paul N. Gardner Co.).

**[0053]** The following raw materials were used:

- Setal<sup>®</sup> 1715VX74 (polyester polyol)
- Setalux<sup>®</sup> 1184SS51 (acrylic polyols)
- DisperBYK<sup>®</sup> 163 (high MW acrylate)
- Cymet 325<sup>®</sup> melamine resin (amino-based cross-linking agent, Cytec)
- BYK<sup>®</sup> 346, wetting agent (silicone surfactant, BYK Chemie)
- butyl acetate; and
- PGMEA.

**[0054]** A mill base master batch contained the materials listed in Table 2 below:

**Table 2**

Setal <sup>®</sup> 1715VX74	60.75 g	47.65
DisperBYK <sup>®</sup> 163	20 g	15.69
Butyl Acetate	23.37 g	18.33
PGMEA	23.38 g	18.34
	127.5 g	100.00%

**[0055]** Setal<sup>®</sup> 1715VX74 was placed in a quart can and placed in a lab mixer. DisperBYK<sup>®</sup> 163, butyl acetate and PGMEA were premixed and then added to the Setal<sup>®</sup> 1715VX74 under good agitation mix for 5 minutes, followed by further mixing for 10 minutes, and then discharged.

**[0056]** The mill base was prepared using in the proportions listed in Table 3, below:

**Table 3**

Millbase master batch	127.5 g	85.0%
coated carbon black (from Example 1)	22.5 g	15.0%
2mm ceramic media	150.00 g	100.00%

**[0057]** 127.5 grams ( $\pm .01$ ) of the millbase master batch was placed in a vessel under high speed dispermat. 22.5 grams of the coated carbon black from Example 1 was added to the millbase master batch under slow agitation. The speed was increased to

4000RPM and mixed for 5 minutes. The mixture was then recirculated through a horizontal mill (Eiger) for four passes and the viscosity measured. The mixture was discharge and proceeded to the letdown.

**Example 3**

**[0058]** This Example describes the let down of the mill base composition of Example 2 and preparation of the final coating composition.

**[0059]** A let down master batch was prepared in the proportions listed in Table 4 below:

**Table 4**

Setalux <sup>®</sup> 1184SS51	44 g	18.27
Setal <sup>®</sup> 1715VX74	121 g	50.25
Cymel <sup>®</sup> 325	48.8 g	20.27
BYK <sup>®</sup> 346	2 g	0.83
butyl acetate/PGMEA (1/1)	25 g	10.38
<b>Total</b>	<b>240.8 g</b>	<b>100%</b>

**[0060]** The Setalux<sup>®</sup> 1184SS51 and Setal<sup>®</sup> 1715VX74 were weighed into a half gallon container and placed under the lab mixer. The BYK<sup>®</sup> 346, butyl acetate, PGMEA, and Cymel<sup>®</sup> 325 were premixed together then slowly added to the Setalux<sup>®</sup>/Setal<sup>®</sup> mixture under good agitation. This master batch was mixed for another 15 minutes then discharged.

**[0061]** A finish was prepared in the proportions listed in Table 5 below

**Table 5**

Millbase from Example 2	9.4 g	9.4%
Letdown Master batch	90.6 g	90.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00 g</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**[0062]** 90.6 grams ( $\pm .01$ ) of the letdown master batch was added to 9.4 g of the mill base from Example 2 into an 8 oz epoxy coated can under good agitation. This mixture was placed in a skandex for 15 minutes and allowed to stand overnight before application stage.

**Example 4**

**[0063]** This Example describes the preparation and evaluation of coatings made from the coating compositions of Example 3.

**[0064]** The Formulations with Monarch<sup>®</sup> 1000 were sprayed on tin plate at 0.8 mil DFT (dry film thickness) and dried at 140°C for 20 minutes after flash of air drying at room temperature for 10 minutes. The color was measured on Hunter Labscan colorimeter. Table 6 shows the L a b\* and M<sub>c</sub> data for the samples made from the components of Table 1.

**Table 6**

	M1000	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 5	No. 6	No. 7	No. 9	No. 10	No. 11
L	1.52	1.54	1.42	1.32	1.38	1.32	1.3	1.34	1.3	1.24
a*	0.02	0.01	0.02	0	0.01	0.01	0	0.03	0.07	0.04
b*	0.31	0.09	0.11	0.12	0.12	0.16	0.12	0.18	0.21	0.2
Mc	272	275	278	280	279	280	282	279	279	282

**[0065]** From this data, it can be seen that samples of oxidized carbon black treated with polyetheramines show lower *L* (stronger color), better (lower) color tone *b*\*, and higher Mc values than the control sample of oxidized carbon black without coated polyetheramine. The increase of the amount of polyetheramine on carbon black results in coating with better color development. Polyetheramines with higher content of propylene oxide, which are more hydrophobic, XTJ-674 and M-2005 yielded better color than the more hydrophilic M-2070.

**[0066]** Mill bases made with non-oxidized CB M880 (sample nos. 4, 8 and 12) were too viscous for coating preparation; data could not be collected for these samples.

**Example 5**

**[0067]** Coating compositions were made with Black Pearls<sup>®</sup> 1300 grade of oxidized carbon black and coated with JEFFAMINE<sup>®</sup> polyetheramines, as listed in Table 7 below.

**Table 7**

Sample #	polyetheramine	carbon black grade	polyetheramine/CB
A	M-2070	Black Pearls <sup>®</sup> 1300	0.1
B	M-2070	Black Pearls <sup>®</sup> 1300	0.15
C	M-2070	Black Pearls <sup>®</sup> 1300	0.2
D	XTJ-674	Black Pearls <sup>®</sup> 1300	0.1
E	XTJ-674	Black Pearls <sup>®</sup> 1300	0.15
F	XTJ-674	Black Pearls <sup>®</sup> 1300	0.2
G	XTJ-674	Black Pearls <sup>®</sup> 1300	0.2
H	XTJ-674	Black Pearls <sup>®</sup> 1300	0.2
I	XTJ-674	Black Pearls <sup>®</sup> 1300	0.2
J	M-2005	Black Pearls <sup>®</sup> 1300	0.1
K	M-2005	Black Pearls <sup>®</sup> 1300	0.15
L	M-2005	Black Pearls <sup>®</sup> 1300	0.2

**[0068]** The coating compositions were prepared according to the methods outlined in Examples 1-4. The color performance ( $M_c$ ) of these samples was compared with the performance of compositions containing an oxidized carbon black from Orion (FW200), which is uncoated. The results are shown in Table 8.

**Table 8**

Sample	$M_c$
FW200	284
A	277
B	286
C	287
D	288
E	289
F	291
G	292
H	290
I	289
J	288
K	289
L	292

**[0069]** It was found that inventive samples give better color of the coating, with  $M_c$  value of 5 to 7 units higher than those made with FW200. Based on these results, it can be concluded that hydrophilic JEFFAMINE<sup>®</sup> polyetheramine M-2070), does not provide as

good jetness as medium and highly hydrophobic materials (similar to results of M1000). JEFFAMINE<sup>®</sup> polyetheramine XTJ-674 and M-2005 perform equally well.

**[0070]** To achieve good jetness and hiding power, a solvent mill base with Monarch<sup>®</sup> 1300 (uncoated) needs to pass through a media mill 4 to 5 times. Using the oxidized carbon blacks coated with polyetheramines, as described herein, such as aqueous solutions of pulverized Black Pearls<sup>®</sup> 1300 pellets mixed with polyetheramine followed by drying, the milling time through a media mill is reduced to 1 pass.

**[0071]** It was also found that mill bases disclosed herein, such as a mill base prepared with Black Pearls<sup>®</sup> 1300 (samples 1 to 12), required substantially lower amounts of dispersion aid to achieve good color. This behavior brings additional benefit to customers, by lowering total cost of the formulation.

#### **Example 6**

**[0072]** This Example describes the formation of polyetheramine-treated pellets.

**[0073]** Oxidized carbon black pellet samples Black Pearls<sup>®</sup> 1000 and Black Pearls<sup>®</sup> 1300 were treated with JEFFAMINE<sup>®</sup> polyetheramine M-2005 in the same manner as Example 1 to produce polyetheramine-treated pellets Sample A and Sample B, respectively.

**[0074]** A representative pellet size distribution for Samples A and B is provided in Table 9.

**Table 9**

2000 $\mu\text{m}$	1000 $\mu\text{m}$	500 $\mu\text{m}$	250 $\mu\text{m}$	125 $\mu\text{m}$	62.5 $\mu\text{m}$
8%	13%	17%	38%	18%	6%

#### **Example 7**

**[0075]** This Example describes the preparation of coating compositions from the Sample A and Sample B pellets of Example 6. Table 10 lists the materials for preparing a millbase masterbatch:

**Table 10**

<b>Raw material</b>	<b>Amount (%)</b>
Setal <sup>®</sup> 189SS65 (polyester resin)	30.77
Efka <sup>®</sup> 4310 (dispersant)	8.00
Butyl Acetate	25.61
PGMEA	25.62
carbon black (Sample A or Sample B)	10.00

**[0076]** A mixture of Efka 4310, butyl acetate, and PGMEA was prepared followed by the addition of Setal<sup>®</sup> 189SS65 under good agitation. Carbon black was then added slowly followed by mixing for 5 min. at 4000 rpm. This mixture was then passed through a horizontal media Eiger mill at 10 m/s tip speed for a number of passes, as specified below.

**[0077]** The mill base was reduced with the letdown formulation of Table 11:

**Table 11**

<b>Raw material</b>	<b>Amount (%)</b>
Setal <sup>®</sup> 189SS65	48.11
CAB551-0.01 (30% BA) (cellulose acetate butyrate resin in butyl acetate)	29.88
Cymel <sup>®</sup> 325	2.79
BYK <sup>®</sup> 346	0.45
butyl acetate/PGMEA	18.77

**[0078]** A mixture of cellulose acetate butyrate resin solution, Cymel 325, and BYK346 were blended together in butyl acetate/PGMEA. This mixture was added to the Setal<sup>®</sup> 189SS65 under good agitation and mixed for 15 min and discharged. A finish formulation was prepared in the proportions listed in Table 12 below.

**Table 12**

<b>Raw material</b>	<b>Amount (%)</b>
Masterbatch letdown	89.5
Millbase	10.5

**[0079]** The millbase was added to the masterbatch letdown under good agitation, mixed for 20 min. and then discharged.

[0080] Coatings were formed by casting out the formulation on cold roll steel and BYK chart with a .003 cast out bar, followed by air drying for 10 minutes at room temperature, and curing at 150°F for 10 minutes. The resulting clear coat was cast with a .005 cast out bar followed by air drying for 24 hours at room temperature.

[0081] Tables 13-18 below show the L, b, and Mc values, respectively for the pellets disclosed herein (Samples A and B) compared to a pelleted, oxidized black (Black Pearls® 1000) and; a powdered oxidized black (Monarch® 1000 or Monarch® 1300).

**Table 13: L values**

	<b>BP1000</b>	<b>M1000</b>	<b>Sample A</b>
Pass 1	11.00	8.03	1.72
Pass 2	8.52	2.63	1.52
Pass 3	7.58	2.04	1.54
Pass 4	6.63	1.76	1.55
Pass 5	5.26	1.67	1.54
Pass 6	4.98		
Pass 7	3.93		

**Table 14: L values**

	<b>Sample B</b>	<b>M1300</b>
Pass 1	3.50	18.49
Pass 2	1.22	7.11
Pass 3	1.12	4.15
Pass 4	1.05	2.48
Pass 5	1.04	1.89

**Table 15: b values**

	<b>BP1000</b>	<b>M1000</b>	<b>Sample A</b>
Pass 1	0.95	3.06	-0.15
Pass 2	1.41	0.78	-0.43
Pass 3	1.19	0.33	-0.44
Pass 4	1.15	0.06	-0.46
Pass 5	1.00	-0.02	-0.43
Pass 6	0.90		
Pass 7	0.82		

**Table 16: b values**

	<b>Sample B</b>	<b>M1300</b>
Pass 1	1.66	2.57
Pass 2	-0.12	3.55
Pass 3	-0.20	2.43
Pass 4	-0.31	1.41
Pass 5	-0.27	0.91

**Table 17: M<sub>c</sub> values**

	<b>BP1000</b>	<b>M1000</b>	<b>Sample A</b>
Pass 1	189.00	193.00	274
Pass 2	198.00	245.00	285
Pass 3	203.50	260.00	285
Pass 4	208.50	270.00	284
Pass 5	218.00	274.00	284
Pass 6	221.00		
Pass 7	230.50		

**Table 18: M<sub>c</sub> values**

	<b>Sample B</b>	<b>M1300</b>
Pass 1	226	165
Pass 2	289	194
Pass 3	295	214
Pass 4	300	237
Pass 5	300	252

**[0082]** The disclosed pellets (Samples A and B) demonstrated superior color performance relative to the oxidized carbon black and the untreated carbon black. Faster color L and b values development can be attributed to greater dispersion of the pigment particle in the system. The same also can be seen with color jetness development. Samples A and B achieved optimum color performance in 2 passes versus 5 passes for commercial oxidize black. The base black cannot approach the color performance of the disclosed pellets even after 7 passes in the mill.

**[0083]** Moreover, Samples A and B required a dispersant loading of just 20%, while both the base and oxidized carbon blacks require loadings of 40% or higher. The low

dispersant requirement the disclosed pellets can be attributed to the lower surface energy of the polyetheramine/pellet composite in a nonpolar formulation.

### **Example 8**

**[0084]** This Example describes the treatment of oxidized carbon black with polyetherdiamines and coating compositions prepared therefrom.

**[0085]** A powdered, oxidized black, Monarch<sup>®</sup> 1300, was treated with JEFFAMINE<sup>®</sup> polyetheramine grade D-230 in the same manner as described in Example 1 to form the polyetherdiamine-treated carbon black (Sample C). Table 19 below lists the components of the millbase composition.

**Table 19**

<b>Raw material</b>	<b>Amount (%)</b>	<b>Amount (%)</b>
Setal <sup>®</sup> 189SS65	34.3	34.3
DisperBYK <sup>®</sup> 161	20	10
butyl acetate	35.7	45.7
carbon black	10	10
	M1300	Sample C

**[0086]** A mixture of DisperBYK<sup>®</sup> 161, butyl acetate, and PGMEA was prepared followed by the addition of Setal<sup>®</sup> 189SS65 under good agitation. The carbon black was slowly to this mixture and then mixed for another 5 minutes at 4,000RPM.

**[0087]** This mixture was then passed through a horizontal media through Eiger mill at 10m/s tip speed, discharged, then run for millbase viscosity.

**[0088]** The finish formulation is provided in Table 20 below.

**Table 20**

<b>Raw material</b>	<b>Amount (%)</b>
Setal <sup>®</sup> 189SS65	21.75
CAB381-2 (15% BA)	16.65
Millbase	5

**[0089]** The Setal<sup>®</sup> 189SS65 and cellulose acetate butyrate resin solution were combined under good agitation, followed by combining with the millbase and mixing for

15 min. This formulation was discharged and coatings were prepared in the same manner as described in Example 7.

[0090] Table 21 lists the L, a, b, and  $M_c$  values.

**Table 21**

	<b>M1300</b>	<b>Sample C</b>
L	0.99	0.84
a	0.12	0.12
b	0.12	0.16
$M_c$	292	299

[0091] It can be seen that the polyetherdiamine-treated carbon black achieves improved L and  $M_c$  values, compared to the untreated sample.

[0092] The Examples demonstrate that coatings prepared with the coated oxidized carbon blacks, according to the claimed invention, exhibited color properties significantly exceeded those prepared with uncoated oxidized carbon blacks.

[0093] The use of the terms “a” and “an” and “the” are to be construed to cover both the singular and the plural, unless otherwise indicated herein or clearly contradicted by context. The terms “comprising,” “having,” “including,” and “containing” are to be construed as open-ended terms (i.e., meaning “including, but not limited to,”) unless otherwise noted. Recitation of ranges of values herein are merely intended to serve as a shorthand method of referring individually to each separate value falling within the range, unless otherwise indicated herein, and each separate value is incorporated into the specification as if it were individually recited herein. All methods described herein can be performed in any suitable order unless otherwise indicated herein or otherwise clearly contradicted by context. The use of any and all examples, or exemplary language (e.g., “such as”) provided herein, is intended merely to better illuminate the invention and does not pose a limitation on the scope of the invention unless otherwise claimed. No language in the specification should be construed as indicating any non-claimed element as essential to the practice of the invention.

**CLAIMS**

1. A powdered material comprising:  
an oxidized carbon black having a BET surface area ranging from 50 to 700 m<sup>2</sup>/g, a DBP oil adsorption number ranging from 50 to 200 mL/100 g, and a primary particle size ranging from 7 to 30 nm; and  
a polyetheramine comprising ethylene oxide and propylene oxide monomers, wherein the polyetheramine coats the oxidized carbon black.
2. The powdered material of claim 1, wherein the polyetheramine has a molecular weight ranging from 250 to 5,000.
3. The powdered material of claim 1 or 2, wherein the polyetheramine has a molecular weight ranging from 1,000 to 2,500.
4. The powdered material according to any one of claims 1-3, wherein the propylene oxide and ethylene oxide monomers are present in the polyetheramine in a ratio ranging from 1:2 to 9:1.
5. The powdered material according to any one of claims 1-4, wherein the propylene oxide and ethylene oxide monomers are present in the polyetheramine in a ratio ranging from 1:2 to 7:1.
6. The powdered material according to any one of claims 1-5, wherein the polyetheramine is present in the powdered material in an amount ranging from 5 to 30% by weight.
7. The powdered material according to any one of claims 1-6, wherein the polyetheramine is present in the powdered material in an amount ranging from 10 to 25% by weight.
8. The powdered material according to any one of claims 1-7, wherein the oxidized carbon black is present in the powdered material in an amount ranging from 65 to 95%.
9. The powdered material according to any one of claims 1-8, wherein the polyetheramine is a monoamine.

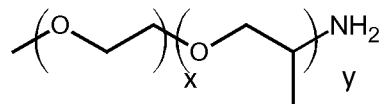
10. The powdered material according to any one of claims 1-9, wherein the oxidized carbon black is formed by oxidation of unmodified carbon black.

11. The powdered material according to any one of claims 1-10, wherein the material is a bulk powdered material.

12. A powdered material comprising:

an oxidized carbon black having a BET surface area ranging from 50 to 700 m<sup>2</sup>/g, a DBP oil adsorption number ranging from 50 to 200 mL/100 g, and a primary particle size ranging from 7 to 30 nm, and

a polyetheramine having the formula:



wherein  $x = 1-35$ ,  $y = 3-30$ ,  $x/y$  is at least 0.15, and the polyetheramine coats the oxidized carbon black.

13. The powdered material of claim 12, wherein  $x/y$  is at least 0.3.

14. The powdered material of claim 12 or 13, wherein the material is a bulk powdered material.

15. A pellet comprising:

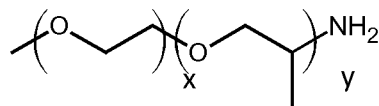
an oxidized carbon black having a BET surface area ranging from 50 to 700 m<sup>2</sup>/g, a DBP oil adsorption number ranging from 50 to 200 mL/100 g, and a primary particle size ranging from 7 to 30 nm; and

a polyetheramine comprising ethylene oxide and propylene oxide monomers, wherein the polyetheramine coats the oxidized carbon black.

16. A pellet comprising:

an oxidized carbon black having a BET surface area ranging from 50 to 700 m<sup>2</sup>/g, a DBP oil adsorption number ranging from 50 to 200 mL/100 g, and a primary particle size ranging from 7 to 30 nm, and

a polyetheramine having the formula:



wherein  $x = 1-35$ ,  $y = 3-30$ ,  $x/y$  is at least 0.15, and the polyetheramine coats the oxidized carbon black.

17. The pellet of claim 15 or 16, wherein the pellet has a D50 of at least 100  $\mu\text{m}$ .
18. The pellet of claim 15 or 16, wherein the pellet has a D50 of at least 125  $\mu\text{m}$ .
19. The pellet of claim 15 or 16, wherein the pellet has a D50 ranging from 125  $\mu\text{m}$  to 5000  $\mu\text{m}$ .
20. The pellet of claim 15 or 16, wherein the pellet has a D50 ranging from 125  $\mu\text{m}$  to 2000  $\mu\text{m}$ .
21. The pellet of claim 15 or 16, wherein the pellet has a D50 ranging from 125  $\mu\text{m}$  to 500  $\mu\text{m}$ .
22. A coating composition, comprising:
  - an oxidized carbon black having a BET surface area ranging from 50 to 700  $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$ , a DBP oil adsorption number ranging from 50 to 200  $\text{mL}/100 \text{ g}$ , and a primary particle size ranging from 7 to 30 nm,
  - a polyetheramine comprising ethylene oxide and propylene oxide monomers,
  - and
  - a resin having a molecular weight of at least 10,000.
23. The composition of claim 22, wherein the resin is selected from acrylics, polyesters, polyurethanes, alkyds, cellulose acetate butyrate, nitro cellulose, melamines, epoxies, and blends and copolymers thereof.
24. A coating composition, comprising:
  - an oxidized carbon black having a BET surface area ranging from 50 to 700  $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$ , a DBP oil adsorption number ranging from 50 to 200  $\text{mL}/100 \text{ g}$ , and a primary particle size ranging from 7 to 30 nm,

a polyetheramine comprising ethylene oxide and propylene oxide monomers,  
and;

a resin selected from acrylics, polyesters, polyurethanes, alkyds, cellulose acetate butyrate, nitro cellulose, melamines, epoxies, and blends and copolymers thereof.

25. The composition according to any one of claims 22-24, wherein the polyetheramine coats the oxidized carbon black.

26. The composition according to any one of claims 22-25, wherein the polyetheramine has a molecular weight ranging from 500 to 5,000.

27. The composition according to any one of claims 22-26, wherein the propylene oxide and ethylene oxide monomers are present in the polyetheramine in a ratio ranging from 1:2 to 9:1.

28. The composition according to any one of claims 22-27, wherein the resin is present in the composition in an amount of at least 60% by weight.

29. The composition according to any one of claims 22-28, wherein the oxidized carbon black is present in the composition in an amount ranging from 1% to 30% by weight.

30. The composition according to any one of claims 22-29, further comprising a liquid vehicle.

31. The composition according to any one of claims 22-30, further comprising a cross-linking agent.

32. The composition according to any one of claims 22-31, further comprising a dispersion aid.

33. A coating comprising:

an oxidized carbon black having a BET surface area ranging from 50 to 700 m<sup>2</sup>/g, a DBP oil adsorption number ranging from 50 to 200 mL/100 g, and a primary particle size ranging from 7 to 30 nm,

a polyetheramine comprising ethylene oxide and propylene oxide monomers,  
and

a resin selected from acrylics, polyesters, polyurethanes, alkyds, cellulose acetate butyrate, nitro cellulose, melamines, epoxies, and blends and copolymers thereof.

34. The coating of claim 33, wherein the resin is selected from acrylics, polyesters, and blends and copolymers thereof.

35. A method of preparing a pellet or powdered material, comprising:  
coating an oxidized carbon black with a polyetheramine, wherein the oxidized carbon black is obtained by oxidizing an unmodified carbon black having a BET surface area ranging from 50 to 700 m<sup>2</sup>/g, a DBP oil adsorption number ranging from 50 to 200 mL/100 g, and a primary particle size ranging from 7 to 30 nm.

36. The method of claim 35, wherein the step of coating comprises spraying the polyetheramine onto the oxidized carbon black.

37. The method of claim 35, wherein the oxidized carbon black is obtained by oxidizing the unmodified carbon black with nitric acid.

38. A method of preparing a coating composition, comprising:

preparing a millbase comprising:

an oxidized carbon black coated with a polyetheramine comprising ethylene oxide and propylene oxide monomers;

a resin having a molecular weight of at least 10,000; and

a dispersion aid.

39. The method of claim 38, wherein the oxidized carbon black has a BET surface area ranging from 50 to 700 m<sup>2</sup>/g, a DBP oil adsorption number ranging from 50 to 200 mL/100 g, and a primary particle size ranging from 7 to 30 nm.

40. The method of claim 38 or 39, wherein the resin is selected from acrylics, polyesters, polyurethanes, alkyds, cellulose acetate butyrate, nitro cellulose, melamines, epoxies, and blends and copolymers thereof.

41. The method according to any one of claims 38-40, further comprising the step of combining the millbase with a letdown comprising a cross-linking agent.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No  
PCT/US2013/031290

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
INV. C09C1/56  
ADD.  
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)  
C09C

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 practicable, search terms used)  
EPO-Internal, CHEM ABS Data, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 2003/024434 A1 (BUTLER SUSAN HARDIN [US] ET AL) 6 February 2003 (2003-02-06) paragraph [0003] - paragraph [0004] paragraph [0011] - paragraph [0019] paragraph [0021] - paragraph [0024]	1-41
A	----- DATABASE CA [Online] CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS SERVICE, COLUMBUS, OHIO, US; CAO, SHU-HUA ET AL: "To improve the dispersibility of carbon black in water with plasma and organic amines treatments", XP002698176, retrieved from STN Database accession no. 2011:777124 abstract ----- -/--	1-41

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 application or patent 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 4 June 2013	Date of mailing of the international search report 18/06/2013
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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, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Siebel, Eric
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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No  
PCT/US2013/031290

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 1 666 543 A1 (MITSUBISHI CHEM CORP [JP]) 7 June 2006 (2006-06-07) paragraphs [0009], [0012] -----	1-41

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US2013/031290

## Box No. 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.: 22, 23, 33(all partially)  
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:  
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
  
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 No. 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:

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 fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
  
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 and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

**FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210**

Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 22, 23, 33(all partially)

1.1 Present claim 33 relates to a coating comprising an oxidized carbon black, a polyether amine and a resin. Support and disclosure in the sense of Article 6 and 5 PCT is to be found however for only a coating comprising an oxidized carbon black, a polyether amine and a resin, wherein the polyether amine coats the oxidized carbon black.

1.2 The non-compliance with the substantive provisions is to such an extent, that the search was performed taking into consideration the non-compliance in determining the extent of the search of claim 33 (PCT Guidelines 9.19 and 9.23). 1.3 The search of claim 33 was

restricted to those claimed coatings which appear to be supported, i.e. a coating composition comprising an oxidized carbon black, a polyether amine and a resin, wherein the polyether amine coats the oxidized carbon black. 1.4 The same objection and restriction applies mutatis mutandis to the subject-matter of claims 22 and 23.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guidelines C-IV, 7.2), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/US2013/031290

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2003024434	A1	06-02-2003	NONE
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EP 1666543	A1	07-06-2006	EP 1666543 A1 07-06-2006
			US 2006186383 A1 24-08-2006
			WO 2005012438 A1 10-02-2005
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