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#### (54) Title: TREATMENT OF INORGANIC FILLER MATERIAL FOR PAPER WITH POLYSACCHARIDES

#### (57) Abstract

The disclosed invention relates to a composition comprising finely divided cationically charged particles of an inorganic material treated with at least one of anionic polysaccharide or anionically modified polysaccharide. The disclosed invention further relates to a method of providing paper of improved strength. The method entails providing finely divided particles of inorganic material, treating the particles with at least one of anionic polysaccharide or anionically modified polysaccharide, and adding the treated particles to cellulose fiber during an alkaline process for making paper. Also, an alkaline paper comprising the finely divided particles of inorganic material treated with at least one of anionic polysaccharide or anionically modified polysaccharide is disclosed.

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# TREATMENT OF INORGANIC FILLER MATERIAL FOR PAPER WITH POLYSACCHARIDES

#### Field of the Invention

This invention relates to improved filler materials for paper, and alkaline paper that includes those filler materials. This invention also relates to methods of preparing paper, particularly to methods for preparing paper using these filler materials.

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#### Background of the Invention

Fillers typically are added to cellulose fibers during alkaline paper making to improve brightness, opacity, show through, and feel of the formed paper. Fillers used in alkaline paper making processes typically include fine particles of inorganic materials such as clay, titanium dioxide, and calcium carbonate such as precipitated calcium carbonate ("PCC").

because the filler not only provides improved optical properties, but also because the filler is less expensive than the pulp fiber. Additionally, increasing the amount of filler in alkaline paper making reduces energy consumption. However, increased amounts of filler may detrimentally affect the strength of the paper, both in terms of tensile strength as well as internal bond strength.

It is known to treat filler materials used in paper making to improve the strength of the paper. For example, GB 1,505,641 discloses treating particles of inorganic materials with an anionic latex of a synthetic polymeric resin. Similarly, U.S. Patent 4,445,970 discloses a method of manufacturing paper containing mineral filler and anionic latex.

GB 2,016,498 discloses flocculating paper making fillers
with a composition comprising starch, an organic
polyelectrolyte, and an agent for moderating the degree of
flocculation and viscosity of the dispersion. The resulting

pre-flocculated filler is disclosed to provide improved tensile strength in paper.

- U.S. Patent 4,710,270 discloses a mineral filler covered with a dispersion of cationic starch and
- 5 carboxymethylcellulose or alginate, resulting in improved strength and retention.
  - U.S. Patent 4,799,964 discloses a preflocculated filler formed by continuously contacting a flow of an aqueous pigment slurry with a flocculating agent, followed by imparting
- 10 sufficient shear force to control the particle size of the preflocculated filler. The resulting preflocculated filler is disclosed to exhibit improved retention.
- U.S. Patent 4,181,567 discloses contacting a mineral filler with a relatively high molecular weight homopolymer or 15 copolymer of acrylamide to form an agglomerate which is disclosed to improve mechanical properties of the paper.
- EP 399,775 discloses a film forming composition for paper comprised of a gum, a water-soluble alginate, starch, and a polyvinyl alcohol or carboxymethylcellulose. The resulting composition is disclosed as providing improved sizing and porosity control.
- U.S. Patent 4,420,341 discloses a stabilized surface modified filler consisting of an organic acid reactive filler, an unsaturated organic acid, an antioxidant, and a hydrocarbon
  25 liquid agent. The surface modified filler is disclosed to
  - improve various physical properties when used in rubber and plastic compounding.
- U.S. Patent 2,322,185 discloses using karaya gum or alkali treated karaya gum to flocculate mineral fillers for30 improving retention and recovery of mineral fillers.
- U.S. Patent 2,949,397 discloses coating filler particles with organic colloid material derived from plant seeds or corns such as plant mucilage. An example is substituted mannans which are complex polysaccharides. The disclosed 35 advantage is improved retention.
  - U.S. Patent 4,755,259 discloses a process for papermaking in which a binder comprising colloidal silicic acid and either

amphoteric or cationic guar gum is added to the papermaking furnish prior to sheet formation. The binder addition results in improved retention and strength.

U.S. Patent 5,104,487 describes a papermaking process susing a cationic starch in combination with a naturally anionic polysaccharide gum. The resulting paper or paperboard exhibits improved strength.

None of the above patents address the problem of decreased tensile strength and internal bond strength in

10 alkaline paper products as the percent of filler in the paper is increased. None of these references, moreover, show reacting anionic or anionically modified polysaccharides with a finely divided inorganic material to obtain a filler material which provides improved strength in paper.

A need therefore exists for filler material that can be employed in alkaline paper products at increased levels but which avoids the disadvantages of the prior art.

#### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

- This invention, in a first aspect, is directed to an improved filler material for paper. The filler material is a composition that includes cationic finely divided inorganic material treated with an anionic or anionically modified polysaccharide. Preferably, the inorganic material is an
- 25 alkaline earth carbonate such as calcium carbonate, most preferably, precipitated calcium carbonate (PCC). The polysaccharide preferably is a gum, more preferably xanthan gum or anionic guar gum.

The invention also is directed to an improved method of alkaline paper making. The method entails providing the above finely divided particles of inorganic material, treating the particles with the polysaccharide, and adding those treated particles to cellulose fiber during an alkaline paper making process.

Another aspect of the invention relates to an improved alkaline paper. The alkaline paper comprises the above finely

divided particles of inorganic material treated with the above anionic or anionically modified polysaccharide.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

In the present invention, the strength of the paper surprisingly can be increased by selecting and treating the inorganic material with an anionic polysaccharide or an anionically modified polysaccharide, and adding the treated material to cellulose fiber during an alkaline paper making process. Other uses of the filler material of the invention include use as pigments and fillers in cements, plastics, rubber, paints and pharmaceuticals.

Generally, the fillers of the invention are obtained by mixing finely divided particles of inorganic material with an **15** anionic or anionically modified polysaccharide. Preferably, the polysaccharides employed have a number average molecular weight of from about 1 x 10<sup>4</sup> to about 5.0 x 10<sup>7</sup>.

Polysaccharides useful in the invention may be classified by solubility, source, structure, etc. Polysaccharides useful 20 in the invention and which are classified on the basis of solubility include agar, algins, carboxymethylcellulose, carrageenans, anionic guar gum, gum arabic, hemicellulose, xanthan and the like. Polysaccharides useful in the invention and which are classified on the basis of source include seed gums such as corn starch, anionic guar gum, and the like; tuber and root gums such as potato starch and the like; seaweed extracts such as algins, carrageenans, agar and the

ghatti, gum karaya and the like; fermentation gums such as 30 xanthan, gellan, and the like; and derived gums such as carboxymethylcellulose, starch acetates, starch phosphates, starch sulfates and the like. Other useful polysaccharides include anionic polysaccharides such as algins, xanthan, carboxymethylcellulose, gum arabic, carrageenans, agar, gellan 35 gum and the like.

like; exudate gums such as gum arabic, gum tragacanth, gum

Polysaccharides especially useful in the invention include but are not limited to algin, xanthan gum, anionic

guar gum, carboxymethylcellulose, gum arabic, carrageenans, agar, gellan gum and the like, preferably xanthan gum and anionic guar gum.

The inorganic material employed in the invention may be

5 any inorganic material having a net cationic charge which is
typically used as a filler in paper making. Useful inorganic
materials include minerals such as calcium carbonate, clay,
titanium dioxide, talc, alumina trihydrate, sodium
aluminosilicate, zinc sulfide and the like. Calcium carbonate

10 may be either natural, such as ground limestone and chalk, or
precipitated. Most preferred is precipitated calcium
carbonate.

The average particle size of the inorganic material useful in the invention typically is from about 0.1 to about 5μ, preferably from about 0.2 to about 3.0μ. Average particle size is defined as the equivalent spherical diameter as measured by a Sedigraph 5100, manufactured by Micrometrics Co. The particles of inorganic material can be treated with polysaccharide to provide about 0.01 to about 5% of 20 polysaccharide based on dry weight of inorganic material,

preferably from about 0.05 to about 0.5% of polysaccharide based on dry weight of inorganic material.

The inorganic materials of the invention can be treated with polysaccharides by any of Method (A), Method (B), Method 25 (C), or Method (D) as described below. In Method (A), dry powder of polysaccharide such as anionic or anionically modified polysaccharide is added to an aqueous slurry that has about 5 to about 75% by weight, preferably about 10 to about 30% by weight of inorganic material solids in the aqueous 30 phase. Dry polysaccharide is added to the aqueous slurry of inorganic material to provide about 0.01 to 5% of polysaccharide based on the weight of inorganic material, preferably about 0.05 to 0.5% of polysaccharide based on the weight of inorganic material. An aqueous slurry of inorganic

35 material and polysaccharide are mixed from about 1 minute to about 6 hours, preferably from about 15 minutes to about 3

hours. The temperature of mixing is typically from about 5°C to about 95°C, preferably about 20°C to about 60°C.

In Method (B), an aqueous solution of anionic or anionically modified polysaccharide is added to an aqueous 5 slurry of inorganic material that has about 5 to 75% by weight, preferably about 10 to 30% by weight, most preferably about 20% by weight of inorganic material solids in the aqueous phase. The finely divided inorganic material and polysaccharide are mixed from about 1 minute to about 6 hours, 10 preferably from about 15 minutes to about 3 hours. temperature of mixing is typically from about 5°C to about 95°C, preferably about 20°C to about 60°C. The solution of polysaccharide can have concentrations of about 0.1 to about 5.0%, preferably from about 1 to about 2%. A sufficient 15 amount of polysaccharide is employed to provide about 0.01 to 5% of polysaccharide based on the weight of inorganic material, preferably about 0.05 to 0.5% of polysaccharide based on the weight of inorganic material.

In Method (C), finely divided dry particles of inorganic

20 materials such as dolomite and calcium carbonate are added to
the aqueous solution of polysaccharide. The finely divided
inorganic material and solution of polysaccharide are mixed
from about 1 minute to about 6 hours, preferably from about 15
minutes to about 3 hours. The temperature of mixing is

- 25 typically from about 5°C to about 95°C, preferably about 20°C to about 60°C. The inorganic material is treated with the aqueous solution of polysaccharide to provide about 0.01 to about 5% of polysaccharide based on the weight of inorganic material, preferably about 0.05 to about 0.5% of
- 30 polysaccharide based on the weight of inorganic material.

In Method (D), the inorganic filler material is treated with polysaccharides by independently adding dry powder of polysaccharide and dry powder of the finely divided inorganic material to water. In this method, polysaccharide is added to 35 water to provide about 0.01 to about 5% of polysaccharide based on the weight of inorganic material, preferably about 0.05 to about 0.5% of polysaccharide based on the weight of

inorganic material. The finely divided inorganic material and polysaccharide are mixed from about 1 minute to about 6 hours, preferably from about 15 minutes to about 3 hours. The temperature of mixing is typically from about 5°C to about 5°C, preferably about 20°C to about 60°C.

The alkaline paper of the invention comprises cellulosic fiber and finely divided particles of inorganic material treated with polysaccharide. The polysaccharide and the finely divided particles of inorganic material are as 10 discussed above.

The foregoing and other objects, features, aspects and advantages of the present invention will become more apparent from the following non-limiting examples of the present invention.

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#### EXAMPLES 1-1H

In examples 1-1H, the effects on paper strength due to use of a filler of PCC treated with anionic or anionically modified polysaccharides are compared. The treated PCC filler 20 is prepared by mixing 1% aqueous solution of polysaccharide with an aqueous slurry of 20% PCC solids as in method (B). The amount of aqueous solution of polysaccharide is sufficient to provide 0.3% of polysaccharide by weight of dry PCC. The treated PCC filler is added to a pulp furnish, formed into 25 handsheets, and evaluated for strength. As a control, untreated PCC filler is employed in the pulp furnish. The PCC has scalenohedral morphology, an average particle size of 1.4 microns, and a specific surface area of 11.3 m²/g.

The compositions in Table 1 are formed into handsheets of 30 paper (60 g/m²) using a Formax Sheet Former (Noble and Wood type, from Adirondack Machine Corp) from a furnish of 75% bleached hardwood and 25% bleached softwood Kraft pulps beaten to 400 Canadian Standard Freeness (CSF) at pH 7 in distilled water.

Pulp consistency is 0.3125. A retention aid (high molecular weight cationic polyacrylamide) Percol 175 from Allied Colloids is added to the pulp furnish at a level of

0.05% (1 lb./ton of paper). Synthetic sizing agent (alkyl ketene dimer) is added to the pulp furnish at a level of 0.25% (5 lbs/ton of paper). The sheets are conditioned at 50% relative humidity and 23°C prior to testing.

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Table 1

	Example No.	% PCC Filler in Pulp Furnish	Breaking Length <sup>1</sup>	Scott Bond <sup>2</sup>
	1	14.25 <sup>3</sup>	1.994 km	44.75
10	1A	21.843	1.673	36.75
10	1B	28.81 <sup>3</sup>	1.292	27.85
	10	13.99 <sup>4</sup>	2.174	48.5
	1D	21.444	1.727	39.5
	1E	28.284	1.385	30.75
	1F	14.93 <sup>5</sup>	1.764	40
15	1G	22.54 <sup>5</sup>	1.364	31.5
	1H	28.14 <sup>5</sup>	1.106	23.75

- 1. TAPPI Test Method T494 OM-88
- 2. TAPPI Test Method UM 403
- 3. PCC having treatment level of 0.3% Xanthan Gum
- 4. PCC having treatment level of 0.3% anionic Guar Gum
- 20 5. Untreated PCC

The strength of the paper which contains the treated filler in accordance with the invention surprisingly is greater than that of paper containing an equivalent amount of untreated filler.

#### Examples 2-2(G)

Examples 2-2(G) illustrate the effects on paper strength due to use of increasing amounts of PCC filler treated with xanthan gum. The PCC has scalenohedral morphology, an average particle size of 1.4 microns, and a specific surface area of 12.3 m<sup>2</sup>/g. In Examples 2-2(E), PCC filler is treated as in Method (B) with a 1% aqueous solution of xanthan gum to provide varying amounts of xanthan gum by dry weight of PCC.

For comparison, untreated PCC filler is employed in examples 2(F) and 2(G).

Handsheets that employ various loadings of the treated and untreated PCC fillers are formed and tested as in Example 1. The amount of xanthan gum in the treated PCC filler, and the effect on paper strength due to incorporating the treated filler, as well as untreated filler, in the pulp furnish is provided in Table 2.

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10	Example No.	% PCC Filler in Pulp Furnish	% Xanthan Gum in PCC Filler	Breaking Length <sup>1</sup>	Scott Bond <sup>2</sup>
10	2	15.60	0.05	2.192km	59.33
	2A	28.90	0.05	1.506	41.00
	2B	15.17	0.20	2.395	67.00
	2C	29.11	0.20	1.489	40.00
ļ	2D	15.74	0.40	2.507	74.66
	2E	29.36	0.40	1.622	44.66
15	2F	14.86	0.00	2.034	51.33
	2G	30.13	0.00	1.212	34.33

- 1. TAPPI Test Method T494 OM-88
- 2. TAPPI Test Method UM 403

# Examples 3-3(E):

In examples 3-3(E), the paper strength achieved due to adding PCC filler treated with xanthan gum to a pulp furnish is compared with paper strength achieved by separately adding PCC filler and xanthan gum to the pulp furnish, as well as to paper strength achieved by adding untreated PCC to the pulp furnish. The PCC has a scalenohedral morphology, average particle size of 1.3 microns, and a specific surface area of 12.1 m<sup>2</sup>/g.

The treated PCC filler is made by adding an amount of 1% aqueous solution of xanthan gum to an aqueous 20% solids slurry of PCC as in method (A) to attain a treatment level of 0.5% xanthan gum based on the dry weight of PCC. In examples 3-3(A), handsheets are prepared from the pulp furnish as in example 1 except that the filler levels of treated PCC in the pulp furnish are as shown in Table 3.

In examples 3(B)-3(C), handsheets are prepared and tested as in example 1 except that an aqueous 20% solids slurry of

untreated PCC is added to the pulp furnish. In examples 3(D)-3(E), handsheets are also prepared from the pulp furnish as in example 1 except that an aqueous 20% solids slurry of untreated PCC and the 1% aqueous solution of xanthan gum each are separately added to the pulp furnish. The amount of the 1% aqueous solution of xanthan gum employed is sufficient to attain a PCC filler that has a treatment level of 0.5% xanthan gum. The amount of PCC filler in the pulp furnish employed is shown in Table 3.

The effects on strength are shown in Table 3.

15	Ex. No.	0.5% Xanthan gum treated PCC in Pulp Furnish (%)	% untreated PCC added to Pulp Furnish	1.0% Xanthan Gum added to Pulp Furnish	Breaking Length <sup>2</sup>	Scott Bond <sup>3</sup>
	3	15.09			2.199 km	50.66
i	3A	25.12			1.597	35.33
	3B		14.72		2.129	43
20	3C		24.69		1.337	25.66
	3D		14.58	Amount <sup>i</sup>	2.086	45.66
	3E		24.48	Amount <sup>1</sup>	1.41	29.66

Table 3

 Amount added is sufficient to generate treated PCC having a treatment level of 0.5% Xanthan gum

2. TAPPI Test Method T494 OM-88

3. TAPPI Test Method UM 403

#### Examples 4-4(G)

In examples 4-4(G), the effect of the morphology of the PCC filler on paper strength is evaluated. The PCCs employed have either prismatic or rhombohedral morphology.

an average particle size of 2.2 microns and a specific surface area of 3.6 m<sup>2</sup>/g. PCC with a rhombohedral morphology used in this example has an average particle size of 3.3 microns and a specific surface area of 2.5 m<sup>2</sup>/g. An aqueous slurry of 20% solids of each of these PCC(s) is treated with a 1% aqueous solution of xanthan gum in an amount sufficient to provide 0.5% of xanthan gum based on the dry weight of PCC as in

method (B). For comparison, aqueous slurries of 20% solids of untreated PCC(s) of rhombohedral and prismatic morphologies are evaluated.

Handsheets of the treated and untreated PCC fillers are 5 prepared and tested as described in Example 1 except that the filler levels employed are as given in Table 4. The results are shown in Table 4.

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Scott Bond<sup>2</sup> 49.33 39.33 57.66 62.66 39.00 45.00 50.33 48.33 Breaking Length<sup>1</sup> 1.676 2.604 2.100 2.217 2.869 2.155 1.853 2.381 Prismatic PCC in pulp furnish % untreated 24.65 15.31 ! % treated
Prismatic
PCC in pulp
furnish Table 4 15.33 24.02 1 Rhombohedral PCC in pulp furnish % untreated 15.80 24.69 ŀ ŀ Rhombohedral PCC in pulp furnish % treated 15.14 24.01 Ex. No. 4 A 4B 4C **4**D **4**E 4 F **4**G

1. TAPPI Test Method TM494 OM-88 2. TAPPI Test Method UM 403

The results in Table 4 show that various PCC morphologies can be treated with polysaccharides such as xanthan gum to achieve improved paper strength.

#### **5** Example 5-5(E)

In examples 5-5(E), PCC filler is treated with polysaccharide at various temperatures. These fillers are incorporated into a pulp furnish, formed into sheets and tested as in example 1. The effects of these fillers on paper 10 strength is evaluated.

The PCC employed has scalenohedral morphology, an average particle size of 1.3 microns, and a specific surface area of 12.1 m²/g. An aqueous 20% solids slurry of the PCC is treated at 25°C with a 1% aqueous solution of xanthan gum as described in Example 1 to provide treated PCC having 0.3% xanthan gum based on the dry weight of the PCC. For comparison, a second aqueous 20% solids slurry of the above PCC is heated to 60°C prior to addition of the 1% solution of xanthan gum and maintained at 60°C for 30 minutes. The amount of the xanthan gum solution is employed in an amount sufficient to provide 0.3% xanthan gum based on the dry weight of the PCC.

Handsheets are prepared as described in Example 1 except that the amounts of the treated PCC employed in the pulp furnish are as given in Table 5. The results are shown in 25 Table 5.

The results in Table 5 show that increasing the temperature at which the PCC filler is treated with polysaccharide provides additional strength improvements.

Although the present invention has been described in 30 detail, it is clearly understood that the same is by way of example only and is not to be taken by way of limitation, the scope of the invention being limited only by the scope of the appended claims.

Table 5

Ex. No.	% PCC having 0.3% Xanthan gum treated at 25°C in pulp furnish	<pre>% PCC having 0.3% Xanthan gum treated at 60°C in pulp furnish</pre>	% untreated PCC in Pulp furnish	Breaking Length <sup>1</sup>	Scott Bond <sup>2</sup>
5	12.95			1.893	31.58
5 <b>A</b>	22.06			1.302	21.75
5B		13.67		2.027	36.25
20		22.71	-	1.378	28.00
5D	-		13.39	1.627	30.00
SE	-		23.23	0.911	14.25

TAPPI Test Method T494 OM-88 TAPPI Test Method UM 403 1.

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#### THE CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

A filler material comprising at least one
 cationically charged inorganic material treated with at least one of anionic polysaccharide or anionically modified polysaccharide.

- 2. The filler material of claim 1 wherein the inorganic 10 material is an alkaline earth carbonate.
  - 3. The filler material of claim 1 wherein the alkaline earth carbonate is calcium carbonate.
- 15 4. The filler material of claim 2 wherein the polysaccharide is selected from the group consisting of algin, xanthan gum, carboxymethylcellulose, gum arabic, carrageenans, agar, gellan gum and mixtures thereof.
- 5. The filler material of claim 2 wherein the polysaccharide is a gum.
- 6. The filler material of claim 5 wherein the gum is selected from group consisting of xanthan gum and anionic guar 25 gum.
  - 7. The filler material of claim 5 wherein the polysaccharide has a molecular weight of from about 1 x  $10^4$  to about 2 x  $10^7$ .

- 8. The filler material of claim 5 wherein the polysaccharide has a molecular weight of from about 1 x  $10^6$  to about 2 x  $10^6$ .
- 9. A method of producing paper wherein cellulose material is formed into an alkaline slurry, dewatered, and shaped into paper, the improvement comprising,

providing finely divided particles of cationically charged inorganic material,

treating the particles with at least one of anionic polysaccharide or anionically modified polysaccharide to 5 provide particles, and

mixing the treated particles with cellulosic fiber to provide an alkaline slurry suitable for forming into paper.

- 10. The method of claim 9 wherein the inorganic material 10 is alkaline earth carbonate.
  - 11. The method of claim 10 wherein the inorganic material is precipitated calcium carbonate.
- 15 12. The method of claim 11 wherein the polysaccharide is selected from the group of xanthan gum and anionic guar gum.
- 13. The method of claim 11 wherein said treating comprises adding the polysaccharide to an aqueous slurry of20 the precipitated calcium carbonate.
  - 14. The method of claim 11 wherein said treating comprises adding dry polysaccharide to an aqueous slurry of calcium carbonate.

- 15. The method of claim 13 wherein the polysaccharide is in the form of an aqueous solution.
- 16. The method of claim 11 wherein said treating
  30 comprises adding dry powder of the calcium carbonate to an aqueous solution of the polysaccharide.
- 17. The method of claim 11 wherein said treating comprises adding dry powders of the calcium carbonate and the35 polysaccharide to water.

18. The method of claim 11 wherein said treating comprises mixing the calcium carbonate and the polysaccharide for from about 1 minute to about 6 hours.

- 5 19. The method of claim 18 wherein the mixing is from about 15 minutes to about 3 hours.
- 20. The method of claim 11 wherein said treating of the calcium carbonate with the polysaccharide is at a temperature 10 of from about 5°C to about 95°C.
  - 21. The method of claim 20 wherein said temperature is from about 20°C to about 60°C.
- 22. An alkaline paper composition comprising the material of claim 1.
  - 23. The alkaline paper composition of claim 22 wherein the inorganic material is alkaline earth carbonate.

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- 24. The alkaline paper composition of claim 23 wherein the alkaline earth carbonate is precipitated calcium carbonate.
- 25. The alkaline paper composition of claim 22 wherein the polysaccharide is selected from a group of xanthan gum and anionic guar gum.

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US94/12599

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  IPC(6) :C09D 17/00; C04B 33/18; D21H 17/69				
US CL :106/465; 162/168R				
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC				
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Electronic da	ata base consulted during the international search (r	name of data base and, where practicable	, search terms used)	
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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where a	ppropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.	
×	US, A, 4,115,187 (DAVIDSON) 1	9 September 1978, col. 7,	1-4	
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Engainella Na	(703) 305 3230	Talankana Na (200) 000 0444		

### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US94/12599

B. FIELDS SEARCHED  Electronic data bases consulted (Name of data base and where practicable terms used):
APS search terms: calcium carbonate(s), saccharide(s), polysaccharide(s), CaO3, xanthan, anionic guar, filler(s), coated, coating(s), algin(ates), carboxymethylcellulose, gum arabic, carageenan, agar(s), gellan
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