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<p><b>(21) International Application Number:</b> PCT/US94/02748</p> <p><b>(22) International Filing Date:</b> 14 March 1994 (14.03.94)</p> <p><b>(30) Priority Data:</b>            93870050.7      19 March 1993 (19.03.93)      EP  <i>(34) Countries for which the regional or international application was filed:</i>      BE et al.            93870126.5      7 July 1993 (07.07.93)      EP  <i>(34) Countries for which the regional or international application was filed:</i>      BE et al.            93870215.6      16 November 1993 (16.11.93)      EP  <i>(34) Countries for which the regional or international application was filed:</i>      BE et al.</p> <p><b>(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):</b> THE PROCTER &amp; GAMBLE COMPANY [US/US]; One Procter &amp; Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (US).</p> <p><b>(72) Inventors; and</b>  <b>(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only):</b> EVERS, Marc, François, Théophile [BE/BE]; Jozef Van Elewycckstraat 26 B8, B-1853 Grimbergen (BE). RENIERS, Vincent [BE/BE]; Zijdelingsestraat 19, B-3300 Tienen (BE). GEBOES, Peter, Rosalia, Joannes [BE/BE]; Kapellestraat 230, B-2630 Aart-</p>	<p>selaar (BE). MORINI, Massimo [IT/BE]; Rue Edouard-Faes 46, B-1090 Jette (BE). SCOTT, Louise, Gail [GB/BE]; Stijn Streuvelsstraat 9, B-1933 Sterrebeek (BE). MICHAEL, Daniel, Wayne [US/US]; 10631 Stargate Lane, Cincinnati, OH 45240 (US). POLICICCHIO, Nicola, John [CA/CA]; 2 Niven Place, Brampton, Ontario L6S 5T7 (CA).</p> <p><b>(74) Agents:</b> REED, T., David et al.; The Procter &amp; Gamble Company, 5299 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45217 (US).</p> <p><b>(81) Designated States:</b> AU, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CN, CZ, FL, GE, HU, JP, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LK, LV, MD, MG, MN, MW, NO, NZ, PL, RO, RU, SD, SI, SK, TJ, TT, UA, US, UZ, VN, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).</p> <p><b>Published</b>  <i>With international search report.</i></p>	
<p><b>(54) Title:</b> CONCENTRATED CLEANING COMPOSITIONS</p>		
<p><b>(57) Abstract</b></p> <p>Stable and clear concentrated cleaning compositions are disclosed which comprise at least one short chain surfactant. The short chain surfactants allow for the formulation of stable compositions without the need for additional stabilizers, and the short chain surfactants are effective in cleaning, especially greasy cleaning.</p>		

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## CONCENTRATED CLEANING COMPOSITIONS

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Technical Field

The present invention relates to concentrated cleaning  
25 compositions. Although the present invention relates  
primarily to cleaning compositions for hard surfaces, it  
may also be of interest for other cleaning compositions  
including dishwashing and laundry detergent compositions.

30

Background of the Invention

Concentrated cleaning compositions are well known in the  
art. Concentrated compositions are mainly characterized by  
35 the fact that they comprise a higher concentration of  
active ingredients compared to a conventional cleaning  
composition, and a problem which is typically encountered

when formulating concentrated cleaning compositions is therefore the physical stability of such compositions. Indeed, because such compositions comprise a high amount of active ingredients in a limited amount of water, stability  
5 problems appear which lead, if not solved, to compositions which separate into several phases. This phenomenon affects the performance of the composition and is visually noticeable, thereby rendering such formulations unfit for commercialization.

10

Various solutions have been proposed to solve this problem which typically involve the use of specific stabilizing ingredients, or hydrotropes. Such ingredients have the sole function of stabilizing the composition. They thus  
15 increase the cost of formulating such compositions without providing any cleaning performance benefits, and they furthermore require to free up parts in the formulation which could otherwise be used to formulate more actives.

20 For instance, EP 316 726 discloses concentrated compositions in the form of microemulsions which comprise water, perfume, a surfactant and a so-called co-surfactant. The co-surfactant is said to reduce the interfacial tension at interfaces between dispersed and continuous phases of an  
25 emulsion of said surfactant, thereby creating a stable microemulsion. The so-called co-surfactants in the '726 publication are listed as specific glycol ethers, which are traditionally regarded as solvents in this field, or specific carboxylic acids. The co-surfactants in the '726  
30 publication do not appear to participate to the overall cleaning performance of the product.

It is therefore an object of the present invention to formulate a stable concentrated cleaning composition  
35 without using ingredients which are provided for the sole purpose of providing stability to the compositions herein,

but which also participate significantly to the cleaning performance of said compositions.

It has now been found that this object can be met by  
5 formulating a concentrated aqueous compositions comprising  
at least one short chain surfactant, i.e. with a  
hydrophobic group consisting of a C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkyl chain, said  
compositions not being in the form of microemulsions. Said  
short chain surfactants provide stability to the  
10 compositions herein and, in the same time, significantly  
boost the overall cleaning performance, especially grease  
cleaning, both in neat and dilute usage.

#### 15 Summary of the Invention

The compositions herein are stable clear concentrated  
cleaning compositions comprising from 10 % to 80 % by  
weight of the total composition of water and at least one  
20 short chain surfactant comprising a C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkyl chain as  
its hydrophobic portion. The compositions herein are  
preferably not in the form of microemulsions.

#### 25 Detailed Description of the Invention

The compositions of the present invention are concentrated  
aqueous compositions. By concentrated, it is meant herein  
that the compositions comprise from 10 % to 90 % by weight  
30 of the total composition of water, preferably from 15 % to  
75 %, most preferably from 30 % to 80 %.

The compositions according to the present invention are  
clear and stable. By clear and stable, it is meant herein  
35 that the compositions of the present invention are  
macroscopically substantially transparent, in the absence  
of any opacifier, and that said compositions do not

macroscopically separate into separate phases during at least 1 month, at temperatures ranging from 4°C to 50°C, upon standing.

- 5 The compositions according to the present invention further comprise at least one short chain surfactant, or mixtures thereof. All surfactants have in common that they comprise a hydrophobic portion and a hydrophilic portion. By short chain surfactant, it is meant herein surfactants which
- 10 comprise a C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkyl chain as their hydrophobic portion. Such short chain surfactants are accordingly those conventionally used in this field, but with a shorter alkyl chain, and can be of any type. Accordingly, suitable short chain surfactants for use herein include C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkyl
- 15 sulfates (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), alkyl ether sulfates (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>(OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>e</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), alkyl sulfonates (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>), alkyl succinates (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>OOCC<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>COOZ), alkyl carboxylates (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>COOM), alkyl ether carboxylates (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>(OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>e</sub>COOM), alkyl sarcosinates (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>CON(CH<sub>3</sub>)R), alkyl sulfo
- 20 succinates (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>OOCC<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>(SO<sub>3</sub>M)COOZ), amine oxides (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>RR'NO), glucose amides (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>CONR''X), alkyl pyrrolidones (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>(C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>6</sub>ON), alkyl polysaccharides (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>OG<sub>g</sub>), alkyl alkoxyates (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>(OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>e</sub>(OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>OH) and betaines (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>N<sup>+</sup>(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>COO<sup>-</sup>). In the formulae in brackets, e and p are independently from 0 to 20 and e+p>0, Z is M or R, M is H or any counterion such as those known in the art, including Na, K, Li, NH<sub>4</sub>, amine, X is a polyhydroxyhydrocarbyl having a linear hydrocarbyl chain
- 30 with at least 3 hydroxyls directly connected to the chain, or an alkoxyated derivative thereof, R, R' and R''' are C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> alkyl groups, possibly functionalized with hydroxyl groups, R and R' are preferably C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>, most preferably methyl, R'' is preferably 2-hydroxyethyl or 2
- 35 hydroxypropyl, G is a saccharide, preferably glucose, and g is of from 1.5 to 8. All these surfactants are well known in the art. A more complete disclosure of conventional

glucose amides can be found for instance in WO 92-06154 and a more complete disclosure of conventional alkyl polysaccharides can be found for instance in US 4,536,319. The compositions according to the present invention may  
5 comprise any of the above surfactants alone, or any combination thereof, depending on the end use envisioned.

Preferred short chain nonionic surfactants for use herein are alkyl alkoxylates according to the formula  $C_6-C_{10}(OCH_2CH_2)_e(OCH_2CH_2CH_2)_pOH$ , where e and p representing  
10 respectively the degree of ethoxylation and propoxylation, are independently of from 0 to 20, and that  $e+p>0$ . Most preferred short chain nonionic surfactants for use herein are those where e and p are such that  $e+p$  is from 3 to 10,  
15 particularly those where p is 0 and e is from 3 to 8. Also, most preferred short chain nonionic surfactants for use herein are those where said short chain is a hydrocarbon chain comprising from 7 to 10 carbon atoms. Said preferred short chain nonionic surfactants for use  
20 herein can be manufactured by the processes well known to the man skilled in the art, such as condensation of the corresponding alcohol and alkylene oxide, but such short chain surfactants are more conveniently commercially available for instance from Sidobre under the trade name  
25 Mergital<sup>®</sup>C4 (C8EO4), from Kolb under the trade names Imbentin<sup>®</sup> AG/810/050 and AG/810/080 (respectively C8-10EO5 and C8-10EO8).

Preferred short chain anionic surfactants for use herein  
30 are  $C_6-C_{10}$  alkyl sulfates ( $C_6-C_{10}SO_4$ ) and alkyl sulfonates ( $C_6-C_{10}SO_3$ ). Most preferred are the  $C_6-C_8$  alkyl sulfates and sulfonates. The alkyl sulfonates can provide products with less filming/streaking, as demonstrated hereinafter, as compared to other anionics such as alkyl sulfates. Such  
35 short chain anionic surfactants can be made by well known sulphation or sulphonation processes followed by neutralization, but said anionic short chain surfactants

are more conveniently commercially available, for instance from Rhone Poulenc under the trade name Rhodapon<sup>®</sup> OLS, or from Witco under the trade name Witconate<sup>®</sup>.

5 The compositions according to the present invention may comprise from 0.1 % to 50 % by weight of the total composition, preferably from 1% to 40%, most preferably from 1.5% to 30% of said short chain surfactants. It has been found that said short chain surfactants allowed the  
10 formulation of concentrated compositions without the need for any stabilizing systems, or certain formulation type such as microemulsions. Said short chain surfactants are also particularly effective in cleaning, especially grease cleaning.

15 The compositions according to the present invention may comprise short chain surfactants only, or combinations of short chain surfactants with conventional longer chain surfactants. Accordingly, suitable long chain surfactants  
20 for use herein include those listed herein above in the description of short chain surfactants, but with a longer alkyl chain, of from C<sub>11</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>. Preferred long chain surfactants for use herein are long chain alkyl sulfonates, e.g. paraffin sulfonates and alkyl ethoxylates, and  
25 mixtures thereof.

If combinations of short chain and long chains are used, it is preferred to observe certain ratios: if short chain anionic surfactants are used, it is preferred to observe a  
30 minimum weight ratio of short chain anionic surfactant to longer chain surfactant of 1:10. If short chain nonionic surfactants are used, it is preferred to observe a minimum weight ratio of short chain nonionic to longer chain surfactant of 1:5.

35 Depending on the end use envisioned, the compositions herein may further comprise a variety of other optional



- ingredients including builders, alkanolamines, pH adjusting agents, perfumes, dyes, bleaches, enzymes and the like. When an alkalinity source is present, it is desirable that the potassium cation be used, E.g., when
- 5 potassium carbonate is used instead of sodium carbonate, as demonstrated hereinafter, there is less filming/streaking. As used herein, potassium carbonate comprises potassium bicarbonate.
- 10 In some instances, it may be appropriate to include a suds suppressing system in the compositions herein. Said suds suppressing system can advantageously be a mixture of 2-alkyl alkanols as described for instance in DE 40 21 265, or mixtures thereof, with a C<sub>8</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> fatty acid, or
- 15 mixtures thereof. Such a system is particularly advantageous as both ingredients appear to act in synergy. Thus even a very low amount of said system is enough to control suds efficiently. Accordingly, said system is present in amounts of from 0.1% to 5% by weight of the
- 20 total composition, preferably 0.5% to 3%.

The compositions herein do not require the presence of a stabilizing compound. By stabilizing compound, it is meant herein a compound whose sole function is to enhance the

25 physical stability of the composition. Such compounds are typically xylene or toluene sulphonate salts, and glycol ethers, including ethylene glycol monobutyl ether, diethylene glycol monobutyl ether, dipropylene glycol monobutyl ether, dipropylene glycol methyl ether, propylene

30 glycol methyl ether, tripropylene glycol methyl ether, propylene glycol monobutyl ether and other various solvents such as ethanol and butanol. Accordingly, the compositions of the present invention are preferably substantially free of such stabilizing compounds.

35

The present invention further encompasses a method of cleaning a hard surface which comprises the steps of

diluting a composition according to the preceding claims in water, then applying it to said hard surface. Depending on the exact formulation, the compositions herein may be used both neat and diluted from 10 to 500 times.

5 Particularly preferred compositions contain: (1) from 5% to 30% of short chain surfactant, preferably a mixture of (a) short chain nonionic surfactant having the formula  $C_{6-10}(EO)_c(PO)_pOH$  wherein EO is an ethoxy moiety, PO is a propoxy moiety with each c and p being from 0-20, preferably from 3 to 10, more preferably c being from 3 to 8 and p being 0 and (b)  $C_{6-10}$  alkyl sulfonate, (2) optional, but preferred, long chain nonionic surfactant, preferably nonionic  $C_{12-16}(EO)_n$ , preferably a mixture of 15 nonionic surfactants in which one has an n of from about 2 to about 10 and the other has an n of from about 20 to about 60; (3) optional hydrophobic cleaning solvent, preferably  $C_{2-6}(EO)_x(PO)_yOH$  wherein x and y are each from 0 to about 2, and more preferably  $C_4(EO)_2OH$ ; (4) optional, 20 but preferred, fatty acid suds suppressant at a level of from 0.1% to 1%, preferably from 0.2% to 0.8%; (5) optional, but preferred,  $C_{12-18}$  fatty alcohol, more preferably branched chain fatty alcohols such as 2-butyl octanol and/or 2-hexyl decanol; and (6) optional, but 25 preferred, alkalinity source, more preferably potassium carbonate. The balance of each composition is preferably an aqueous solvent system.

30 The present invention will be further illustrated by the following examples.

#### Examples

35 The following compositions are made by mixing the listed ingredients in the listed proportions.

9				
	I	II	III	IV
C <sub>13/15</sub> alkyl ethoxylate EO <sub>3</sub>	3	-	3	-
C <sub>12/15</sub> alkyl ethoxylate EO <sub>30</sub>	5	5	-	-
5 C <sub>8</sub> alkyl sulfate	-	10	10	-
C <sub>8</sub> alkyl sulfonate	-	-	-	20
C <sub>8</sub> alkyl ethoxylate EO <sub>6</sub>	-	9	-	-
C <sub>8/10</sub> alkyl ethoxylate EO <sub>5</sub>	-	-	-	20
Citric acid	3	3	1	-
10 Monoethanolamine	3	3	1	1
Triethanolamine	-	-	3	-
Water & minors	-----up to 100%-----			

- 15 All compositions were evaluated for their physical stability at 4°C, at room temperature (20°C), and at 50°C. Composition I, which is not within the invention, was a gel at 4°C, and an emulsion at room temperature and at 50°C. All other compositions, within the invention, were clear
- 20 transparent liquids in the same conditions.

Other compositions were made by mixing the listed ingredients in the listed proportions.

25

	V	VI	VII	VIII
C <sub>13/15</sub> alkyl ethoxylate EO <sub>3</sub>	4	3	5	1
C <sub>13/15</sub> alkyl ethoxylate EO <sub>7</sub>	-	3	-	5
30 C <sub>7-9</sub> alkyl sulfate	7.5	-	-	-
C <sub>8</sub> alkyl sulfate	-	8	-	10
C <sub>8</sub> alkyl sulfonate	-	-	10	-
C <sub>7-9</sub> alkyl ethoxylate EO <sub>6</sub>	-	-	10	5
C <sub>8-10</sub> alkyl ethoxylate EO <sub>5</sub>	10	9	-	9
35 C <sub>13/15</sub> alkyl ethoxylate EO <sub>30</sub>	6	4	3	5
Na Paraffin Sulfonate	-	5	-	-
Citric acid	3	-	-	3

10

Sodium carbonate	-	3	-	-
2-hexyl decanol	1	0.6	1	-
Palm Kernel Fatty Acid	0.4	0.4	1	-
Water & minors	-----up to 100%-----			

5

The invention is illustrated by the following examples.  
All values in table are weight percentages.

10	Example No.:	1	2	3
	Ingredient	<u>Wt%</u>	<u>Wt%</u>	<u>Wt%</u>
	Sodium Octyl Sulfate	7.0	-	-
	Sodium Octyl Sulfonate	-	7.0	7.0
15	Alfonic R 810-65 (C <sub>8-10</sub> EO <sub>6</sub> average)	10.0	10.0	10.0
	Neodol R 23-3 (C <sub>12-13</sub> EO <sub>3</sub> )	4.0	4.0	4.0
	Lutensol R AO-30 (C <sub>13-15</sub> EO <sub>30</sub> )	6.0	6.0	6.0
20	Sodium Carbonate	-	2.0	-
	Potassium Carbonate	2.0	-	2.0
	Palm Kernel Fatty Acid	0.4	0.4	0.4
	2-Butyl Octanol	0.4	0.4	0.4
25	Hydrophobic Perfume*	1.5	1.5	1.5
	Deionized Water and Minors	q.s.	q.s.	q.s.
	pH	10.8	10.8	10.8

Alfonic is a trade name used by Vista Chemical.

30 Neodol is a trade name used by Shell Chemical Co.

Lutensol is a trade name used by BASF Corp.

\*Hydrophobic perfume consists of terpenes, terpene alcohols, and other perfume materials which are typically insoluble in water.

35

The invention is also illustrated by the following Examples. All values in table are weight percentages.

Example No.:		4	5
5	Ingredient	<u>Wt%</u>	<u>Wt%</u>
	Sodium Octyl Sulfonate	7.0	7.0
	Alfonic R 810-65	10.0	10.0
	(C <sub>8-10</sub> EO <sub>6</sub> average)		
	Neodol R 23-3	4.0	4.0
10	(C <sub>12-13</sub> EO <sub>3</sub> )		
	Lutensol R AO-30	6.0	6.0
	(C <sub>13-15</sub> EO <sub>30</sub> )		
	Diethylene Glycol Monobutyl Ether	3.0	-
	Potassium Carbonate	2.0	2.0
15	Palm Kernel Fatty Acid	0.4	0.6
	2-Butyl Octanol	0.4	-
	Hydrophobic Perfume*	1.5	1.5
	Deionized Water and Minors	q.s.	q.s.
	pH	10.5	10.5

20

Alfonic is a trade name used by Vista Chemical.  
 Neodol is a trade name used by Shell Chemical Co.  
 Lutensol is a trade name used by BASF Corp.

25

\*Hydrophobic perfume consists of terpenes, terpene alcohols, and other perfume materials which are typically insoluble in water.

30

Filming/Streaking data were obtained on the above Examples.

Filming/Streaking Test Method -Dilute  
(No Wax Floors)

35

Materials

1. Spontex cellulose sponges (cut to 2"x4"x1")
2. No wax floor tiles (12"x12")
3. Test products - these are diluted with heated tap water that has been adjusted to a hardness of 7 grains and maintained at 110°F. Dilution is 1 part test product:128 parts water.

Procedure:

- 10 1. Clean the floor tiles with tap water using a sponge. Then rinse with distilled water and dry with paper towels. Apply a small amount of isopropyl alcohol to each tile and dry thoroughly.
- 15 2. Clean sponges of all factory preservatives and rinse well. Use the same sponge for the entire test, rinsing well between change of products. Soak the sponge in the product being tested.
- 20 3. Transfer 15 mls of the diluted test product into an inverted sponge carrier.
- 25 4. Squeeze out excess product from the sponge and dip the sponge evenly on the flat surface of the carrier, gently squeezing down to soak up the product into the sponge. Tare the sponge on a 2-place balance, product side up.
- 30 5. One tile is used per replicate. The sponge is wiped lightly over the tile surface by drawing an "M" pattern which covers the entire tile as much as possible. Then another "M" is drawn sideways. Place the sponge on the tared balance and record the amount of product applied to the tile.
- 35 6. Three replicates are used for each product tested.

7. Tiles are air dried in air with 52% relative humidity at room temperature (about 24°C) for approximately one hour.

5 8. Three expert graders grade the panels on the following scale system:

0 = no filming/streaking

6 = very poor filming/streaking

10

Grades are averages for each product.

Filming/Streaking Data

15	<u>Formula No.</u>	<u>Filming/Streaking Mean Grade</u>
	3	1.4
	2	1.8
	1	2.1

20

The LSD for this test was 0.2 at the 95% Confidence Interval, therefore the Filming/Streaking mean values achieved for each formula are statistically distinct from one another. The superior Filming/Streaking result was achieved through a combination of both the octyl sulfonate (3 vs 1) and the potassium carbonate (3 vs 2).

25

What is claimed is:

1. A stable and clear concentrated cleaning composition  
5 comprising from 10 % to 80 % by weight of the total  
composition of water and at least one surfactant,  
**characterized in** that said surfactant is a short chain  
surfactant comprising a C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkyl chain as its  
hydrophobic portion, and said composition is not in the  
10 form of a microemulsion.
2. A composition according to claim 1 wherein said short  
chain surfactant represents from 0.1 % to 50 % by weight  
of the total composition, preferably from 1 % to 40%,  
15 most preferably from 1.5% to 30%.
3. A composition according to the preceding claims wherein  
said short chain surfactant, or mixtures thereof is :  
20 -a nonionic surfactant according to the formula C<sub>6</sub>-  
C<sub>10</sub>(OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>e</sub>(OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>OH, where e and p  
representing respectively the degree of ethoxylation  
and propoxylation are independently of from 0 to 20,  
and that e+p>0; or  
25 -an anionic surfactant according to the formula C<sub>6</sub>-  
C<sub>10</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> or C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>; or  
-Mixtures thereof.  
30
4. A composition according to claim 3 wherein e and p are  
such that e+p is from 3 to 10, preferably p is 0 and e  
is from 3 to 8.
- 35 5. A composition according to claim 3 wherein said anionic  
surfactant is C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> or C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>.



6. A composition according to any of the preceding claims which comprises from 30% to 70% by weight of the total composition of water.
- 5
7. A composition according to any of the preceding claims which further comprises a long chain surfactant comprising a C<sub>11</sub>-C<sub>24</sub> alkyl chain in its hydrophobic portion.
- 10
8. A composition according to claim 7 which comprises an anionic short chain surfactant and the weight ratio of said short chain surfactant to said long chain surfactant is at least 1:10.
- 15
9. A composition according to claim 7 which comprises a nonionic short chain surfactant and the weight ratio of said short chain surfactant to said long chain surfactant is at least 1:5.
- 20
10. A composition according to claim 7-9 wherein said long chain surfactants are selected from long chain alkyl sulfonates and long chain alkyl ethoxylates, and mixtures thereof.
- 25
11. A composition according to any of the preceding claims which is substantially free of stabilizing compounds.
- 30
12. A composition according to any of the preceding claims which comprises from 0.1% to 5% by weight of the total composition, preferably 0.5% to 3% of a suds suppressing system, said suds suppressing system comprising a 2-alkyl alkanol, or mixtures thereof and a C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>22</sub> fatty acid, or mixtures thereof.
- 35

13.A method of cleaning a hard surface which comprises the steps of diluting a composition according to the preceding claims in water, then applying it to said hard surface.

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14. A composition according to any of the above claims containing, as an additional ingredient, from about 1% to about 4% potassium carbonate.

10 15.A composition according to any of the above claims wherein said short chain surfactant is C<sub>6-10</sub> alkyl sulfonate.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US94/02748

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(5) : Please See Extra Sheet.

US CL : Please See Extra Sheet.

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)

U.S. : 252/173, 174.21, 174.22, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, DIG. 14.

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched  
NONE


Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)  
NONE

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X ---- Y	US, A, 4,671,895 (ERILLI ET AL.) 09 June 1987 see abstract; col. 4, lines 3-22; Example A in col. 4; col. 4, lines 46-47.	1-5 ----- 1-5
Y	US, A, 5,057,246 (BERTHO ET AL.) 15 October 1991 see abstract; col. 3, lines 35-66; col. 5, lines 32-56.	1-5
A	US, A, 4,235,758 (DAWSON ET AL.) 25 November 1980 see abstract and examples.	1-5

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	*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
*A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	*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
*E* earlier document published on or after the international filing date	*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
*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)	* & * document member of the same patent family
*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	

Date of the actual completion of the international search 29 APRIL 1994	Date of mailing of the international search report <b>18 MAY 1994</b>
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Authorized officer  PAUL LIEBERMAN Telephone No. (703) 308-0661

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US94/02748

## Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This international 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.:  
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:
3. ☒ Claims Nos.: 6-15  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 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 fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
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.  
☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US94/02748

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER:

IPC (5):

C11D 1/14, 1/16, 1/22, 1/24, 1/28, 1/29, 1/37, 1/72, 1/722, 1/83, 1/831, 17/00, 17/08.

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER:

US CL :

252/173, 174.21, 174.22, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, DIG. 14.