

Summaries of UK Patent Applications

Immobilization of Fungal β -Galactosidase on an Inorganic Carrier. GB 2208 649A Filed 17 August 1987, published 12 April 1989 Applicants — Vsesojuzny Nauchno — Issledovatelsky Institut Biotekhnologii, Moscow, USSR.

Fungal β -galactosidase produced by *Penicillium canescens* strain F-178 is adsorbed on an inorganic carrier, such as granulated silicon dioxide and is fixed by means of a 0.5–2.5% solution of glutaldehyde

Shaped Articles Made from Pre-processed Starch. GB 2208 651A Filed 18 August 1987, published 12 April 1989 Applicants — Warner-Lambert Company, New Jersey, USA

A process for forming shaped articles from starch is described. The following stages are involved

- (a) Heating a composition comprising of a solid pre-processed and essentially destructurelized starch/water material at a water content in the range 10–20% above its glass transition point to form a melt
- (b) Transferring the melt to a mould.
- (c) Cooling the melt below its glass transition temperature

Additives and extenders may be included

Edible Starch Product. GB 2208 652A. Filed 10 August 1988, published 12 April 1989 Applicants — Unilever plc, London.

A highly absorbent edible pregelatinized starch product is prepared by extruding a starch composition in the presence of a minor amount of water at a temperature of at least 150°C enabling gas-forming additives to be dispensed with. The products have a low bulk density and are highly adsorbent, enabling mixtures with liquid products such as lipids to be obtained in a powdered form

Expression Method and Apparatus. GB 2209 035A Filed 18 August 1988, published 26 April 1989. Applicants — Carratech Inc, Prince Edward Island, Canada

A method and apparatus for extracting soluble components from plants by heating them in an aqueous alkaline medium is described. The apparatus appears to have been developed particularly for the extraction of carrageenans from seaweeds.

Chemically Modified Lignin Materials and their Use in Controlling Fluid Loss. GB 2210 888A Filed 13 December 1988, published 21 June 1989. Applicants — Nalco Chemical Company, Illinois, USA.

A polymeric composition for reducing fluid loss in drilling muds used in the recovery of oil and gas is obtained by free radical initiated polymerization in an aqueous mixture of lignin, coal, etc. with at least one water soluble vinyl monomer.

Antiseptic-Containing Alginate Dental Impression Material. GB 2210 889A Filed 28 September 1988, published 21 June 1989. Applicants — G-C Shika Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha, Tokyo, Japan.

An antiseptic — containing dental impression material which helps to prevent the spread of infectious diseases which may be present in the blood or sputum of a patient is described. The antiseptic may be encapsulated in a microcapsule or clathrated in a cyclodextrin.

Process for Treating a Fermentation Wort. GB 2211 195A. Filed 20 October 1988, published 28 June 1989. Applicants — Institut Francais du Petrole, Rueil — Malmaison, France

A fermentation wort comprising a polysaccharide is treated to increase its filterability by subjecting the wort to an ultrafiltration process followed by heating. The filterability of the obtained wort is excellent and it can be applied to enhance oil recovery. Examples are given with Xanthan and Scleroglucan worts.