

Sulfenamides as flame retardants,

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SULFENAMIDES AS FLAME RETARDANTS

5 FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is in the field of flame retardants and relates to use of sulfenamides as flame retardants, in particular in polymeric substrates.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

10 Flame retardant(s) are added to both synthetic and natural polymeric materials to enhance the flame retardant properties of the polymers. Both inorganic and organic compounds have been used for achieving the flame retardant properties in various types of polymers. The main types of flame retardants include halogenated hydrocarbons, phosphorous containing compounds, metallic compounds such as metal oxides and hydroxides, and melamine derivatives. Halogenated flame retardants are commonly used due to their effectiveness. Nevertheless, the use of halogenated compounds has generally become of an environmental concern.

20 To diminish the problems relating to halogenated flame retardants, synergists are often used in combination with halogenated flame retardants. Synergists are compounds which enhance the flame retarding properties of the other flame retardants and thus enable to use the other flame retardants in substantially reduced amounts. Synergistic compounds encompass a group of compounds known as "free radical initiators" which include organic peroxide (see e.g. US3058926), dibenzyl compounds (see e.g. US 3271333 and US3420786), disulfides (see e.g. US3284544), hydrazones (see. US3269962), sulfenamides (see e.g. US3296340 and FR1391298) and azo-compounds see (e.g. US4237179, US3897373, US4486347 and FR1425563). Such synergists are used only in combination with other flame retardants, and typically with
30 halogenated flame retardants, and/or they may be halogenated themselves.

Non-halogenated N-hydrocarbyloxy hindered amines (also known as NOR-hindered amines) have also been proposed as alternative flame retardants. These can be used alone, e.g. in place of halogenated flame retardants, or as synergists for flame retardant applications (see e.g. WO9900450).
 5 Moreover, some non-halogenated azo, hydrazine and peroxide derivatives have also be suggested for improving the flame retarding properties of some polymers (see e.g. WO2005030852 and WO2008101845).

However, there still exists a need for effective non-halogenated flame retarding compounds, which would provide an industrially and environmentally desirable alternative for the halogenated flame retardant compounds.
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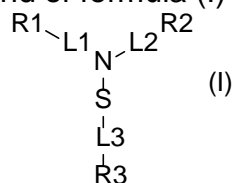
BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

An object of the present invention is thus to provide non-halogenated flame retardant compounds so as to overcome the above disadvantages. The objects of the invention are achieved by use of compound of formula (I) as flame retarding compounds, flame retarding compositions comprising said compound of formula (I) which are characterized by what is stated in the independent claims. The preferred embodiments of the invention are disclosed in the dependent claims.
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The invention is based on the surprising realization that sulfenamides provide excellent flame retarding properties to polymer substrates either if applied alone or in combination with other halogen free flame retardants. The compounds of the present invention bear specific S-N core which has not been disclosed in the prior art as possessing any flame retarding activity per se.
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DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to use of a compound of formula (I) as a flame retardant, the compound of formula (I) having structure
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wherein

L1, L2, and L3 are each independently selected from a group consisting of a bond, C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl, -(C=O)-, -O-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-O-, O, NH-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-NH-, NH, and NR₂₀;
 30

each R1 and R2 is independently selected from a group consisting

of H, S(=O)_pR₃, C₁₋₃₀-alkyl, C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀, C₂₋₃₀-alkenyl, C₂₋₃₀-alkynyl, C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-X-C₁₋₂₀-alkyl, C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-X-C₁₋₇-cycloalkyl optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀, a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀, and a mono- or bicyclic aryl or heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀; or

L1, L2, R1, and R2 together with the N atom they are attached to form a NR1R2 group selected from a group consisting of a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R10; a mono-, bi-, tri-, tetra- or pentacyclic heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R10; N=CR1'R2'; and N=S=S;

R3 is selected from a group consisting of C₁₋₃₀-alkyl, C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl optionally substituted one or more times with R30, C₂₋₃₀-alkenyl, C₂₋₃₀-alkynyl, NR1R2, a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R30, and a mono-, bi-, or tricyclic aryl or heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R30;

or

L1, L3, R1, and R3 together with the N atom and the S atom they are attached to from a group selected from a mono-, bi-, or tricyclic heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R40, and a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R40; and R2 is as defined above;

or

L1, L2, L3, R1, R2, and R3 together with the S atom and the N atom to which they are attached to form a mono-, bi- or tricyclic heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R50;

each R1' and R2' is independently R1 or R2, respectively, as defined above, or R1' and R2' form together with the C atom they are attached to a CR1'R2' group selected from a group consisting of a C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl optionally substituted one or more times with R10, a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R10, a mono- or bicyclic aryl or heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R10,

X is O, S, NH, NR20, P, Si, or Se;

each R10 is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR20, CHO, COR20, OCOR20, O(C=O)O-(NR1''R2'')-S(=O)_pR3, =O, =S, R20, NHCOR20, NH₂, NHR20, N(R20)₂, OH, OR20, OSiH₃, OSi(R20)₃, S(=O)_pR3, =N-S(=O)_pR3, -N=N-(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR3, and =N-N=(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR3, wherein R1''R2''N forms a monocyclic saturated heterocycle optionally substituted with one or more R10'; provided that when R10 is O(C=O)O-(NR1''R2'')-S(=O)_pR3, S(=O)_pR3, =N-S(=O)_pR3, -N=N-(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR3, or =N-N=(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR3, said R3 is not substi-

tuted with NR1R2 or SNR1R2;

each R10' is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, NHCOR₂₀, NH₂, NHR₂₀, N(R₂₀)₂, OH, OR₂₀, OSiH₃, and OSi(R₂₀)₃;

5 each R₂₀ is independently selected from a group consisting of C₁₋₃₀-alkyl, C₂₋₃₀-alkenyl, C₂₋₃₀-alkynyl, aryl, C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-heteroaryl, wherein said aryl or heteroaryl is optionally substituted one or more times with C₁₋₄-alkyl, NO₂, CN, NH₂, NMe₂, OH and/or OMe;

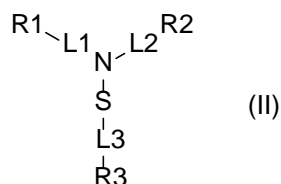
each R₃₀ is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂,
10 CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, OH, OR₂₀, OSiH₃, OSi(R₂₀)₃, NHCOR₂₀, NR_{1R2}, and S(=O)_p-NR_{1R2}, provided that when R₃₀ is NR_{1R2} or S(=O)_p-NR_{1R2} said NR_{1R2} is not substituted with O(C=O)O-(NR_{1''R2''})-S(=O)_pR₃, S(=O)_pR₃, =N-S(=O)_pR₃, -N=N-(R_{1''R2''N})-S(=O)_pR₃, or =N-N=(R_{1''R2''N})-S(=O)_pR₃;

15 each R₄₀ is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, OH, OR₂₀, OSiH₃, OSi(R₂₀)₃, NHCOR₂₀, NR_{1R2}, S(=O)_pR₃ and a saturated or partly unsaturated monocyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R_{10'}, provided that when R₄₀ is NR_{1R2} or S(=O)_pR₃ said R₃ is not substituted with NR_{1R2} or S(=O)_p-NR_{1R2} and said NR_{1R2} is not substituted with
20 O(C=O)O-(NR_{1''R2''})-S(=O)_pR₃, -S(=O)_pR₃, =N-S(=O)_pR₃, -N=N-(R_{1''R2''N})-S(=O)_pR₃, or =N-N=(R_{1''R2''N})-S(=O)_pR₃;

each R₅₀ is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, OH, OR₂₀,
25 OSiH₃, OSi(R₂₀)₃, NHCOR₂₀, NR_{1R2}, S(=O)_pR₃, and a saturated or partly unsaturated monocyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R_{10'}, provided that when R₅₀ is NR_{1R2} or S(=O)_pR₃ said R₃ is not substituted with NR_{1R2} or S(=O)_p-NR_{1R2} and said NR_{1R2} is not substituted with
30 O(C=O)O-(NR_{1''R2''})-S(=O)_pR₃, S(=O)_pR₃, =N-S(=O)_pR₃, -N=N-(R_{1''R2''N})-S(=O)_pR₃, or =N-N=(R_{1''R2''N})-S(=O)_pR₃; and

each p is independently selected from the group consisting of 0, 1 and 2.

Further, the present invention relates to use of a polymer comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II), as a flame retardant
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wherein the said sulfenamide moiety is included in a main chain of the polymer, in a pendant group of the polymer or is part of a crosslink of the polymer and wherein

5 L1, L2, and L3 are each independently selected from a group consisting of a bond, C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl, -(C=O)-, -O-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-O-, O, NH-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-NH-, NH, and NR₂₀;

each R1 and R2 is independently selected from a group consisting of H, S(=O)_pR₃, C₁₋₃₀-alkyl, C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl optionally substituted one or more
10 times with R₁₀, C₂₋₃₀-alkenyl, C₂₋₃₀-alkynyl, C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-X-C₁₋₂₀-alkyl, C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-X-C₁₋₇-cycloalkyl optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀, a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀, and a mono- or bicyclic aryl or heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀; or

15 L1, L2, R1, and R2 together with the N atom they are attached to form a NR₁R₂ group selected from a group consisting of a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀; a mono-, bi-, tri-, tetra- or pentacyclic heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀; N=CR₁'R₂'; and N=S=S;

20 R3 is selected from a group consisting of C₁₋₃₀-alkyl, C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl optionally substituted one or more times with R₃₀, C₂₋₃₀-alkenyl, C₂₋₃₀-alkynyl, NR₁R₂, a saturated or party unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R₃₀, and a mono-, bi-, or tricyclic aryl or heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R₃₀;

25 or

L1, L3, R1, and R3 together with the N atom and the S atom they are attached to from a group selected from a mono-, bi-, or tricyclic heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R₄₀, and a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more
30 times with R₄₀; and R2 is as defined above;

or

L1, L2, L3, R1, R2, and R3 together with the S atom and the N atom to which they are attached to form a mono-, bi- or tricyclic heteroaryl optionally

substituted one or more times with R50;

each R1' and R2' is independently R1 or R2, respectively, as defined above, or R1' and R2' form together with the C atom they are attached to a CR1'R2' group selected from a group consisting of a C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl optionally substituted one or more times with R10, a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R10, a mono- or bicyclic aryl or heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R10,

X is O, S, NH, NR₂₀, P, Si, or Se;

each R10 is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, O(C=O)O-(NR_{1''}R_{2''})-S(=O)_pR₃, =O, =S, R₂₀, NHCOR₂₀, NH₂, NHR₂₀, N(R₂₀)₂, OH, OR₂₀, OSiH₃, OSi(R₂₀)₃, S(=O)_pR₃, =N-S(=O)_pR₃, -N=N-(R_{1''}R_{2''}N)-S(=O)_pR₃, and =N-N=(R_{1''}R_{2''}N)-S(=O)_pR₃, wherein R_{1''}R_{2''}N forms a monocyclic saturated heterocycle optionally substituted with one or more R10'; provided that when R10 is O(C=O)O-(NR_{1''}R_{2''})-S(=O)_pR₃, S(=O)_pR₃, =N-S(=O)_pR₃, -N=N-(R_{1''}R_{2''}N)-S(=O)_pR₃, or =N-N=(R_{1''}R_{2''}N)-S(=O)_pR₃, said R₃ is not substituted with NR₁R₂ or SNR₁R₂;

each R10' is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, NHCOR₂₀, NH₂, NHR₂₀, N(R₂₀)₂, OH, OR₂₀, OSiH₃, and OSi(R₂₀)₃;

each R₂₀ is independently selected from a group consisting of C₁₋₃₀-alkyl, C₂₋₃₀-alkenyl, C₂₋₃₀-alkynyl, aryl, C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-heteroaryl, wherein said aryl or heteroaryl is optionally substituted one or more times with C₁₋₄-alkyl, NO₂, CN, NH₂, NMe₂, OH and/or OMe;

each R₃₀ is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, OH, OR₂₀, OSiH₃, OSi(R₂₀)₃, NHCOR₂₀, NR₁R₂, and S(=O)_p-NR₁R₂, provided that when R₃₀ is NR₁R₂ or S(=O)_p-NR₁R₂ said NR₁R₂ is not substituted with O(C=O)O-(NR_{1''}R_{2''})-S(=O)_pR₃, S(=O)_pR₃, =N-S(=O)_pR₃, -N=N-(R_{1''}R_{2''}N)-S(=O)_pR₃, or =N-N=(R_{1''}R_{2''}N)-S(=O)_pR₃;

each R₄₀ is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, OH, OR₂₀, OSiH₃, OSi(R₂₀)₃, NHCOR₂₀, NR₁R₂, S(=O)_pR₃ and a saturated or partly unsaturated monocyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R10', provided that when R₄₀ is NR₁R₂ or S(=O)_pR₃ said R₃ is not sub-

stituted with NR1R2 or S(=O)_p-NR1R2 and said NR1R2 is not substituted with O(C=O)O-(NR1''R2'')-S(=O)_pR3, -S(=O)_pR3, =N-S(=O)_pR3, -N=N-(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR3, or =N-N=(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR3;

each R50 is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂,
5 CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, OH, OR₂₀,
OSiH₃, OSi(R₂₀)₃, NHCOR₂₀, NR1R2, S(=O)_pR3, and a saturated or partly
unsaturated monocyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times
with R10', provided that when R50 is NR1R2 or S(=O)_pR3 said R3 is not sub-
stituted with NR1R2 or S(=O)_p-NR1R2 and said NR1R2 is not substituted with
10 O(C=O)O-(NR1''R2'')-S(=O)_pR3, S(=O)_pR3, =N-S(=O)_pR3, -N=N-(R1''R2''N)-
S(=O)_pR3, or =N-N=(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR3; and

each p is independently selected from the group consisting of 0, 1
and 2;

provided that at least one of R1, R2 and R3 is linked to the polymer

15 In particular the present invention relates to use of a compound of
formula (I) or a polymer comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at
least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II)
as a flame retardant, wherein

L1, L2, and L3 are each independently selected from a group con-
sisting of a bond, C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl, -(C=O)-, O, NH, and NR₂₀;

each R1 and R2 is independently selected from a group consisting
of H, S(=O)_pR3, C₁₋₃₀-alkyl, C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl optionally substituted one or more
times with R10, C₂₋₃₀-alkenyl, C₂₋₃₀-alkynyl, C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-X-C₁₋₂₀-alkyl, C₁₋₁₀-
alkylenyl-X-C₁₋₇-cycloalkyl optionally substituted one or more times with R10, a
25 saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substi-
tuted one or more times with R10, and a mono- or bicyclic aryl or heteroaryl
optionally substituted one or more times with R10; or

L1, L2, R1, and R2 together with the N atom they are attached to
form a NR1R2 group selected from a group consisting of a saturated or partly
30 unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more
times with R10; a mono-, bi-, tri-, tetra- or pentacyclic heteroaryl optionally
substituted one or more times with R10; N=CR1'R2'; and N=S=S;

R3 is selected from a group consisting of C₁₋₃₀-alkyl, C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl
optionally substituted one or more times with R30, C₂₋₃₀-alkenyl, C₂₋₃₀-alkynyl,
35 NR1R2, a saturated or party unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle option-
ally substituted one or more times with R30, and a mono-, bi-, or tricyclic aryl

or heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R30;

or

L1, L3, R1, and R3 together with the N atom and the S atom they are attached to form a group selected from a mono-, bi-, or tricyclic heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R40, and a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R40; and R2 is as defined above;

or

L1, L2, L3, R1, R2, and R3 together with the S atom and the N atom to which they are attached to form a mono-, bi- or tricyclic heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R50;

each R1' and R2' is independently R1 or R2, respectively, as defined above, or R1' and R2' form together with the C atom they are attached to a CR1'R2' group selected from a group consisting of a C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl optionally substituted one or more times with R10, a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R10, a mono- or bicyclic aryl or heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R10,

X is O, S, NH, NR₂₀, P, Si, or Se;

each R10 is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, NHCOR₂₀, NH₂, NHR₂₀, N(R₂₀)₂, OH, OR₂₀, OSiH₃, OSi(R₂₀)₃, S(=O)_pR₃, =N-S(=O)_pR₃, -N=N-(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR₃, and =N-N=(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR₃, wherein R1''R2''N forms a monocyclic saturated heterocycle optionally substituted with one or more R10'; provided that when R10 is S(=O)_pR₃, =N-S(=O)_pR₃, -N=N-(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR₃, or =N-N=(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR₃, said R3 is not substituted with NR₁R₂ or SNR₁R₂;

each R10' is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, NHCOR₂₀, NH₂, NHR₂₀, N(R₂₀)₂, OH, OR₂₀, OSiH₃, and OSi(R₂₀)₃;

each R₂₀ is independently selected from a group consisting of C₁₋₃₀-alkyl, C₂₋₃₀-alkenyl, C₂₋₃₀-alkynyl, aryl, C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-heteroaryl, wherein said aryl or heteroaryl is optionally substituted one or more times with C₁₋₄-alkyl, NO₂, CN, NH₂, NMe₂, OH and/or OMe;

each R₃₀ is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, OH, OR₂₀,

OSiH₃, OSi(R₂₀)₃, NHCOR₂₀, NR_{1R2}, and S(=O)_p-NR_{1R2}, provided that when R₃₀ is NR_{1R2} or S(=O)_p-NR_{1R2} said NR_{1R2} is not substituted with S(=O)_pR₃, =N-S(=O)_pR₃, -N=N-(R₁'R₂'N)-S(=O)_pR₃, or =N-N=(R₁'R₂'N)-S(=O)_pR₃;

5 each R₄₀ is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, OH, OR₂₀, OSiH₃, OSi(R₂₀)₃, NHCOR₂₀, NR_{1R2}, S(=O)_pR₃ and a saturated or partly unsaturated monocyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀', provided that when R₄₀ is NR_{1R2} or S(=O)_pR₃ said R₃ is not substituted with NR_{1R2} or S(=O)_p-NR_{1R2} and said NR_{1R2} is not substituted with
10 -S(=O)_pR₃, =N-S(=O)_pR₃, -N=N-(R₁'R₂'N)-S(=O)_pR₃, or =N-N=(R₁'R₂'N)-S(=O)_pR₃;

each R₅₀ is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, OH, OR₂₀,
15 OSiH₃, OSi(R₂₀)₃, NHCOR₂₀, NR_{1R2}, S(=O)_pR₃, and a saturated or partly unsaturated monocyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀', provided that when R₅₀ is NR_{1R2} or S(=O)_pR₃ said R₃ is not substituted with NR_{1R2} or S(=O)_p-NR_{1R2} and said NR_{1R2} is not substituted with S(=O)_pR₃, =N-S(=O)_pR₃, -N=N-(R₁'R₂'N)-S(=O)_pR₃, or =N-N=(R₁'R₂'N)-
20 S(=O)_pR₃; and

each p is independently selected from the group consisting of 0, 1 and 2.

A compound of formula (I) may be used in combination with one or more other compound(s) of formula (I), and/or other flame retardant(s) and/or
25 synergist(s). Similarly a polymer comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II) may be used in combination with one or more other polymer(s) comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II), one or more compound(s)
30 of formula (I), and/or other flame retardant(s) and/or synergist(s). The combined use of compound of formula (I) and/or polymer comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II), and other flame retardants improves synergistically the flame retarding efficacy of the other flame retardants. The compounds of
35 formula (I) and polymers comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II),

may have a synergistic effect on other conventional flame retardants. In such cases their use allows a significant reduction of the amounts needed when applying conventional flame retardants and/or better flame retardant classification can be reached than either one alone or at the same amount. The amount is
5 chosen in a manner known in the art so that an industrially acceptable flame retarding property is provided to the polymeric substrate. Naturally the effective amount varies depending i.e. on the used polymeric substrate and use of application of the obtained flame retarded polymeric substrate and can be determined by a skilled person. As an example the amount is from 0.1 to 20 % w/w
10 based on the polymeric substrate, preferably from 0.1 to 10 % w/w. If synergistic mixtures with the other compounds of formula (I) or other flame retardants other than compounds of formula (I) as described herein are used, then naturally lower amounts of a compound of formula (I) and conventional flame retardants are needed to achieve an effective flame retarding effect. The term
15 effective amount thus includes also the lower amounts used in such synergistic mixtures.

The term "C₁₋₃₀-alkyl" as used herein and hereafter as such or as part of another group is an aliphatic linear or branched hydrocarbon group having suitably 1 to 30, preferably 1 to 7, carbon atoms in the alkyl moiety and
20 thus C₁₋₇-alkyl includes methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, sec-butyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, and branched and straight chain pentyl, hexyl and heptyl.

The term "C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl" as used herein and hereafter, is a divalent group derived from a straight or branched chain hydrocarbon of having suitably 1 to 10 carbon atoms. Representative examples of an alkylenyl group include,
25 but are not limited to, -CH₂-, -CH(CH₃)-, -C(CH₃)₂-, -CH₂CH₂-, -CH₂CH₂CH₂-, -CH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂-, and -CH₂CH(CH₃)CH₂-.

The term "C₂₋₃₀-alkenyl" as used herein and hereafter is an unsaturated linear or branched hydrocarbon group having at least one olefinic double bond between any two carbon atoms and having suitably 1 to 30, preferably 1
30 to 7, carbon atoms in the alkenyl moiety, such as ethenyl, 1-propenyl, 2-propenyl, 3-propenyl, butenyl, pentenyl, and hexenyl.

The term "C₂₋₃₀-alkynyl" as used herein is an unsaturated linear or branched hydrocarbon group having at least one olefinic triple bond between any two carbon atoms and having suitably 1 to 30, preferably 1 to 7, carbon
35 atoms in the alkenyl moiety, such as ethynyl, propynyl, butynyl, pentynyl, and hexynyl.

The term "C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl" as used herein and hereafter refers to cycloalkyl groups having 3 to 7 carbon atoms and thus includes cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, and cycloheptyl.

The term "a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic hetero-
5 cycle" used herein and refers to aliphatic or partly unsaturated ring comprising one or more heteroatoms, preferably 1 to 4 heteroatoms, as ring atoms, where the said heteroatoms include at least the heteroatoms denoted in the same context and optionally one or more further heteroatom(s). Each heteroatom is independently selected from N, S, O, P, Si and Se preferably from N, O
10 and S, unless denoted otherwise. Examples of saturated monocyclic heterocycles include, but are not limited to, pyrrolidinyl, tetrahydrofuranyl, imidazolidinyl, pyrazolidinyl, piperidinyl, tetrahydropyranyl, tetrahydrothiopyranyl, piperazinyl, morpholinyl, thiomorpholinyl, dioxanyl, and dithianyl.

The term "aryl" used herein and hereafter refers to mono- and poly-
15 cyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. Examples of aryls include but are not limited to phenyl and naphthalenyl. The aryl can be substituted with one or more substituents as defined herein and hereafter.

The term "heteroaryl" used herein and hereafter refers to an mono-
and polycyclic aromatic ring comprising one or more heteroatoms, preferably 1
20 to 4 heteroatoms, as ring atoms, where the said heteroatoms include at least the heteroatoms denoted in the same context and optionally one or more further heteroatom(s). Each heteroatom is independently selected from N, O, S, P, Si, and Se, preferably from N, O and S, unless denoted otherwise. The heteroaryl group need only have some degree of aromatic character. The heteroaryl can be substituted with one or more substituents as defined herein and
25 hereafter. Examples of monocyclic heteroaryls include, but are not limited to, pyrrolyl, furyl, thienyl, phospholyl, silolyl, triazolyl, furazanyl, oxadiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, dithiazolyl, tetrazolyl, imidazolyl, pyridinyl, pyranyl, thiopyranyl, salinyl, phosphinine, pyrazinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyridazinyl, oxazine, thiazine, dioxine, dithi-
30 ine, triazinyl, and tetrazinyl. Examples of bicyclic heteroaryls include indolyl, quinolinyl, benzoazepinyl, benzothiazolyl and other bicyclic aryls resulting from the fusion of a monocyclic heteroaryl and benzene ring or another monocyclic heteroaryl. Examples of tricyclic heteroaryls include carbazolyl, acridinyl, other tricyclic aryls resulting from the fusion of a bicyclic heteroaryl as defined above
35 and a benzene ring or another monocyclic heteroaryl.

When any variable occurs more than one time in any constituent or in formula (I) its definition on each occurrence is independent of its definition at every other occurrence. Further, combinations of substituents and/or variables are permissible only if such combination results a stable compound.

5 As used herein, a monomer that is part of the main chain (or backbone) of a polymer is a repeating unit that is connected on at least two ends to the polymer chain. It will be appreciated that the moiety can be the only moiety in the backbone monomer. Alternatively, the moiety can be one of a plurality of moieties in the backbone of the monomer: The term "pendant" as used herein,
10 refers to a moiety that is attached at only one end to a polymer backbone. It is to be understood that the moiety may be directly connected to the polymer backbone or there may be additional moieties e.g., linker groups, L' in between the moiety and the polymer backbone. The attachment can come at any of the R1, R2 and R3 groups. Preferably the linker group L' is selected from the
15 group consisting of a bond, -O-, -NH-, -(C=O)-, -O(C=O)-, -(C=O)-O-,),-, -N(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N-, -O-(C=O)-NH-, -NH-(C=O)-O-, -O-(C=O)-C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-O-, -O-C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-(C=O)-O-, -O(C=O)-O-, -Si-, a mono- or bicyclic aryl or heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R10, wherein R10 is as defined herein.

20 The term "optionally substituted" as used herein and hereafter denotes that the group it refers to is either unsubstituted or substituted independently with one or more, preferably 1, 2, 3 or 4, substituent(s) attached at any available atom to produce a stable compound, In general "substituted" refers to a substituent group as defined herein in which one or more bonds to a
25 hydrogen atom contained therein are replaced by a bond to a non-hydrogen atom unless otherwise denoted.

"Optional" or "optionally" denotes that the subsequently described event or circumstance may but need not occur, and that the description includes instances where the event or circumstance occurs and instances in
30 which it does not. "Comprises" or "comprising" denotes that the subsequently described set may but need not include other elements.

The compounds of formula (I) and the polymers comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II) of the present invention bear a specific S-N
35 core which has not been disclosed in the prior art as possessing any flame retarding activity. The compounds of formula (I), except some specific 2-

benzothiazole sulfenamide derivatives, and the polymers comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II) have not been disclosed in prior art as possessing any synergistic flame retarding activity.

5 Preferred compounds of formula (I) or polymers comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II), are those where each p is 0.

Particularly preferred compounds of formula (I) or polymers comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units
10 comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II), are those where L1, L2, and L3 are each a bond.

Further preferred compounds of formula (I) or polymers comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II), are those where each p is 0 and
15 L1, L2, and L3 are each a bond.

In an example of the present invention, the invention relates to a compound of formula (I) or a polymer comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II), wherein

20 L1, L2, and L3 are each a bond;

each R1 and R2 is independently selected from a group consisting of SR₃, C₁₋₃₀-alkyl, C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀, a saturated monocyclic heterocycle comprising 1 to 4 heteroatom(s) each independently selected from N, S, and O and optionally substituted one or
25 more times with R₁₀, and a mono- or bicyclic aryl or heteroaryl comprising 1 to 4 heteroatom(s) each independently selected from N, S, and O and optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀; or

L1, L2, R1, and R2 together with the N atom they are attached to form a NR₁R₂ group selected from a saturated monocyclic heterocycle, optionally further comprising 1 to 4 heteroatom(s) each independently selected
30 from N, S, and O and optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀; a mono-, bi-, or tricyclic heteroaryl optionally further comprising 1 to 4 heteroatom(s) each independently selected from N, S and O and optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀; N=CR₁'R₂'; and N=S=S;

35 R₃ is selected from a group consisting of C₁₋₃₀-alkyl; C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl, optionally substituted one or more times with R₃₀; NR₁R₂; a saturated mono-

cyclic heterocycle comprising 1 to 4 heteroatom(s) each independently selected from N, S, and O and optionally substituted one or more times with R30; and a mono-, bi-, or tricyclic aryl or heteroaryl comprising 1 to 4 heteroatoms each independently selected from N, S and O, optionally substituted one or more times with R30;

5

or

L1, L3, R1, and R2 together with the N atom and the S atom they are attached to form a group selected from a mono-, bi-, or tricyclic heteroaryl optionally further comprising 1 to 3 heteroatoms selected from N, S and O and optionally substituted one or more times with R40, and a saturated mono- or bicyclic hetero ring system optionally further comprising 1 to 3 heteroatoms selected from N, S and O and optionally substituted one or more times with R40; and R2 is as defined above;

10

or

L1, L2, L3, R1, R2, and R3 together with the S atom and the N atom to which they are attached to form a bi- or tricyclic heteroaryl optionally further comprising 1 to 4 heteroatoms each independently selected from N, S and O and optionally substituted one or more times with R50;

15

each R1' and R2' is independently R1 or R2, respectively, as defined above, or R1' and R2' form together with the C atom they are attached to a CR1'R2' group selected from a group consisting of a C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl optionally substituted one or more times with R10, a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R10, a mono- or bicyclic aryl or heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R10,

20

25

each R10 is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, NHCOR₂₀, NH₂, NHR₂₀, N(R₂₀)₂, OH, OR₂₀, SR₃, -N=N-(R1''R2''N)-SR₃, and =N-N=(R1''R2''N)-SR₃, wherein R1''R2''N forms a monocyclic saturated heterocycle optionally substituted with one or more R10'; provided that when R10 is SR₃, -N=N-(R1''R2''N)-SR₃, or =N-N=(R1''R2''N)-SR₃, said R3 is not substituted with NR1R2 or SNR1R2;

30

each R10' is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, NHCOR₂₀, NH₂, NHR₂₀, N(R₂₀)₂, OH, and OR₂₀;

35

each R20 is independently selected from a group consisting of C₁₋₃₀-

alkyl, C₂₋₃₀-alkenyl, C₂₋₃₀-alkynyl, aryl, C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-heteroaryl, wherein said aryl or heteroaryl is optionally substituted one or more times with C₁₋₄-alkyl, NO₂, CN, NH₂, NMe₂, OH and/or OMe;

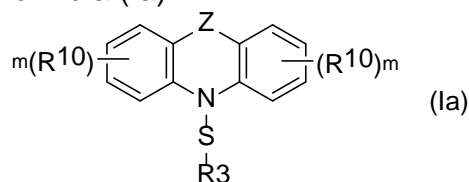
each R₃₀ is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂,
5 CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, OH, OR₂₀,
NHCOR₂₀, NR_{1R2}, and SNR_{1R2}, provided that when R₃₀ is NR_{1R2} or
SNR_{1R2} said R₁ and R₂ are not substituted with SR₃, -N=N-(R₁'R₂'N)-SR₃,
or =N-N=(R₁'R₂'N)-SR₃;

each R₄₀ is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂,
10 CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, OH, OR₂₀,
NHCOR₂₀, NR_{1R2}, SR₃ and a saturated or partly unsaturated monocyclic
heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀', provided that
when R₄₀ is NR_{1R2} or SR₃ said R₃ is not substituted with NR_{1R2} or SNR_{1R2}
and said R₁ and R₂ are not substituted with SR₃, -N=N-(R₁'R₂'N)-SR₃, or
15 =N-N=(R₁'R₂'N)-SR₃;

each R₅₀ is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂,
CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, OH, OR₂₀,
NHCOR₂₀, NR_{1R2}, SR₃, and a saturated or partly unsaturated monocyclic
heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀', provided that
20 when R₅₀ is NR_{1R2} or SR₃ said R₃ is not substituted with NR_{1R2} or SNR_{1R2}
and said R₁ and R₂ are not substituted with SR₃, -N=N-(R₁'R₂'N)-SR₃, or
=N-N=(R₁'R₂'N)-SR₃.

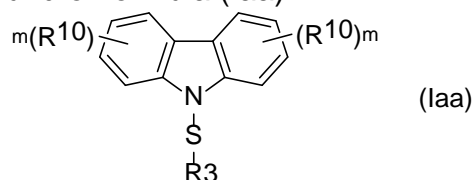
Compounds of formula (I) or polymers comprising one or more re-
peating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfena-
25 mide moiety of formula (II), wherein NR_{1R2} forms a ring are particularly good
flame retardants. In particular a heteroaryl group increases the thermal stability
of the compounds of formula (I). In one example of the invention, the invention
relates to a compound of formula (I), wherein R₁ and R₂ together with the N
atom they are attached to form a monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic heteroaryl,
30 optionally substituted one or more times with R₂₀. Advantageously the said
aromatic ring system is carbazolyl, optionally substituted one or more times
with R₂₀. In this example R₃ is as defined above, preferably a mono or bicyclic
aromatic ring system, optionally substituted one or more times with R₃₀ as
defined above, more preferably R₃ is phenyl optionally substituted one, two or
35 three times with R₂₀, most preferably R₃ is selected from a group consisting of
phenyl, methoxyphenyl, nitrophenyl, methylphenyl, and trimethylphenyl.

A particular example of a compound of formula (I) of the present invention wherein NR₁R₂ forms an unsaturated or aromatic ring system is a compound of formula (Ia)



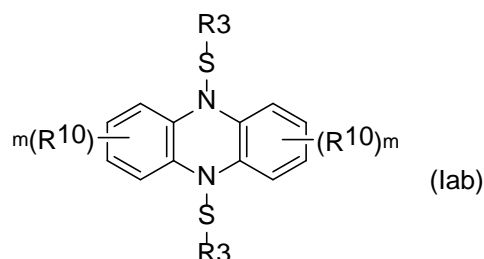
5 wherein each m is independently 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4, preferably 0, each R₁₀ and R₃ is as defined above, and Z is a bond, O, S, NH, NR₂₀, NSR₃, CH₂, CHR₂₀, C(R₂₀)₂, or C=O, preferably a bond, CH₂, CHR₂₀, C(R₂₀)₂, or C=O, more preferably Z is a bond or NSR₃.

10 Most preferably Z is a bond and the compound of formula (Ia) is thus a compound of formula (Iaa)



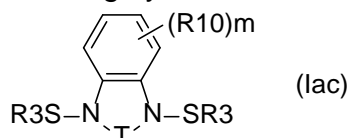
15 wherein each m is independently 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4, preferably 0, and each R₁₀ and R₃ is independently as defined above. Preferably R₃ is phenyl or carbazolyl, wherein said phenyl or carbazolyl is optionally substituted one, two, or three times with R₃₀ as defined above; each R₃₀ is advantageously independently selected from the group consisting of R₂₀, NHCOR₂₀, OH, OR₂₀, N(R₂₀)₂, and NR₁R₂; wherein R₂₀ is as defined above, preferably methyl; and each R₁ and R₂ are as defined above; more preferably each R₃₀ is independently methyl or methoxy.

20 Alternatively Z is N-SR₃ and the compound of formula (Ia) is thus a compound of formula (Iab)



25 wherein each m is independently 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4, preferably 0, and each R₁₀ and R₃ is independently as defined above. Preferably R₃ is aryl, more preferably R₃ is selected from a group consisting of methoxyphenyl, nitrophenyl, methylphenyl and trimethylphenyl.

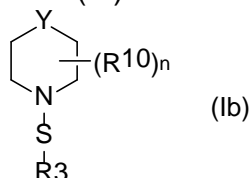
In still further suitable example wherein NR₁R₂ forms an unsaturated or aromatic ring system is a compound of formula (Iac)



wherein m is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4, preferably 0, and T is selected from the group consisting of C=O, C=S, C=N-SR₃, N-SR₃, N, S, O and P; and each R₃ and R₁₀ is independently as defined above. Preferably R₃ is aryl, more preferably R₃ is selected from a group consisting of methoxyphenyl, nitrophenyl, methylphenyl and trimethylphenyl. Preferably T is C=O.

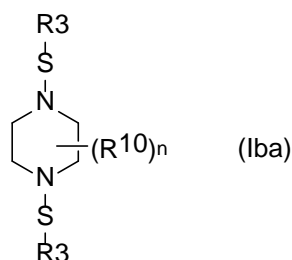
In another advantageous example of the present invention at least one of R₁ and R₂ is independently selected from mono- or bicyclic aromatic or unsaturated carbon or hetero ring systems optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀. Preferably at least one of R₁ and R₂ is selected from a group consisting of phenyl, naphthalenyl. Aryl and heteroaryl groups increase the thermal stability of the flame retardant compounds of formula (I) or polymers comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II).

In a further example of the present invention the compound of formula (I) is a compound of formula (Ib)



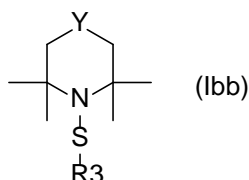
wherein n is from 0 to 8, preferably 0 to 4; Y is selected from a group consisting of a bond, CH₂, CHR₁₀, C(R₁₀)₂, N-SR₃, C=O, C=N-SR₃, and C=N-N(R₁'R₂'N)-SR₃, wherein R₁'R₂'N forms a monocyclic saturated heterocycle as defined above; and each R₁₀ and R₃ is as defined above. Preferably in this example n is 4 and each R₁₀ is methyl or n is 2 and each R₁₀ is =O. Further preferably in this example each R₃ is independently C₁₋₇-alkyl or a mono- or bicyclic aryl, optionally substituted one or more times with R₃₀ as defined above, more preferably phenyl, methylphenyl, trimethylphenyl, nitrophenyl, methoxyphenyl, pyridinyl, or butyl.

In one suitable example of the present invention the compound of formula (I) is a compound of formula (Iba)



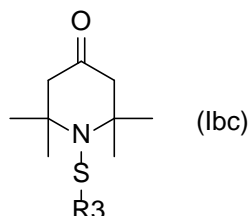
wherein n is 0 to 8, preferably 2; R3 is as defined above, preferably phenyl optionally substituted one or more times with R30; and each R10 is as defined above, preferably alkyl, more preferably methyl.

5 In a preferred example of the above the compound of formula (I) is a compound of formula (Ibb)



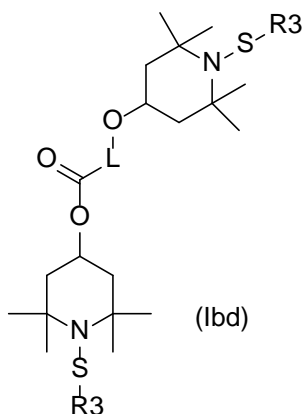
wherein Y is C=O, N-SR3, O, or S, and each R3 is independently as defined above.

10 In a particular example of the above the compound of formula (I) is a compound of formula (Ibc)



wherein R3 is as defined above. Preferably in this example R3 is a mono or bicyclic aryl, optionally substituted one or more times with R30 as defined above. More preferably R3 is phenyl or pyridinyl, which phenyl or pyridinyl is optionally substituted one, two or three times with R30 as defined above. Further preferably each R30 is selected from a group consisting of methyl, methoxy, and NO₂.

20 In a further particular example of the above the compound of formula (I) is a compound of formula (Ibd)

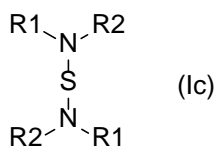


wherein each R3 is as defined above and L is bond or C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-(C=O)-. Preferably in this example R3 is a mono or bicyclic aryl, optionally substituted one or more times with R30 as defined above. More preferably R3 is phenyl or pyridinyl, which phenyl or pyridinyl is optionally substituted one, two or three times with R30 as defined above. Further preferably each R30 is selected from a group consisting of methyl, methoxy, and NO₂. Most preferably R3 is phenyl.

Compounds of formula (I) and the polymers comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II), wherein R1, R2 and/or R3 is an aryl and/or heteroaryl are another example particularly good flame retardants. The aromatic group increases the thermal stability of said compounds and polymers.

In an advantageous example of the present invention the invention relates to a compound of formula (I) or a polymer comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II), wherein R3 is a mono- bi- or tricyclic aryl or heteroaryl, optionally substituted one or more times with R30. Preferably in this example R3 is selected from a group consisting of phenyl, naphthyl, pyridyl, indolyl and carbazolyl, each optionally substituted one, two or three times with R30 as defined above.

In still another example of the invention the compound of formula (I) is a compound of formula (Ic)

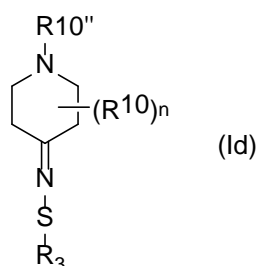


wherein R1 and R2 are each independently as defined above. Preferably in this example each R1 and R2 is independently selected from

branched C₃₋₃₀-alkyl, C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl, saturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀, a mono- or bicyclic aryl or heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀; or R₁ and R₂ together with the N atom they are attached to form a saturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally further comprising 1 to 4 heteroatoms selected from N, S and O and optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀; or a mono-, bi-, tricyclic heteroaryl optionally further comprising 1 to 4 heteroatoms selected from N, S and O and optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀, and wherein each R₁₀ is independently as defined above. More preferably R₁ and R₂ together with the N atom they are attached to form a group selected from morpholinyl, phthalimidyl, and carbazolyl.

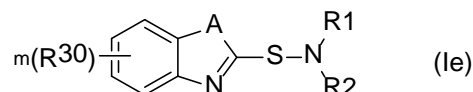
In another example of the present invention L₁ and L₂ are both a bond and R₁ and R₂ form together with the N atom they are attached to a saturated monocyclic heterocycle optionally further comprising 1 heteroatom selected from N or O and consisting of 5 or 6 ring atoms and optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀ as defined above, more preferably each R₁₀ is independently selected from methyl and =O; or monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic heteroaryl consisting of 6 to 14 ring atoms, and optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀, more preferably each R₁₀ is =O.

In a particular example of the above the compound of formula (I) is a compound of formula (Id)



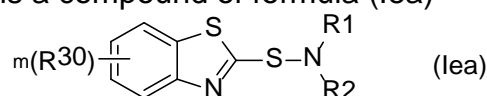
wherein n is 0 to 8, R_{10''} is H or R₁₀, and each R₁₀ and R₃ are independently as defined above. Preferably in this example R₃ is a mono or bicyclic aryl, optionally substituted one or more times with R₃₀ as defined above. More preferably R₃ is phenyl or pyridinyl, which phenyl or pyridinyl is optionally substituted one, two or three times with R₃₀ as defined above. Further preferably each R₃₀ is selected from a group consisting of methyl, methoxy, and NO₂. Preferably in this example R_{10''} is H, methyl, branched C₃₋₇-alkyl, C₁₋₆-alkoxy, phenyl, OSiH₃, or OSi(Me)₃.

In another further suitable example of the present invention compound of formula (I) is a compound of formula (Ie)



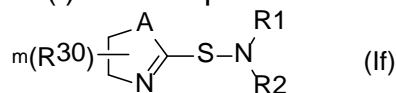
wherein m is 0 to 4, A is S, O or NH, and R1, R2, and R30 are each independently as defined above. Preferably R1 and R2 are each independently branched C₃₋₇-alkyl or C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl, or one of R1 and R2 is SR₃, wherein
 5 R3 is as defined above, more preferably a mono- or bicyclic aryl or heteroaryl, and the other of R1 and R2 is branched C₃₋₇-alkyl or C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl.

In a further suitable example of the present invention compound of formula (Ie) is a compound of formula (Iea)



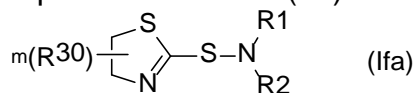
10 wherein m is 0 to 4, and R1, R2, and R30 are each independently as defined above. Preferably R1 and R2 are each independently branched C₃₋₇-alkyl or C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl, or one of R1 and R2 is SR₃, wherein R3 is as defined above, more preferably a bicyclic aryl or heteroaryl, and the other of R1 and R2 is branched C₃₋₇-alkyl or C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl.

15 In a still another further suitable example of the present invention compound of formula (I) is a compound of formula (If)



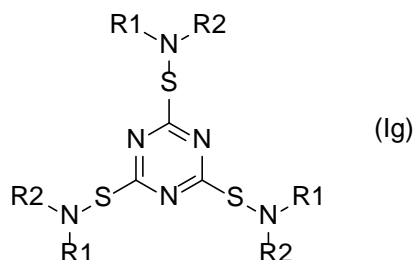
wherein m is 0 to 4, A is S, O or NH, and R1, R2, and R30 are each independently as defined above. Preferably R1 and R2 are each independently
 20 branched C₃₋₇-alkyl or C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl, or one of R1 and R2 is SR₃, wherein R3 is as defined above, more preferably a mono- or bicyclic aryl or heteroaryl, and the other of R1 and R2 is branched C₃₋₇-alkyl or C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl.

In a further suitable example of the present invention compound of formula (If) is a compound of formula (Ifa)



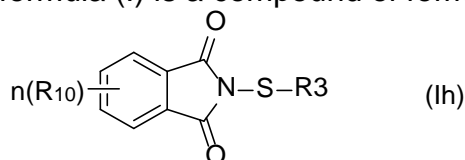
25 wherein m is 0 to 4, and R1, R2, and R30 are each independently as defined above. Preferably R1 and R2 are each independently branched C₃₋₇-alkyl or C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl, or one of R1 and R2 is SR₃, wherein R3 is as defined above, more preferably a bicyclic aryl or heteroaryl, and the other of R1 and
 30 R2 is branched C₃₋₇-alkyl or C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl.

In still another suitable example of the present invention the compound of formula (I) is a compound of formula (Ig)



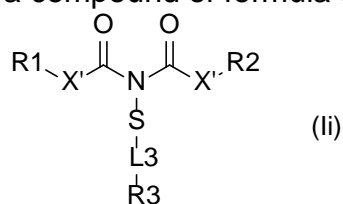
wherein each R1 and R2 is independently as defined above, preferably each R1 and R2 together with the nitrogen they are attached to form a monocyclic aliphatic ring optionally further comprising one heteroatom selected from N and O, and consisting of 5 to 6 ring atoms, more preferably said ring is morpholinyl.

In still another further suitable example of the present invention compound of formula (I) is a compound of formula (Ih)



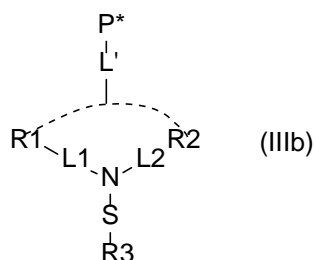
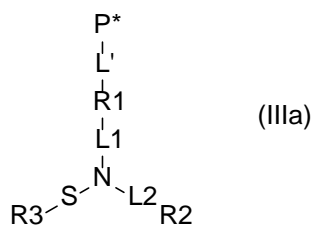
wherein each R10 and R3 are independently as defined above and n is 0 to 4, preferably 0 or 1. Preferably in this example each R3 is independently C₁₋₇-alkyl or a mono- or bicyclic aryl, optionally substituted one or more times with R30 as defined above, more preferably phenyl, methylphenyl, trimethylphenyl, nitrophenyl, methoxyphenyl, pyridinyl, or butyl.

In a suitable example of the present invention the compound of formula (I) is a compound of formula (Ii)



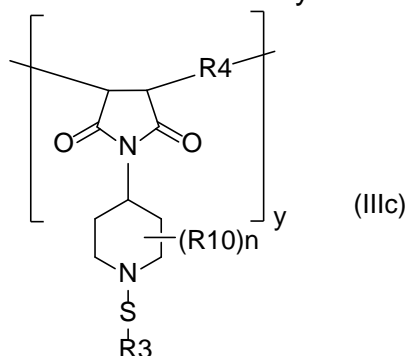
wherein R1, R2, R3 and L3 are independently as defined above and X' is N, O or a bond. Preferably L3 is bond. Further preferably R1 and R2 are each independently selected from C₁₋₃₀-alkyl, and an aliphatic or aromatic ring optionally substituted one or more times with R10.

In an advantageous example of the present invention a polymer comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II) is a polymer of formula (IIIa) or (IIIb)



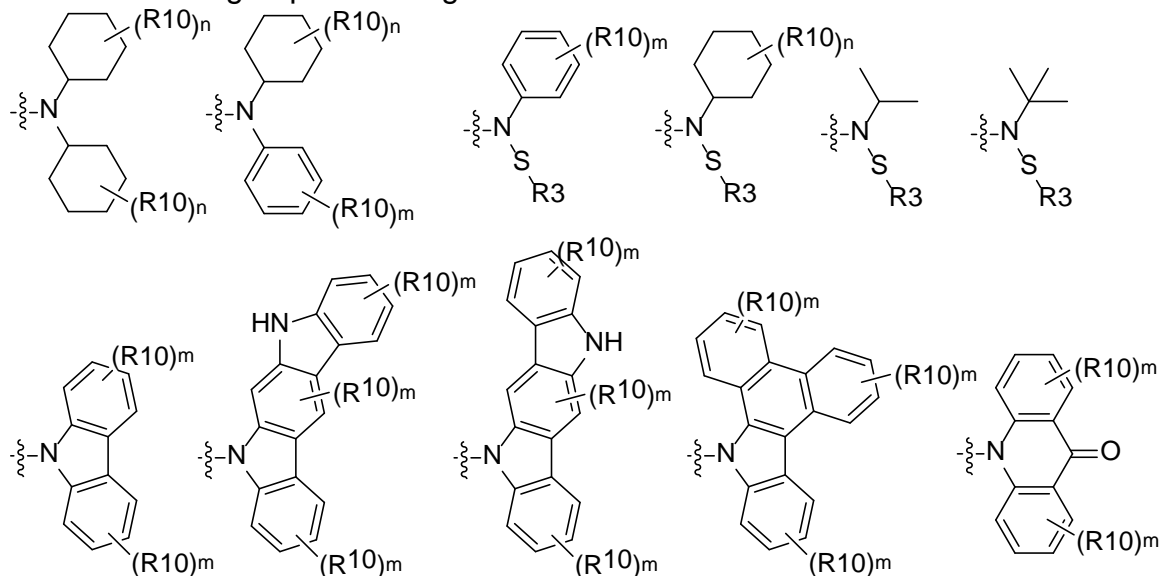
wherein R1, R2, R3, L1, L2 and L' are as defined herein and P* refers to a repeating unit of a polymeric backbone. Preferably in this example P* is a repeating unit of a polymeric backbone of a polymer as defined in categories 1 to 21 on pages 27 to 31. In particular in this example in the polymer of formula (IIIb) L1, L2, R1, and R2 together with the N atom they are attached to form a NR1R2 group selected from a group consisting of a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R10; and a mono-, or bicyclic heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R10.

In a particular example of the present invention a polymer comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II) is a polymer of formula (IIIc)

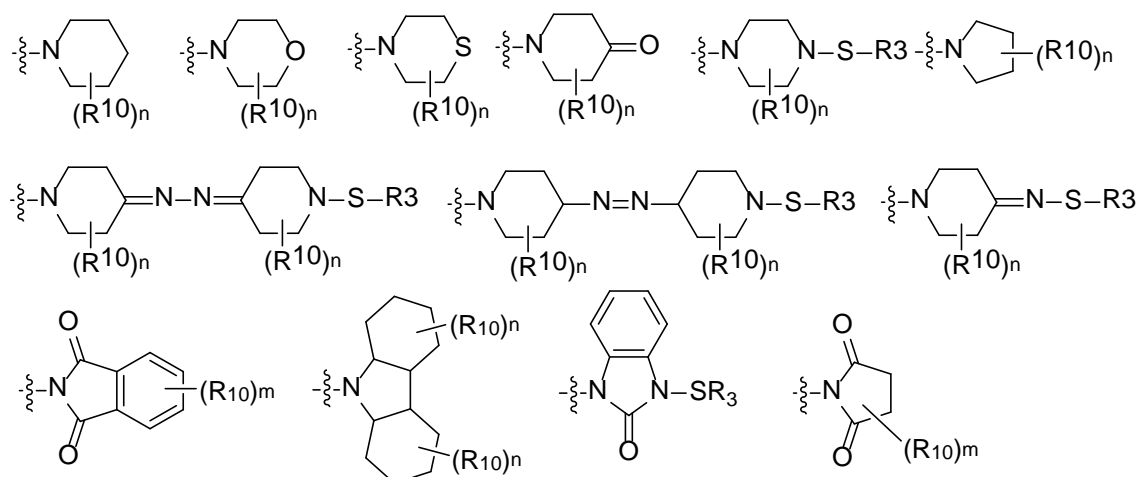


wherein R3 and R10 are as defined herein, n is 0 to 8, preferably 0 to 4, R4 is C₁₋₃₀-alkylenyl and y refers to number of repeating units of the polymer, preferably y is from 3 to 3000. In this example R3 is preferably a mono- or bicyclic aryl or heteroaryl, more preferably phenyl, optionally substituted one or more times with R30 as defined herein. Further preferably R4 is -CH₂CH[(CH₂)₁₇₋₂₁CH₃]-.

Preferably in any one of the above examples NR₁R₂ is suitably selected from the group consisting of:



5



In a preferred example of the invention the compound of formula (I) is selected from a group consisting of:

- 10 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-(phenylthio)piperidin-4-one (1);
 1-((4-methoxyphenyl)thio)-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-4-one (2);
 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-((4-nitrophenyl)thio)piperidin-4-one (3);
 1-(2-nitrophenylthio)-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-4-one (4);
 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-(4-methylphenylthio)piperidin-4-one (5);
 15 1-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylthio)-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-4-one (6);
 1-(2-pyridylthio)-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-4-one (7);
 1,2-bis(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-(phenylthio)piperidin-4-ylidene)hydrazine (8);

2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-(phenylthio)-4-piperidyl methacrylate (9);
1-[(1-disulfenylideneamino)sulfenyl-2'2'6'6-tetramethylpiperidin-4-
one (10);
trans-2,5-dimethyl-1,4-bis(phenylthio)piperazine (11);
5 1-butylsulfanyl-2'2'6'6-tetramethylpiperidine (12);
4'-thiobis-morpholine (13);
1,1'-thiobis-(2,6-dimethyl)piperidine (14);
1,1'-thiobis-(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl)piperidine (15);
N-1,5,9-((4-methoxyphenyl)thio))-bis-(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-
10 piperidyl)-amine (16);
1,1'-thiobis phtalimide (17);
1,1'-thiobis-carbazole (18);
2-[(4-methoxyphenyl)thio]- 1H-Isoindole-1,3(2H)-dione (19);
9-(phenylthio)-9*H*-carbazole (20),
15 9-[(4-methoxyphenyl)thio]-9*H*-carbazole (21);
N-2-naphthalenyl-*N*-phenyl-4-methylbenzenesulfenamide (22);
N-bis[4-(1-methyl-1-phenylethyl)phenyl]-4-
methylbenzenesulfenamide (23);
N-cyclohexyl-*S*-phenyl-*N*-(phenylthio)thiohydroxylamine (24);
20 2,4,6-tris(4-morpholinylthio)- [1,3,5]-triazine (25);
S-(benzo[d]thiazol-2-yl)-*N,N*-diisopropylthiohydroxylamine (26);
S-(benzo[d]thiazol-2-yl)-*N,N*-dicyclohexylthiohydroxylamine (27);
S-(benzo[d]thiazol-2-yl)-*N*-(benzo[d]thiazol-2-ylthio)-*N*-(tert-
butyl)thiohydroxylamine (28);
25 benzo[c][1,2,5]thiadiazole (29);
3-(piperazin-1-yl)benzo[d]isothiazole (30);
5-nitrobenzo[c]isothiazol-3-amine (31);
3-phenyl-1,2,4-thiadiazol-5-amine (32);
bis(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-(phenylthio)piperidin-4-yl)decanedioate
30 (33);
bis(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-(phenylthio)piperidin-4-yl) carbonate (34);
and
1,3-bis(phenylthio)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazol-2(3*H*)-one (35).

In a preferred example of the invention the polymer comprising one
35 or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises

a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II), is poly[3-methyl-4-(2-methyldocosyl)-1-(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-(phenylthio)piperidin-4-yl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione] (36).

Compounds of formula (I) and/or a polymer comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II) can be added to any material which flame properties need to be modified. Typically this material is a polymeric material, meaning either a polymer or a plastic material comprising a polymer and additives. The compound of formula (I) can be used either alone or together with one or more compound(s) of formula (I). The polymer comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II) can be used either alone or together with one or more other polymer(s) comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II). The compound(s) of formula (I) and/or polymer(s) comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II) can further be used in combination with one or more other known flame retardant compound(s). Preferably the other known flame retardant compounds are non-halogenated flame retardants. The compound of formula (I) may be added to a first polymeric substance which may then be used as an additive to another polymeric substance or it may be added to for example a coating material in order to enhance the flame properties of the final product. The present flame retardant compound may also be added directly to the polymeric substance used for the manufacture of the final product. The addition can be effected at any stage, for example during the polymerisation process of the polymer or during compounding or blending.

Conventional additives other than flame retardants can also be added to the polymeric substance. Examples include UV absorbers, light stabilisers, antioxidants, colorants etc.

The compounds of formula (I) and the polymers comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II) of the invention are outstandingly suitable for imparting flame-retarding properties to polymeric substrates i.e. polymers or polymer containing materials, e.g. synthetic polymers, especially thermoplastics. Therefore, a further embodiment of the invention relates to a composition, which comprises (a) a compound of the formula (I) as defined herein and (b) a polymer substrate.

A suitable polymer substrate (b) consists of natural and/or synthetic polymers, such as:

1. Polymers of mono- and diolefins, for example polypropylene, polyisobutylene, polybutene-1, poly-4-methylpentene-1, polyvinylcyclohexane, polyisoprene or polybutadiene and also polymerisates of cycloolefins, for example of cyclopentene or norbornene; and also polyethylene (which may optionally be crosslinked), for example high density polyethylene (HDPE), high density polyethylene of high molecular weight (HDPE-HMW), high density polyethylene of ultra-high molecular weight (HDPE-UHMW), medium density polyethylene (MDPE), low density polyethylene (LDPE), and linear low density polyethylene (LLDPE), (VLDPE) and (ULDPE).

2. Mixtures of the polymers mentioned under 1), for example mixtures of polypropylene with polyisobutylene, polypropylene with polyethylene (for example PP/HDPE, PP/LDPE) and mixtures of different types of polyethylene (for example LDPE/HDPE).

3. Copolymers of mono- and di-olefins with one another or with other vinyl monomers, for example ethylene/propylene copolymers, linear low density polyethylene (LLDPE) and mixtures thereof with low density polyethylene (LDPE), propylene/butene-1 copolymers, propylene/isobutylene copolymers, ethylene/butene-1 copolymers, ethylene/hexene copolymers, ethylene/methylpentene copolymers, ethylene/heptene copolymers, ethylene/octene copolymers, ethylene/vinylcyclohexane copolymers, ethylene/cycloolefin copolymers, for example ethylene/norbornene (COC), ethylene/1-olefin copolymers wherein the 1-olefin is prepared in situ, propylene/butadiene copolymers, isobutylene/isoprene copolymers, ethylene/vinylcyclohexane copolymers, ethylene/alkyl acrylate copolymers, ethylene/alkyl methacrylate copolymers, ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymers, ethylene/acrylic acid copolymers and salts thereof (ionomers), and also terpolymers of ethylene with propylene and a diene, such as hexadiene, dicyclopentadiene or ethylenenorbornene; and also mixtures of such copolymers with one another or with polymers mentioned under 1), for example polypropylene-ethylene/propylene copolymers, LDPE-ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymers, LDPE-ethylene/acrylic acid copolymers, LLDPE-ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymers, LLDPE-ethylene/acrylic acid copolymers and alternately or randomly structured polyalkylene-carbon monoxide copolymers and mixtures thereof with other polymers, for example polyamides.

4. Polystyrene, poly(p-methylstyrene), poly(α -methylstyrene).

5. Aromatic homopolymers and copolymers derived from vinyl-aromatic monomers, for example styrene, α -methylstyrene, all isomers of vinyl-toluene, for example p-vinyltoluene, all isomers of ethylstyrene, propylstyrene, vinylbiphenyl, vinylnaphthalene, vinylanthracene and mixtures thereof; homopolymers and copolymers can have a syndiotactic, isotactic, hemi-isotactic or atactic stereo structure; preference is given to atactic polymers. Also included are stereo block polymers.

6. Homopolymers and copolymers can have a syndiotactic, isotactic, hemi-isotactic or atactic stereo structure; preference is given to atactic polymers. Also included are stereo block polymers.

a) Copolymers including the already mentioned vinyl-aromatic monomers and co-monomers selected from ethylene, propylene, dienes, nitriles, acids, maleic anhydrides, maleic acid amides, vinyl acetate, vinyl chloride and acrylic acid derivatives and mixtures thereof, for example styrene/butadiene, styrene/acrylonitrile, styrene/ethylene (interpolymers), styrene/alkyl methacrylate, styrene/butadiene/alkyl acrylate and methacrylate, styrene/maleic anhydride, styrene/acrylonitrile/methyl acrylate; high-impact-strength mixtures consisting of styrene copolymers and another polymer, for example a polyacrylate, a diene polymer or an ethylene/propylene/diene terpolymer; and also block copolymers of styrene, for example styrene/butadiene/styrene, styrene/isoprene/styrene, styrene/ethylene-butylene/styrene or styrene/ethylene-propylene/styrene.

b) Hydrogenated aromatic polymers prepared by hydrogenation of the polymers mentioned under item 6), especially polycyclohexylethylene (PCHE), often also referred to as polyvinylcyclohexane (PVCH), which is prepared by hydrogenation of atactic polystyrene.

c) Hydrogenated aromatic polymers prepared by hydrogenation of the polymers mentioned under item 6a).

7. Graft copolymers of vinyl-aromatic monomers, for example styrene on polybutadiene, styrene on polybutadiene/styrene or polybutadiene/acrylonitrile copolymers, styrene and acrylonitrile (or methacrylonitrile) on polybutadiene; styrene, acrylonitrile and methyl methacrylate on polybutadiene; styrene and maleic anhydride on polybutadiene; styrene, acrylonitrile and maleic anhydride or maleic acid imide on polybutadiene; styrene and maleic acid imide on polybutadiene, styrene and alkyl acrylates or alkyl methacry-

lates on polybutadiene, styrene and acrylonitrile on ethylene/propylene/diene
ter- polymers, styrene and acrylonitrile on polyalkyl acrylates or polyalkyl
methacrylates, styrene and acrylonitrile on acrylate/butadiene copolymers, and
mixtures thereof with the copolymers mentioned above under Paragraph 6,
5 such as those known, for example, as so-called ABS, MBS, ASA or AES poly-
mers.

8. Halogen-containing polymers, for example polychloroprene, chlo-
rinated rubber, chlorinated and brominated copolymer of isobutylene/isoprene
(halobutyl rubber), chlorinated or chlorosulphonated polyethylene, copolymers
10 of ethylene and chlorinated ethylene, epichlorohydrin homo- and co-polymers,
especially polymers of halogen-containing vinyl compounds, for example poly-
vinyl chloride, polyvinylidene chloride, polyvinyl fluoride, polyvinylidene fluo-
ride; and copolymers thereof, such as vinyl chloride/vinylidene chloride, vinyl
chloride/vinyl acetate or vinylidene chloride/vinyl acetate.

15 9. Polymers derived from α,β -unsaturated acids and derivatives
thereof, such as polyacrylates and polymethacrylates, or polymethyl methacry-
lates, polyacrylamides and polyacrylonitriles impact-resistant-modified with
butyl acrylate.

20 10. Copolymers of the monomers mentioned under Paragraph 9
with one another or with other unsaturated monomers, for example acryloni-
trile/butadiene copolymers, acrylonitrile/alkyl acrylate copolymers, acryloni-
trile/alkoxyalkyl acrylate copolymers, acrylonitrile/vinyl halide copolymers or
acrylonitrile/alkyl methacrylate/butadiene terpolymers.

25 11. Polymers derived from unsaturated alcohols and amines or their
acyl derivatives or acetals, such as polyvinyl alcohol, polyvinyl acetate, stea-
rate, benzoate or maleate, polyvinylbutyral, polyallyl phthalate, polyallylmela-
mine; and the copolymers thereof with olefins mentioned under item 1.

30 12. Homo- and co-polymers of cyclic ethers, such as polyalkylene
glycols, polyethylene oxide, polypropylene oxide or copolymers thereof with
bisglycidyl ethers.

13. Polyacetals, such as polyoxymethylene, and also those polyox-
ymethylenes which contain comonomers, for example ethylene oxide; polyace-
tals modified with thermoplastic polyurethanes, acrylates or MBS.

35 14. Polyphenylene oxides and sulphides and mixtures thereof with
styrene polymers or polyamides.

15. Polyamides and copolyamides derived from diamines and dicarboxylic acids and/or from aminocarboxylic acids or the corresponding lactams, such as polyamide 4, polyamide 6, polyamide 6/6, 6/10, 6/9, 6/12, 4/6, 12/12, polyamide 11, polyamide 12, aromatic polyamides derived from m-xylene, diamine and adipic acid; polyamide 6/1 (polyhexamethylene isophthalamide, MXD (m-xylylenediamine)); polyamides prepared from hexamethylenediamine and iso- and/or terephthalic acid and optionally an elastomer as modifier, for example poly-2,4,4-trimethylhexamethylene terephthalamide or poly-m-phenylene isophthalamide. Block copolymers of the above-mentioned polyamides with polyolefins, olefin copolymers, ionomers or chemically bonded or grafted elastomers; or with polyethers, for example with polyethylene glycol, polypropylene glycol or polytetramethylene glycol. Also polyamides or copolyamides modified with EPDM or ABS; and polyamides condensed during processing ("RIM polyamide systems").

Examples of polyamides and copolyamides that can be used are derived from, inter alia, ϵ -caprolactam, adipic acid, sebacic acid, dodecanoic acid, isophthalic acid, terephthalic acid, hexamethylenediamine, tetramethylenediamine, 2-methylpentamethylene diamine, 2,2,4-trimethylhexamethylenediamine, 2,4,4-trimethylhexamethylenediamine, m-xylylenediamine or bis(3-methyl-4-aminocyclohexyl)methane; and also semi-aromatic polyamides such as polyamide 66/61, for example consisting of 70 - 95% polyamide 6/6 and 5 - 30% polyamide 6/1; and also tricopolymers in which some of the polyamide 6/6 has been replaced, for example consisting of 60 - 89% polyamide 6/6, 5 - 30% polyamide 6/1 and 1 - 10% of another aliphatic polyamide; the latter may consist of, for example, polyamide 6, polyamide 11, polyamide 12 or polyamide 6/12 units. Such tricopolymers may accordingly be designated polyamide 66/61/6, polyamide 66/61/11, polyamide 66/61/12, polyamide 66/61/610 or polyamide 66/61/612.

16. Polyureas, polyimides, polyamide imides, polyether imides, polyester imides, polyhydantoins and polybenzimidazoles.

17. Polyesters derived from dicarboxylic acids and dialcohols and/or from hydroxycarboxylic acids or the corresponding lactones, such as polyethylene terephthalate, polypropylene terephthalate, polybutylene terephthalate, poly-1,4-dimethylolcyclohexane terephthalate, polyalkylene naphthalate (PAN) and polyhydroxybenzoates, and also block polyether esters derived from pol-

yethers with hydroxyl terminal groups; and also polyesters modified with polycarbonates or MBS.

18. Polycarbonates and polyester carbonates.

19. Mixtures (polyblends) of the afore-mentioned polymers, for example PP/EPDM, polyamide/EPDM or ABS, PVC/EVA, PVC/ABS, PVC/MBS, PC/ABS, PBTP/ABS, PC/ASA, PC/PBT, PVC/CPE, PVC/acrylates, POM/thermoplastic PUR, PC/thermoplastic PUR, POM/acrylate, POM/MBS, PPO/HIPS, PPO/PA 6.6 and copolymers, PA/HDPE, PA/PP, PA/PPO, PBT/PC/ABS or PBT/PET/PC. Preference is given to compositions wherein the thermoplastic polymer is high-impact polystyrene (HIPS), expandable polystyrene (EPS), extruded polystyrene (XPS), polyphenylene ether (PPE), polyamide, polyester, polycarbonate (PC) or a polymer blend of the type ABS (acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene) or PC/ABS (polycarbonate/acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene) or PPE/HIPS (polyphenylene ether/high-impact polystyrene), especially a polyamide, polyester or a PPE/HIPS blend. Special preference is given to polymer compositions according to the invention that comprise a filler or a reinforcing agent, especially glass-fibre-reinforced polymers, e.g. glass-fibre-reinforced polyamide.

20. Natural polymers, for example cellulose, starch (amylose and amylopectin), ligno-cellulose, proteins silk, polyhydroxyalkanoates, polypeptides. polysaccharides: Xanthan gum, B-Glucans, chitosan and natural rubbers.

21. Bio polymers, for example polycaprolactones, polylactides, poly(Lactide-co-Glycolide) Copolymers (PLGA), poly(glycolic acid) (PGA) and polydioxanone (PDS).

A preferred embodiment relates to flame retardant compositions, wherein the polymer substrate (b) consists of polystyrene, polystyrene copolymers, polyethylene, polypropylene or blends of polypropylene with polyolefins. Examples are blends of polypropylene with polyethylene selected from the group consisting of high density polyethylene (HDPE), high molecular weight high density polyethylene (HMW HDPE), ultra high molecular weight high density polyethylene (UHMW HDPE), medium density polyethylene (MDPE), low density polyethylene (LDPE), linear low density polyethylene (LLDPE), branched low density polyethylene (BLDPE) and ethylene-propylene-diene terpolymers (EPDM) containing small proportions of diene.

The present invention further relates to a flame retardant composition, which comprises, in addition to the components (a) and (b), as defined

above, (c) further additives selected from the group consisting of polymer stabilizers and additional non-halogenated flame-retardants, such as melamine containing flame retardants, phosphorus containing flame-retardants, further nitrogen containing flame-retardants other than melamine containing flame retardants, and inorganic flame-retardants.

Stabilizers are preferably halogen-free and selected from nitroxyl stabilizers, nitrene stabilizers, amine oxide stabilizers, benzofuranone stabilizers, phosphite and phosphonite stabilizers, quinone methide stabilizers and monoacrylate esters of 2,2'-alkylidenebisphenol stabilizers.

Additional flame retardants as of present component (c) are known components, items of commerce or can be obtained by known methods.

Representative melamine containing flame retardants are for example, melamine comprising compounds, wherein the melamine structure: 1,3,5-triazine-2,4,6-triamin (= cyanuric acid triamide) or condensates thereof are present. The definition applies to monomeric, oligomeric or polymeric compounds of melamine, condensates of melamine or condensates with of melamine and phosphoric thereof.

Preferred melamine comprising compounds are melamine cyanurate, melamine phosphate, dimelamine phosphate, melamine pyrophosphate, melamine polyphosphate, melamine phenyl phosphonate, melamine borate, melamine ammonium phosphate, melamine ammonium polyphosphate, melamine ammonium pyrophosphate, melem, melam or melon or polyphosphates of melem, melam or melon.

Representative phosphorus containing flame-retardants are for example: Organic metal phosphinates (Aluminium phosphinates, Exolit OP, Clariant), pentaerythritol phosphates, tetraphenyl resorcinol diphosphite (FYROLFLEX[®] RDP, Akzo Nobel), tetrakis(hydroxy-methyl)phosphonium sulphide, triphenyl phosphate, diethyl-N,N-bis(2-hydroxyethyl)-amino-methyl phosphonate, hydroxyalkyl esters of phosphorus acids and cyclic phosphonates (ADK STAB FP 600/ 800/ 2200, Adeka Corp), AFLAMMIT PCO 900 /800 /700, (Thor GmbH), ammonium polyphosphate (APP). (EXOLIT AP 766, Clariant) or (HOSTAFLAM[®] AP750, Clariant), resorcinol diphosphate oligomer (RDP), phosphazene flame-retardants, 9,10-dihydro-9-oxa-10-phosphaphenanthrene-10-oxide) (DOPO) or its derivatives, di(ethylenediamine) phosphate (DEDAP), and ethylenediamine diphosphate (EDAP) or their mixtures (e.g. BUDIT 3167, Budenheim)..

Further nitrogen containing flame retardants other than melamine containing flame retardants are, for example, isocyanurate flame-retardants, such as polyisocyanurate, esters of isocyanuric acid or isocyanurates, melamine metal phosphates (SAFIRE® 200 /400 /600, Floridienne Chimie). Representative examples are hydroxyalkyl isocyanurates, such as tris-(2-hydroxyethyl)isocyanurate, tris(hydroxymethyl)isocyanurate, tris(3-hydroxy-n-propyl)isocyanurate or triglycidyl isocyanurate. Further examples are: benzoguanamine, tris(hydroxyethyl) isocyanurate, allantoin, glycouril, melamine cyanurate, urea cyanurate, poly-[2,4-(piperazine-1,4-yl)-6-(morpholine-4-yl)-1,3,5-triazine]/piperazin (MCA® PPM TRIAZINE HF, MCA Technologies) azoalkanes and related compounds (e.g. AZONOR, azine, azoxy, hydrazone, triazeryl, INAZO), NOR compounds (FLAMESTAB® NOR 116, TINUVIN™ NOR 371, BASF), or ammonium polyphosphate. The sulfenamides can also be used together with synergists based on other radical generators e.g. disulfides or peroxides.

Representative organohalogen flame-retardants are, for example: Polybrominated diphenyl oxide (DE-60F, Great Lakes Corp.), decabromodiphenyl ethane (SAYTEX™ 8010 , Albemarle), hexabromocyclododecane (SAYTEX™ HP 900P , Albemarle), brominated polymers and oligomers such as styrene-butadiene block copolymers (EMERALD INNOVATION™ 3000, Chemtura, GREEN ARMOR™, GREEN CREST™, Albemarle, FR-122P™, ICL), polyphenylene oxide and its derivatives, brominated polyacrylates (FR-1025 P™, ICL), decabromodiphenyl oxide (DBDPO; SAYTEX® 102E), tris[3-bromo-2,2-bis(bromomethyl)propyl] phosphate (PB 370®, FMC Corp.), tris(2,3-dibromopropyl)phosphate, tris(2,3-dichloropropyl)phosphate, chlorendic acid, tetrachlorophthalic acid, tetrabromophthalic acid, poly-β-chloroethyl triphosphonate mixture, tetrabromobisphenol A bis(2,3-dibromopropyl ether) (PE68), brominated epoxy resin, ethylene-bis(tetrabromophthalimide) (SAYTEX® BT-93), bis(hexachlorocyclopentadieno)-cyclooctane (DECHLORANE PLUS®), chlorinated paraffins, octabromodiphenyl ether, hexa-chlorocyclopentadiene derivatives, 1,2-bis(tribromophenoxy)ethane (FF680), tetrabromo-bisphenol A (SAYTEX® RB100), ethylene bis-(dibromo-norbornanedicarboximide) (SAYTEX® BN-451), bis-(hexachlorocycloentadeno) cyclooctane, PTFE, tris-(2,3-dibromopropyl)-iso-cyanurate, and ethylene-bis-tetrabromophthalimide.

The flame-retardant mentioned above routinely combined with inorganic (hydr)oxide synergists. Most common for this use are aluminum

(hydr)oxide, such as $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3$ or AlOOH , magnesium hydroxide, zinc or antimony oxides, e.g. Sb_2O_3 or Sb_2O_5 . Boron compounds are suitable, too.

The above-mentioned additional flame retardant compounds are advantageously contained in the composition of the invention in an amount
5 from about 0.25% to about 45.0% by weight of the organic polymer substrate; for instance about 0.25% to about 35.0%; for example about 0.25% to about 30.0% by weight of the polymer.

As mentioned above, the composition according to the invention may additionally contain one or more conventional additives, for example selected from pigments, dyes, plasticizers, anti-dripping agents such as fluorinated
10 polymers (PTFE, Metablen A3800, Mitsubishi Rayon), nanoclays (Cloisite 30B) and borates (FIREBRAKE®, Borax), antioxidants, thixotropic agents, levelling assistants, basic co-stabilizers, metal passivators, metal oxides, organophosphorus compounds, further light stabilizers and mixtures thereof, especially pigments, phenolic antioxidants, calcium stearate, zinc stearate, UV absorbers of the 2-hydroxy-benzophenone, 2-(2'-hydroxyphenyl)benzotriazole and/or
15 2-(2-hydroxyphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine groups.

The additives mentioned above are preferably contained in an amount of 0.01 to 10.0%, especially 0.05 to 5.0%, relative to the weight of the
20 polymer substrate b).

The present invention accordingly relates also to the use of the compounds of formula (I) as defined above for imparting flame-resistant properties to a polymer substrate, for example synthetic polymers, especially to thermoplastics, and also to a method of imparting flame-resistant properties to
25 synthetic polymers, wherein at least one compound of formula (I) according to the invention is incorporated in the polymer substrate or is applied to their surface.

The incorporation of the compounds of formula (I) and the optional additional components, as defined above, into the polymer substrate is carried
30 out by known methods such as dry blending in the form of a powder, or wet mixing in the form of solutions, dispersions or suspensions for example in an inert solvent, water or oil. The compound of formula (I) and optional further additives may be incorporated, for example, before or after molding or also by applying the dissolved or dispersed additive or additive mixture to the polymer
35 material, with or without subsequent evaporation of the solvent or the suspension/dispersion agent. They may be added directly into the processing appa-

ratus (e.g. extruders, internal mixers, etc.), e.g. as a dry mixture or powder, or as a solution or dispersion or suspension or melt.

Alternatively, the compound of the invention can be incorporated to the backbone of a polymeric substrate or of part of a polymeric substrate, or of one or more polymeric component(s) of the polymeric substrate. Grafting can be effected in a manner known in the art using compounds of formula (I) which comprise functionalities in the substituents R1, R2, R3, R10, R30, R40 and/or R50 e.g. double or triple bond(s), OH, -NH₂, -COOH, which are reactive with the functionalities of the polymeric material. Thus the compounds of formula (I) and their use as flame retardants cover also such embodiments, wherein they are incorporated chemically to a part or all of the polymeric material ("functionalised/grafted" polymeric material) of the polymeric substrate.

If polymeric substrate comprises two or more different polymeric materials, the compound(s) of formula (I) can be combined by mixing or grafting with one of the materials, and the rest be added to the obtained first composition.

The addition of the additive components to the polymer substrate (b) can be carried out in all customary mixing machines in which the polymer is melted and mixed with the additives. Suitable machines are known to those skilled in the art. They are predominantly mixers, kneaders and extruders. If a plurality of components is added, these can be premixed or added individually. In such operations, the polymer can be used in the form of powder, granules, solutions, and suspensions or in the form of lattices.

The compounds of formula (I) (a) and optional further additives can also be added to the polymer substrate (b) in the form of a master batch ("concentrate") which contains the components in a concentration of, for example, about 1.0% to about 40.0% and preferably 2.0% to about 20.0% by weight incorporated in a polymer. In such operations, the polymer can be used in the form of powder, granules, solutions, and suspensions or in the form of lattices.

Incorporation can take place prior to or during the shaping operation. The materials containing the additives of the invention described herein preferably are used for the production of molded articles, for example rotomolded articles, injection molded articles, profiles and the like, and especially a fiber, spun melt non-woven, film or foam. Thus, present invention further pertains to molded or extruded articles, such as pipes, wire and cables, fibers, spun melt non-woven or a foam comprising the composition of the invention.

Thus in accordance with the present invention compound of formula (I) as defined in herein and composition comprising compound of formula (I) as further defined herein can be used for providing a flame resistant products.

The compounds of formula (I) and the polymers comprising one or more repeating unit(s), wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II) can be prepared by methods known by person skilled in the art or by methods demonstrated below for the synthesis of examples of compound of formula (I) of the present invention. Suitable methods are described for example in Chemical Reviews, 1989, 89 (4),

The polymer comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II) can be prepared e.g. by substituting amine groups (-NH) of one or more repeating units by -S-R3. Alternatively, moieties of formula (II) can be linked to a polymeric backbone by suitable linking groups.

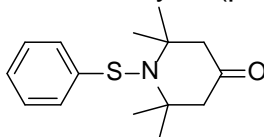
EXAMPLES

All chemicals used were of reagent grade and purchased from Aldrich. ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance 600 (^1H 600.1 MHz, ^{13}C 150.9 MHz). Sulfenyl chlorides were synthesized according to literature (Li, Yuye; Shi, Yi; Huang, Zhong-Xing; Wu, Xin-Hu; Xu, Peng-Fei; Wang, Jian-Bo; Zhang, Yan, Organic Letters (2011), 13(5), 1210-1213).

In the following, RT stands for room temperature, RH for room humidity.

Example 1

Synthesis of 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-(phenylthio)piperidin-4-one



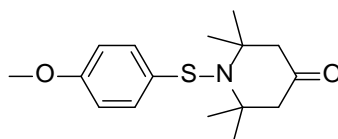
A solution of benzenesulfonyl chloride (6.62 g, 46 mmol) in CCl_4 (50 mL) was added drop wise to a suspension of 2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-4-one (17.85 g, 115 mmol) in CCl_4 (50 mL) under argon at RT and stirred overnight. The reaction mixture was washed twice with 50 ml of H_2O , and the combined water phases were washed once with 25 ml of CH_2Cl_2 . Organic phases were combined, dried over Na_2SO_4 and evaporated. Recrystallization and multiple washing in diethyl ether gave the pure product in 71 % yield.

^1H NMR(600 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.37 (dd, $J = 8.3, 3.1$ Hz, 2 H), 7.29 (ddd, $J = 8.3, 7.2, 3.1$ Hz, 2 H), 7.07 (td, $J = 7.2, 2.1$ Hz, 1H), 2.80 (d, $J = 13$ Hz, 2 H), 2.43 (d, $J = 13$ Hz, 2 H), 1.37 (s, 6 H), 1.29 (s, 6 H)

^{13}C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 208.2, 144.9, 128.4, 124.3, 121.6,
5 64.0, 55.2, 32.2, 26.9

Example 2

Synthesis of 1-((4-methoxyphenyl)thio)-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-4-one



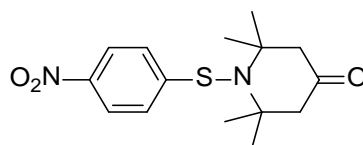
10 The same procedure as above was used but starting from the 4-methoxybenzenesulfonyl chloride (8.03 g, 46 mmol). Yield 73 %.

^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.27 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2 H), 6.87 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2 H), 3.79 (s, 3 H), 2.78 (d, $J = 12.9$ Hz, 2H), 2.42 (d, $J = 12.9$ Hz, 2 H), 1.38 (s, 6 H), 1.29 (s, 6H)

15 ^{13}C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl_3): 208.7, 157.5, 135.8, 123.8, 114.6, 64.4, 55.4, 32.8, 27.1

Example 3

Synthesis of 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-((4-nitrophenyl)thio)piperidin-4-one



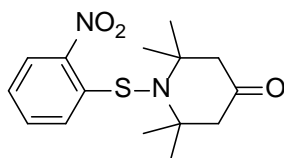
20 The same procedure as above was used but starting from the 4-nitrobenzenesulfonyl chloride (8.74 g, 46 mmol). Yield 62 %

^1H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.15 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H, CH), 7.49 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H, CH), 2.83 (d, $J = 12.9$ Hz, 2H, CH_2), 2.46 (d, $J = 12.9$ Hz, 2H, CH_2), 1.35 (s, 6H, CH_3), 1.31 (s, 6H, CH_3)

25 ^{13}C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 207.2, 154.8, 144.9, 123.8, 121.8, 64.4, 54.8, 31.8, 26.8

Example 4

Synthesis of 1-(2-nitrophenylthio)-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-4-one



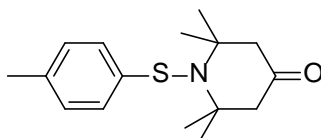
The same procedure as above was used but starting from the 4-nitrobenzenesulfonyl chloride (8.74 g, 46 mmol). Yield 17%

¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.26 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H, CH), 8.19 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H, CH), 7.60 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, CH), 7.23 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, CH), 2.82 (d, *J* = 12.7 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 2.45 (d, *J* = 12.7 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 1.36 (s, 6H, CH₃), 1.29 (s, 6H, CH₃)

¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 208.2, 146.9, 142.4, 133.4, 126.2, 125.8, 124.5, 63.9, 55.5, 31.2, 27.3

10 Example 5

Synthesis of 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-(4-methylphenylthio)piperidin-4-one



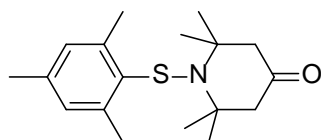
The same procedure as above was used but starting from the 4-methylbenzenesulfonyl chloride (7.27 g, 46 mmol). Yield 28 %

¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, CH), 7.11 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, CH), 2.80 (d, *J* = 12.7 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 2.42 (d, *J* = 12.7 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 2.31 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.38 (s, 6H, CH₃), 1.28 (s, 6H, CH₃)

¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 208.3, 141.3, 133.9, 129.2, 121.8, 64.0, 55.1, 32.3, 26.7, 20.9

Example 6

Synthesis of 1-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylthio)-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-4-one



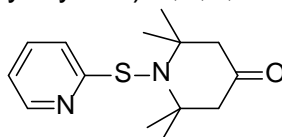
The same procedure as above was used but starting from the 2,4,6-trimethylbenzenesulfonyl chloride (7.27 g, 46 mmol). Yield 53 %

¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 6.78 (s, 2H), 2.56 (s, 6H), 2.53 (s, 3H), 2.23 (s, 4H), 1.34 (s, 12H)

^{13}C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 208.4, 136.2, 135.0, 130.4, 128.9, 64.8, 55.4, 55.2, 32.0, 21.4, 21.2

Example 7

Synthesis of 1-(2-pyridylthio)-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-4-one



5

The same procedure as above was used but starting from the 2-pyridylsulfenyl chloride (6.67 g, 46 mmol). Yield 40 %

^1H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.37 (m, 1H, CH), 7.60 (m, 2H, CH), 6.95 (m, 1H, CH), 2.80 (d, $J = 13.1$ Hz, 2H, CH_2), 2.45 (d, $J = 13.1$ Hz, 2H, CH_2), 1.38 (s, 6H, CH_3), 1.31 (s, 6H, CH_3)

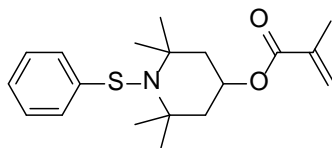
10

^{13}C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 208.0, 167.8, 148.7, 136.4, 119.0, 117.8, 64.0, 55.0, 31.9, 26.8

Example 8

Synthesis of 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-(phenylthio)-4-piperidyl methacrylate

15 late



The same procedure as above was used but starting from the benzenesulfenyl chloride (1.92 g, 13.36 mmol) and 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl methacrylate (7.5 g, 33.4 mmol). Yield 71%

The obtained product can be further polymerized to yield PMMA with pendant sulfenamide groups.

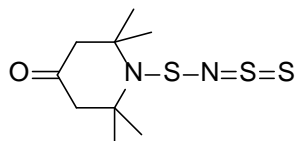
^1H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.51 (d, 2H), 7.32 (m, 2 H), 7.07 (t, 1H), 6.15 (m, 1H), 5.61 (m, 1H), 5.27 (m, 1H), 2.12 (d, 2H), 1.99 (s, 3H), 1.80 (t, 2H), 1.40 (s, 6H), 1.33 (s, 6H)

25

^{13}C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 167.1, 145.5, 136.7, 128.3, 125.5, 123.9, 121.8, 67.1, 60.9, 45.7, 32.3, 25.8, 18.3

Example 9

Synthesis of 1-[(1-disulfenylideneamino)sulfenyl]-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-4-one



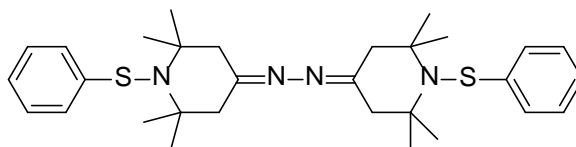
Into solution of 31.0 g (0.2 mol) of 2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidinone in 500 mL of toluene was added dropwise a solution of 27.0 g (0.2 mol) of sulfur monochloride in 80 mL of hexane with stirring at 10-15 °C over a period of 2 h. After the addition was completed, the reaction mixture was poured into 300 g of ice and 200 g of 35 % aqueous ammonia. The organic phase was then separated, washed with water and dried over magnesium sulfate. Evaporation of the solvent under reduced pressure gave a red solid, which was chromatographed on Silica gel 60 with toluene to give red crude crystals in 14% yield.

^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 2.67 (s, 4H, CH_2), 1.46 (s, 12H, CH_3)

^{13}C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 206.7, 63.0, 54.2, 31.7

Example 10

Synthesis of 1,2-bis(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-(phenylthio)piperidin-4-ylidene)hydrazine



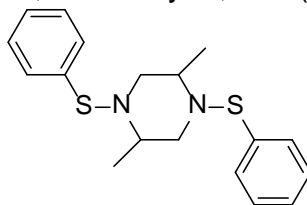
To a solution of hydrazine monohydrate (2.265 g, 45.2 mmol) in EtOH (375 mL) was added slowly 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-(phenylthio)piperidin-4-one (25 g, 94.9 mmol) at 0 °C. The mixture was heated over a steam bath for 15 min and then refluxed for 3 h. Reaction was let proceed for an additional 12 h at RT before saturated water solution of NaHCO_3 (150 mL) was added. The precipitate was filtered off, dissolved in CH_2Cl_2 and washed with water. The organic phase was dried over Na_2SO_4 and solvent was evaporated. Recrystallization from boiling EtOH or *i*-PROH gave pure product in 69 % yield.

^1H NMR(600 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.26 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 4H), 7.18 (dd, J = 8.3, 7.3 Hz, 4H), 6.96 (td, J = 7.3, 2.1 Hz, 2H), 3.38 (d, J = 13.0 Hz, 1H), 3.17 (d, J = 13.0 Hz, 1H), 2.59 (d, J = 13.1 Hz, 1H), 2.55 (d, J = 13.1 Hz, 1H), 2.46 (d, J = 13.1 Hz, 2H), 2.23 (d, J = 13.3 Hz, 1H), 2.17 (d, J = 13.3 Hz, 1H), 1.3–1.26 (m, 12H), 1.23 (s, 3H), 1.19 (s, 3H), 1.14 (s, 3H), 1.13 (s, 3H)

^{13}C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 165.09, 162.64 (C=N), 145.56 (C-S), 128.45, 124.31, 122.09 (CH), 49.44, 49.26, 42.79, 42.68 (CH_2), 32.15, 32.12, 32.06, 32.04, 26.89, 26.74, 26.28, 26.12 (CH_3)

Example 11

Synthesis of trans-2,5-dimethyl-1,4-bis(phenylthio)piperazine



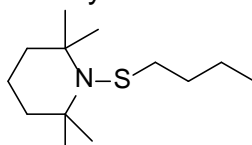
Trans-2,5-dimethyl piperazine (0.51 g, 3.5 mmol) was dissolved in
5 20 mL of CCl₄. Solution of benzenesulfonylchloride in CCl₄ (3.18 ml of 1.1
mM) was added drop wise during 1 h under argon at room temperature. White
precipitate was formed. The reaction mixture was left to react for 12 h and
washed twice with 10 mL of H₂O. Organic phases were combined, dried over
MgSO₄ and evaporated. Recrystallization from diethyl ether gave the com-
10 pound in 52 % yield.

¹H NMR(600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.38 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 4H) , 7.32 (t, *J* =
7.7 Hz, 4H) 7.22 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.24 (dd, *J* = 11.9, 2.6 Hz, 2H), 2.96 (m,
2H), 2.81 (d, *J*=11.9 Hz, 2H)

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 17.7, 57.8, 65.0, 127.0, 128.5, 128.8,
15 137.5

Example 12

Synthesis of 1-butylsulfanyl-2'2'6'6'-tetramethylpiperidine



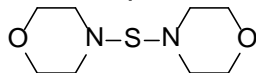
2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine (17.7 g, 0.125 mol) in toluene (20 mL)
20 was cooled to 0 °C and n-butylsulfenyl chloride (6.2 g, 0.05 mol) in toluene
was added drop wise so the temperature did not exceed 10 °C. The resulting
yellow mixture was left to react overnight at RT. The solid particles were filtrat-
ed and the organic phase was extracted with diethyl ether and evaporated.
Pure product was obtained as a yellow liquid, yield 70 %.

¹H NMR(600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 2.60 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 1.53 (m,
25 4H, CH₂), 1.39 (m, 6H, CH₃), 1.26 (m, 6H, CH₃), 1.10 (m, 6H, CH₃), 0.87 (t, *J* =
6.5 Hz, 3H, alkyl CH₃)

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 59.1, 43.8, 40.9, 33.8, 28.7, 24.0,
22.4, 17.4, 13.9

Example 13

Synthesis of 4,4'-thiobis-morpholine



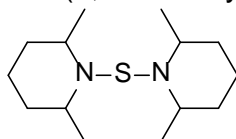
A solution of bromine (1.47 g, 9.2 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (40 mL) was added slowly at 0 °C to a stirred suspension of sodium thiosulfate pentahydrate (1.14 g, 4.6 mmol), morpholine (3.0 g, 34.4 mmol) and hexane (50 mL). The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature, stirred for 12 h, filtered and organic solvent was removed under vacuum. Recrystallization from methanol gave pure product in 73 % yield.

¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 3.63 (d, *J* = 4.1 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 3.28 (d, *J* = 4.1 Hz, 2H, CH₂)

¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 67.8, 57.7

Example 14

Synthesis of 1,1'-thiobis-(2,6-dimethyl)piperidine



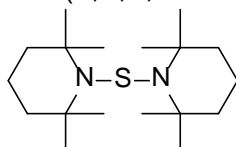
To a solution of 2,6-dimethylpiperidine (5.0 g, 45.0 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (30 mL) was added sulfur monochloride (6.07 g, 45.0 mmol) in several portion at 28 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 20 h at 28 °C and filtered. The filtrate is dissolved in CHCl₃ and washed with water. Organic solvent is evaporated to give the pure product in 60 % yield.

¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 3.06 (m, 4H, CH), 1.86-1.62 (m, 12H, CH₂), 1.53 (s, 6H, CH₃), 1.50 (s, 6H, CH₃)

¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 54.3, 30.3, 22.9, 19.5

Example 15

Synthesis of 1,1'-thiobis-(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl)piperidine



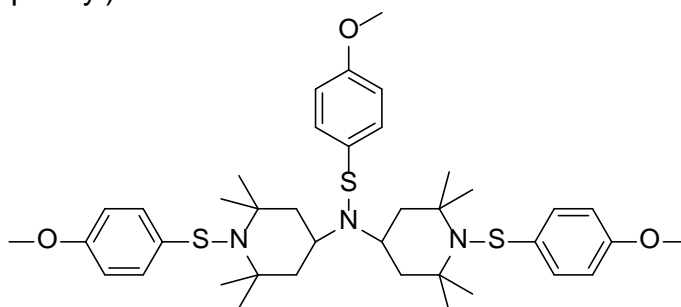
The same procedure as above was used but starting from 2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine (6.34 g, 45.0 mmol). Yield 55 %

¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.69 (m, 12H, CH₂), 1.57 (s, 12H, CH₃), 1.56 (s, 12H, CH₃)

^{13}C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 57.0, 35.2, 27.6, 16.4

Example 16

Synthesis of N-1,5,9-((4-methoxyphenyl)thio)-bis-(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl)-amine



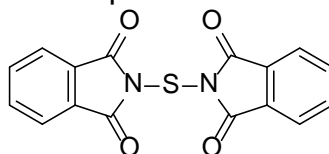
5

Under nitrogen atmosphere, a solution of 4-methoxybenzenesulfonyl chloride (0.6 g, 3.4 mmol) in CCl_4 (50 mL) was added drop wise at 0 °C to a solution of bis(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl)-amine (prepared according to EP 0336895) (2.5 g, 8.5 mmol) and triethylamine (0.5 g, 5.1 mol) in CCl_4 (50 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred for 12 h at RT. The organic phase was washed with water and dried over sodium sulfate. Re-crystallization in diethyl ether gave 0.45 g of a mixture of mono, di and tri-substituted derivatives.

10

Example 17

15 Synthesis of 1,1'-thiobis phthalimide



The same procedure as in Example 10 was used but starting from phthalimide (6.61 g, 45.0 mmol). Yield 58 %

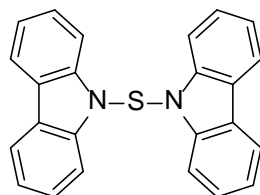
^1H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.84 (m, 4H), 7.71 (m, 4H)

20

^{13}C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 166.1, 135.2, 131.3, 124.4

Example 18

Synthesis of 1,1'-thiobis-carbazole

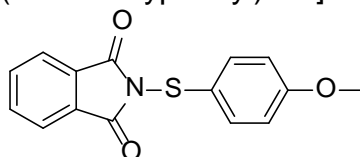


Sulfur powder (0.16 g, 2.5 mmol), carbazole, (6.68 g, 40 mmol) and pyridine (7 mL) were mixed under inert atmosphere and heated to 135 °C until dissolution of the reagents. A solution of iodine (1.27 g, 5 mmol) in pyridine (7 mL) was introduced to the reaction mixture and the mixture was stirred until decolorization. The solid was filtered, washed with water and dried under vacuum. The solid was washed with THF three times to yield 43% of the product.

^{13}C NMR (63 MHz, THF): δ 137.5, 127.4, 123.6, 121.5, 118.1, 108.7

Example 19

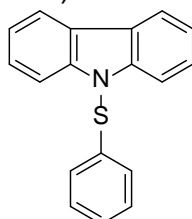
Synthesis of 2-[(4-methoxyphenyl)thio]-1*H*-Isoindole-1,3(2*H*)-dione



The synthesis was performed according to procedure disclosed in Gilis, H. Martin; Greene, Lana; Thompson, Alison, Synlett (2009), (1), 112-116.

Example 20

Synthesis of 9-(phenylthio)-9*H*-carbazole



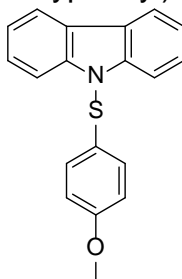
Under nitrogen atmosphere, a solution of benzenesulfonyl chloride (2.6 g, 17.9 mmol) in CCl_4 (50 mL) was added drop wise during 2 h at 0 °C to a solution of 9*H*-carbazole (3.0 g, 17.9 mmol) and triethylamine (2.73 g, 27.0 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (200 mL). Reaction mixture was stirred for 12 h at RT. The organic phase was washed with water and dried over sodium sulfate. Recrystallization from diethyl ether gave the pure product in 75 % yield.

^1H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.13 (d, 2H, $J=8.3$ Hz), 7.80 (d, $J=7.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.52 (t, $J=7.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.37 (t, $J=7.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.19 (m, 3H), 7.03 (d, 2H, $J=7.7$ Hz)

^{13}C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 143.4, 138.0, 129.2, 126.1, 126.6, 124.6, 124.0, 121.2, 120.3, 111.1

Example 21

Synthesis of 9-[(4-methoxyphenyl)thio]-9*H*-carbazole



5

Under nitrogen atmosphere, a solution of 4-methoxybenzenesulfonyl chloride (2.1 g, 12.0 mmol) in CCl_4 (50 mL) was added drop wise during 2 h at 0 °C to a solution of 9*H*-carbazole (2 g, 12.0 mmol) and triethylamine (1.8 g, 18.0 mol) in CH_2Cl_2 (160 mL). The reaction mixture

10 was stirred for 12 h at RT. The organic phase was washed with water and dried over sodium sulfate. Recrystallization and multiple washing in diethyl ether gave 2.4 g of the pure product in 66 % yield.

^1H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.08 (d, 2H, $J = 7.9$ Hz), 7.91 (d, 2H, $J = 8.1$ Hz), 7.55 (t, $J = 4.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.34 (m, 4H), 6.76 (d, 2H, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 3.66

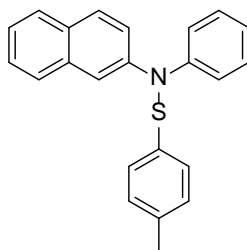
15 (m, 3H)

^{13}C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 159.8, 143.5, 130.1, 128.0, 126.4, 124.6, 121.1, 120.2, 114.8, 111.2, 55.3

Example 22

Synthesis of *N*-2-naphthalenyl-*N*-phenyl-4-methylbenzenesulfenamide

20



A solution of 4-methylphenylsulfonyl chloride (1.3 g, 8.1 mmol) in CCl_4 (50 mL) was added dropwise to a solution of *N*-phenyl-2-naphthalenamine (3.6 g, 16.2 mmol) and triethylamine (2.46 g, 24.4 mmol) in

25 CH_2Cl_2 (50 mL). The mixture was stirred for 12 h at room temperature. The

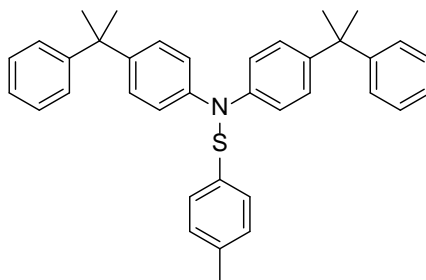
organic phase was washed with water and dried over sodium sulfate. Recrystallization and multiple washing in diethyl ether gave the pure product in 77 % yield.

^1H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.41 (d, 1H, $J = 9.8$ Hz), 7.81 (t, 2H, $J = 10.5$ Hz), 7.63-7.04 (m, 13H), 2.29 (s, 3H)

^{13}C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 145.8, 141.4, 136.5, 135.2, 133.3, 131.3, 129.9, 129.5, 129.1, 128.5, 127.8, 126.5, 125.0, 123.0, 121.3, 118.8, 116.3, 108.5, 20.8

Example 23

10 Synthesis of N-bis[4-(1-methyl-1-phenylethyl)phenyl]-4-methylbenzenesulfenamide



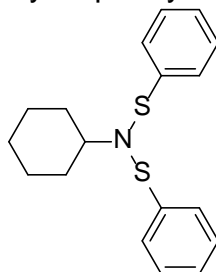
The same procedure as above was used but starting from 4-(1-methyl-1-phenylethyl)-*N*-[4-(1-methyl-1-phenylethyl)phenyl]-benzenamine (6.56 g, 16.2 mmol). Yield 40 %

^1H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.36-7.15 (m, 22H, CH), 2.39 (s, 3H, CH_3), 1.76 (s, 12H, CH_3)

^{13}C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 150.5, 146.7, 145.7, 138.4, 135.4, 129.8, 128.0, 127.5, 126.9, 125.7, 123.1, 121.5, 42.5, 30.8, 21.1

20 Example 24

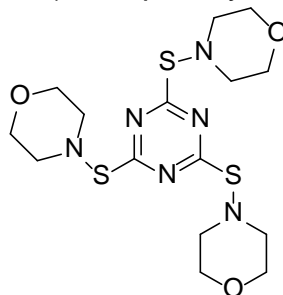
Synthesis of *N*-cyclohexyl-*S*-phenyl-*N*-(phenylthio)thiohydroxylamine



The synthesis was performed according to procedure disclosed in Bowman, W. Russell; Clark, David N.; Marmon, Robert J. Journal of Chemical Research, Synopses (1995), (12), 514-15.

Example 25

Synthesis of 2,4,6-tris(4-morpholinylthio)- [1,3,5]-triazine



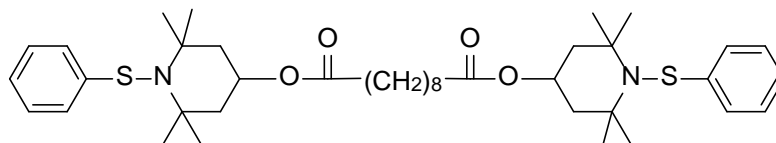
Trithiocyanuric acid (0.52 g, 3.0 mmol) and morpholine (0.86 g, 9.9
5 mmol) were added to a mixture of CuI (0.03 g, 0.15 mmol) and bipyridine (0.02
g, 0.15 mmol) in DMSO (20 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at 100 °C for
24 h. The mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (25 mL) and washed twice with
water (50 mL) and brine. The organic phase was dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered
and organic solvent was evaporated to give the pure product in 89 % yield.

10 ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 3.77-3.67 (m, 24H)

¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 165.3, 66.9, 43.6.

Example 33

Synthesis of bis(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-(phenylthio)piperidin-4-yl)decanedioate



15

To a solution of Tinuvin® 770 (3.0 g, 6.24 mmol) and triethylamine
(1.5 g, 15.0 mmol) in dry CH₂Cl₂ (15 mL) was added dropwise the solution of
the benzenesulfonyl chloride (16 mL, 15.6 mmol) in CCl₄ during 1.5 h. After
complete addition the reaction mixture was stirred for 12 h. The organic phase
20 was washed with water and dried over sodium sulfate. Recrystallization from
diethyl ether gave the pure product in 70 % yield.

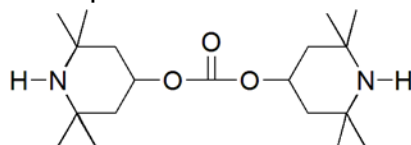
¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.32-7.22 (m, CH, 8H), 7.03 (t, CH,
2H), 5.20 (m, CH, 2H), 2.32 (t, CH₂, 4H), 2.04 (m, CH₂, 4H), 1.72 (m, CH₂, 4H),
1.65 (m, CH₂, 4H), 1.33 (m, CH₂, 20H), 1.26 (s, CH₃, 12H)

25 ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 173.7, 145.7, 128.3, 124.3, 122.0,
66.6, 60.9, 45.8, 34.6, 32.4, 29.0, 25.7, 24.6

Example 34

Synthesis of Bis(2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-4-yl) carbonate

Bis(2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-4-yl) carbonate was synthesized according to the procedure described in EP 1731 508 B1.

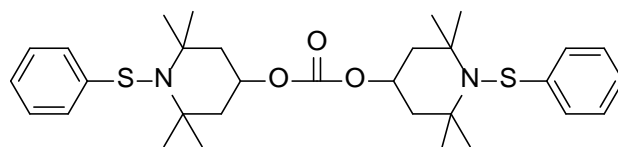


5

$^1\text{HNMR}$ (CDCl_3): 5.04 (m, CH, 2H), 2.04 (d, CH_2 , 2H), 2.02 (d, CH_2 , 2H), 1.25 (s, CH_3 , 12H), 1.20 (m, 4H), 1.17 (s, CH_3 , 12H).

$^{13}\text{CNMR}$ (CDCl_3): 154.28, 72.70, 51.76, 44.05, 35.01, 28.81.

10 Synthesis of bis(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-(phenylthio)piperidin-4-yl) carbonate



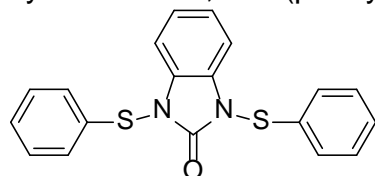
0.5 g, 0.0015 mol) was dissolved in dry dichloromethane (5 ml) and triethylamine (0.52 ml, 0.0036 mol) was added. Then, benzenesulfonyl chloride (4.07 mL, 0.0037 mol) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was kept at RT overnight. The organic phase was washed with water (3*10 mL), dried over Na_2SO_4 and evaporated. The product was recrystallized twice from DEE and the title compound was obtained in 84% yield (0.7 g).

15 $^1\text{HNMR}$ (CDCl_3): 7.24 (m, CH, 8H), 7.06 (t, CH, 2H), 5.04 (CH, 2H), 2.19, 2.16 (CH_2 , 4H), 1.80 (CH_2 , 4H), 1.36 (s, CH_3 , 12H), 1.28 (s, CH_3 , 12H).

20 $^{13}\text{CNMR}$ (CDCl_3): 154.21, 145.01, 128.03, 124.14, 121.67, 70.73, 61.18, 45, 27, 32.18, 25.46.

Example 35

Synthesis of 1,3-bis(phenylthio)-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2(3H)-one



25

1,3-dihydro-2H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-one (2 g, 0.015 mol) was partly dissolved in the mixture (1:1) of dry dichloromethane (15 mL) and dry dimethylformamide (15 mL). The reaction was stirred for 10 min at RT and triethyla-

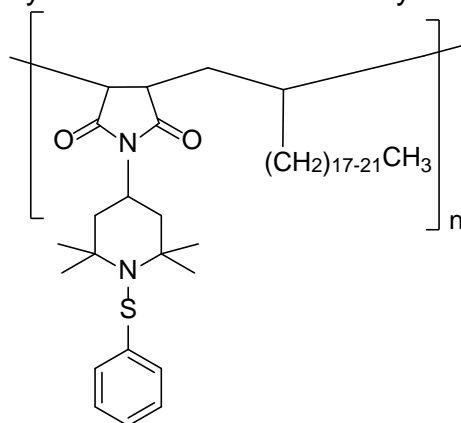
mine was added (4.25 g, 0.042 mol). To this reaction mixture, a solution of dry benzenesulfonyl chloride (40.5 mL, 0.037 mol) was added dropwise over 1 h. The reaction mixture was stirred at RT for 12 h and dissolved in dichloromethane. The organic phase was washed three times with water, dried over sodium sulfate and evaporated. Recrystallization from diethyl ether gave the pure product in 52 % yield.

^1H NMR (250 MHz, DMSO): δ 7.38 (4H), 7.35-7.33 (4H), 7.32-7.29 (4H), 7.19 (2H).

^{13}C NMR (250 MHz, DMSO): δ 156.4, 136.04, 131.92, 130.08, 128.71, 127.12, 124.18, 110.66.

Example 36

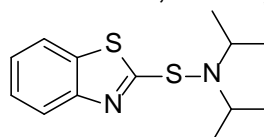
Synthesis of benzenesulfonyl substituted Uvinul 5050 H



Uvinul® 5050 H (9.9 g, free amine calc. 18 mmol, molecular mass 3,000-4,000 g/mol) was dissolved in 150 mL of CH_2Cl_2 and triethylamine (45 mmol, 6.1 mL) was added. Benzenesulfonyl chloride solution (14.1 mL, 1.275 mmol/mL, 18 mmol) was added dropwise at RT under argon. Mixing was continued for 12 h, where after 50 mL of distilled water was added and the organic phase was separated. The CH_2Cl_2 solution was extracted three times with 40 mL of water, dried over Na_2SO_4 , filtered, and the solvent was evaporated. The yellowish white solid polymeric product was obtained in 78 % yield (9.2 g).

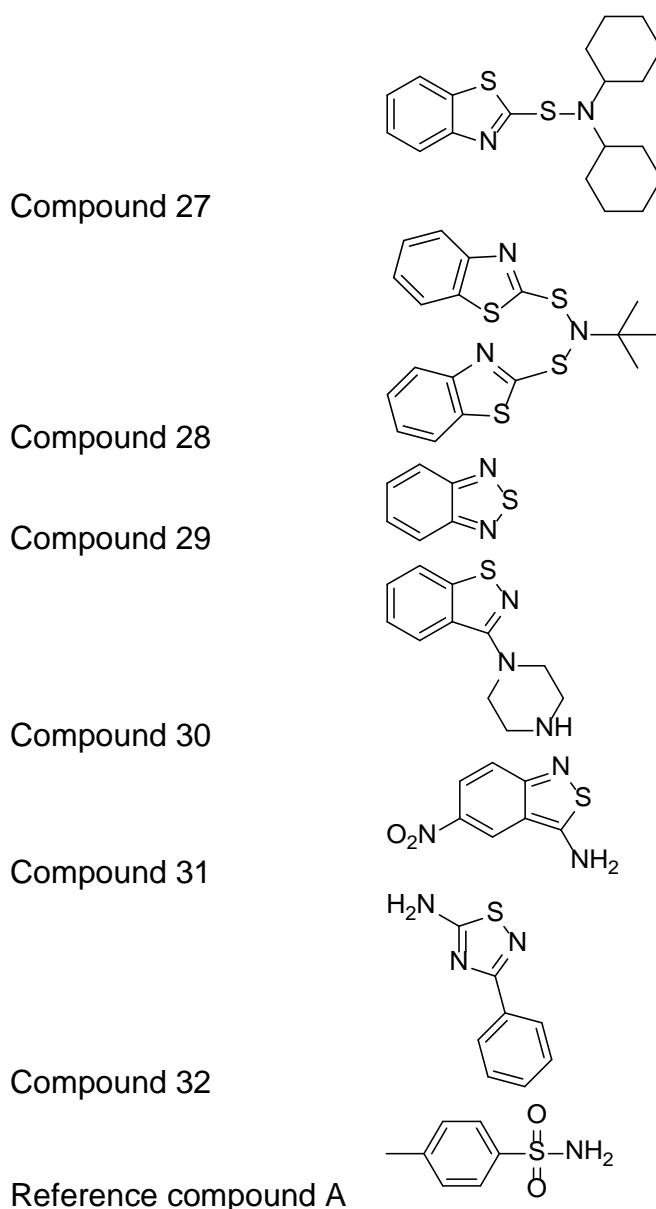
Commercially available compounds

Some commercially available sulfenamides and a sulfonamide were also tested, in addition to those prepared above, namely



25

Compound 26



Test Example 1

Unless otherwise stated, commercial polypropylene or low density polyethylene and the compounds given in a table below, were blended in a Haake mixer (60 rpm, 5 min) at 210 °C and 190 °C, respectively.

Test films (200 μm) were prepared by compression molding in a hot press. Pressing temperature was 210 °C for PP and 135 °C for LDPE.

The polystyrene samples were prepared by solvent casting from CH₂Cl₂. Films were dried at RT in vacuum oven, and conditioned for 3 days (23 °C, 50 % RH) prior to testing (thickness 400 μm).

The flame retardancy was investigated in accordance to DIN 4102-1 B2 (edge ignition, flame length = 40 mm). The flame application time was 15 seconds.

In the following Tables: "Formulation" stands for the test sample's composition, wherein PP means polypropylene, LDPE means low density polyethylene and PS means polystyrene. The number of the flame retardant compound used is given as the number of the Example in which it was prepared above or as the number of commercially available compound as listed above. "Amount" refers to the amount of flame retardant compound added to the reference material. The average burning time is calculated from the application of flame. The overall result is given as Pass or Fail, according to the norm DIN 4102-1 B2. Low values of burning time and damage reflect increased flame retardancy.

Table 1 shows the test results for reference polypropylene (PP) (without any flame retardant) and for combinations of PP with various compounds as prepared in the examples above and some of commercially available compounds listed above. Table 2 similarly shows the test results for low density poly ethylene (LDPE) polymer and Table 3 for polystyrene (PS).

Table 1. Polypropylene (PP) LyondellBasell MOPLEN HP500N MFR (230 °C / 2.16 kg) = 12 g / 10 min

Formulation	Amount (wt %)	Average damage length (mm)	Average burning time (s)	DIN 4102-B2 (Pass/Fail)
Ref PP	0	190	39	Fail
Ref A	1.0	180	76	Fail
1	0.5	71	15	Pass
2	0.5	56	8	Pass
3	1.0	80	10	Pass
4	1.0	76	13	Pass
5	0.5	68	9	Pass
7	1.0	64	16	Pass
10	0.5	78	15	Pass
10	1.0	102	12	Pass
12	0.5	90	22	Pass
13	1.0	77	21	Pass
15	1.0	126	19	Pass
16	0.5	94	31	Pass
19	1.0	69	18	Pass
20	1.0	75	12	Pass
21	1.0	61	7	Pass

22	0.8	110	18	Pass
23	0.6	82	20	Pass
24	1.0	69	14	Pass
26	0.5	93	27	Pass
27	0.5	98	23	Pass
28	0.5	74	14	Pass
33	1.0	81	10	Pass
34	1.0	76	11	Pass
35	0.5	67	14	Pass
36	1.0	80	12	Pass

Table 2. Low density polyethylene (LDPE) Borealis Polymers CA7230, MFR (190 °C / 2.16 kg) 4.5 g / 10 min

Formulation	Amount (wt %)	Average damage length (mm)	Average burning time (s)	DIN 4102-B2 (Pass/Fail)
Ref LDPE	0	190	37	Fail
1	0.5	108	30	Pass
10	0.5	133	36	Pass
10	1.0	122	28	Pass

Table 3. Polystyrene (PS)

Formulation	Amount (wt %)	Average damage length (mm)	Average burning time (s)	DIN 4102-B2 (Pass/Fail)
Ref PS	0	190	n.d.	Fail
A	1.0	190	70	Fail
28	2.0	107	29	Pass
28	3.5	94	16	Pass

n.d. = not determined

5 Test Example 2

The flame retardant additives were blended with polystyrene (PS, Styrolution PS 158N) at 160 °C, high impact polystyrene (HIPS, BASF polystyrol 454 KG2) at 170 °C or polypropylene (PP, Moplen HP500N) at 210 °C in a Haake mixer (60 rpm, 5 min) Test films (200 µm) were prepared by compression molding in a hot press. Pressing temperature was 210 °C for PP, 170 °C for HIPS and 160 °C for PS. The flame retardancy was investigated in accordance to DIN 4102-1 B2 standard (edge ignition, flame length = 40 mm). The flame application time was 15 seconds. In addition, the flammability was tested according to UL 94 V standard. UL94 test bars were prepared by compression molding in a hot press (bar thickness 1.5 mm). Pressing temperature was 210

°C for PP and 160 °C for the PS. Total burning time was calculated for 4 sticks after the flame application (t_1 and t_2)

Polystyrene GPPS 25SPI (LG Chemical) was compounded by twin-screw extrusion with die temperature set at 200 °C, followed by injection molding at 200 °C into 1.6 mm thick strips (127 x 12.7 x 1.6 mm³). Polypropylene Moplen HP 552R was compounded similarly with die temperature set at 210 °C, followed by injection molding at 210 °C. Total burning time was calculated for five specimens (t_1 and t_2).

Table 4 shows the flame retardant effect of sulfenamide 28 per. se. in two different polystyrene grades or its synergistic effect together with triphenylphosphate (TPP) in polystyrene PS 158N. It can be seen that very short burning time is observed for both PS grades containing only 5 wt % of the sulfenamide 28. PS 158N reached the UL 94 V2 classification (due to a burning drip), whereas GPPS 25SPI formulation reached the UL 94 V0 rating. In the case of PS 158N, the V0 can however also be obtained by using e.g. TPP and sulfenamide 28 as a synergistic combination.

Table 5 shows the synergistic effect of ammonium polyphosphate (APP) and aluminum trihydroxide (ATH) in polypropylene (PP). It can be seen that the flame retardant efficacy of APP and ATH can be significantly improved by addition of sulfenamide.

Table 6 shows the synergistic effect of sulfenamides with FP800 or FP600 in high impact polystyrene. It can be seen that no paper ignition took place when using the combination of sulfenamide with either FP800 or FP600, respectively.

Table 7 shows the strong synergistic effect between sulfenamide and PCO 900. It can be seen that the flame retardant performance of PCO 900 is strongly enhanced when adding sulfenamide to the polypropylene formulation, i.e. very short burning times.

Table 8 shows the synergistic effect of sulfenamide and Budit 3167 in polypropylene. It can be seen that the LOI value increased for Budit 3167 from 21 to 27 by adding 1 wt % of sulfenamide 33.

Table 4. Sulfenamide with triphenylphosphate (TPP, Disflamoll TP, Lanx-ess) in polystyrene Styrolution PS 158N or GPPS 25SPI (LG Chemical)

Formulation	Additive amount (wt %)	DIN 4102 B2			UL 94	
		Average burning time (s) ¹⁾	Rating	Paper ignition	Total burning time ²⁾ (s)	Rating ³⁾
Ref PS	-	n.d.	Fail	Y	n.d.	NC
TPP	20	90.8	Pass	N	15.9	V2
TPP	5	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	>160	NC
28	5	19.2	Pass	Y	3.6	V2
TPP + 28	20 + 3.5	8.8	Pass	N	0.3	V0
TPP + 28	5 + 5	17.5	Pass	N	4.7	2 out of 4 samples reach V0
28 ⁴⁾	5	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	4 ⁵⁾	V0

n.d. = not determined

1) Calculated from the flame application

5 2) Total burning time for 4 sticks after the flame application (t_1 and t_2)

3) NC = non-classified, V-0 and V-2 according to UL 94 criteria

4) Test lab ITRI United Kingdom. Polystyrene GPPS 25SPI (LG Chemical)

5) Total burning time calculated for five specimens (t_1 and t_2).

10 **Table 5. Synergistic effect with ammonium polyphosphate (APP) and aluminum trihydroxide (ATH) in polypropylene (PP)**

Formulation	Additive amount (wt %)	UL 94	
		Total burning time ¹⁾ (s)	Rating ²⁾
Reference, PP	-	n.d.	NC
APP	30	n.d.	NC

ATH	30	n.d.	NC
APP+	30	1.7	V2
21	0.5		
ATH +	30	6.2	V2
21	0.5		

n.d. = not determined

1) Total burning time for 4 sticks after the flame application (t_1 and t_2)

2) NC = non-classified, V-0 and V-2 according to UL 94 criteria

5 **Table 6. High impact polystyrene (HIPS) polystyrol 454 C KG 2 from BASF (MVR 14 cm³ / 10 min) FP800 = ADK STAB FP-800 FP600 = ADK STAB FP-600**

Formulation	Additive amount (wt %)	DIN 4102 B2			
		Average damage length (mm)	Average burning time (s) ¹	DIN 4102 B2	Paper ignition
HIPS		190	n.d.	Fail	Y
28	5	135	16.3	Pass	Y
28	10	127	11.6	Pass	Y
FP800	20	164	35	Fail	Y
FP800 + 28	20 + 5	126	10.2	Pass	N
FP600	20	120	25.1	Fail	Y
FP600 + 28	20 + 5	108	15.8	Pass	N

n.d. = not determined

1) Calculated from the flame application, film thickness 200 µm

10 **Table 7. PP Moplen HP 552R (MFR 230 °C / 2.16 kg = 25 g / 10 min), PCO 900 = Aflammit PCO 900 (Thor GmbH)**

Formulation	Additive amount (wt %)	DIN 4102 B2				UL 94 ²⁾		LOI
		Average damage length (mm)	Average burning time (s) ¹⁾	DIN 4102 B2	Paper Ignition	Total burning time ³⁾ (s)	Rating ⁴⁾	
Ref, PP		158	60	Fail	Y	150+	NC	17

PCO 900	8.0	86	18	Pass	Y	92+	NC	20
PCO 900	4.0	81	26	Pass	Y	158+	NC	19
PCO900 + 20	8.0 + 1.0	97	6	Pass	N	3	V2	24
PCO 900 + 20	4.0 + 1.0	105	5	Pass	N	9	V2	24

- 1) Calculated from the flame application, film thickness 200 µm
- 2) Test lab ITRI United Kingdom.
- 3) Total burning time calculated for five specimens.
- 4) NC = non-classified, V-2 according to UL 94 criteria.

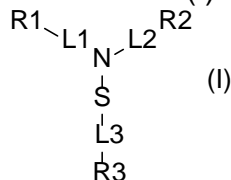
5 **Table 8. Synergistic effect of the sulfenamide 33 and Budit 3167 PP Moplen HP 552R (MFR 230 °C / 2.16 kg = 25 g / 10 min)**

Formulation	Amount (wt %)	LOI (%)
Ref PP	0	17
Budit	10	21
33 +Budit	1+10	27

10 It will be obvious to a person skilled in the art that, as the technology advances, the inventive concept can be implemented in various ways. The invention and its embodiments are not limited to the examples described above but may vary within the scope of the claims.

CLAIMS

1. Use of a compound of formula (I) as a flame retardant



wherein

5 L1, L2, and L3 are each independently selected from a group consisting of a bond, C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl, -(C=O)-, -O-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-O-, O, NH-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-NH-, NH, and NR₂₀;

each R1 and R2 is independently selected from a group consisting of H, S(=O)_pR₃, C₁₋₃₀-alkyl, C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀, C₂₋₃₀-alkenyl, C₂₋₃₀-alkynyl, C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-X-C₁₋₂₀-alkyl, C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-X-C₁₋₇-cycloalkyl optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀, a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀, and a mono- or bicyclic aryl or heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀; or

15 L1, L2, R1, and R2 together with the N atom they are attached to form a NR₁R₂ group selected from a group consisting of a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀; a mono-, bi-, tri-, tetra- or pentacyclic heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀; N=CR₁'R₂'; and N=S=S;

20 R₃ is selected from a group consisting of C₁₋₃₀-alkyl, C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl optionally substituted one or more times with R₃₀, C₂₋₃₀-alkenyl, C₂₋₃₀-alkynyl, NR₁R₂, a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R₃₀, and a mono-, bi-, or tricyclic aryl or heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R₃₀;

25 or

L1, L3, R1, and R3 together with the N atom and the S atom they are attached to from a group selected from a mono-, bi-, or tricyclic heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R₄₀, and a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R₄₀; and R₂ is as defined above;

30 or

L1, L2, L3, R1, R2, and R3 together with the S atom and the N atom to which they are attached to form a mono-, bi- or tricyclic heteroaryl optionally

substituted one or more times with R50;

each R1' and R2' is independently R1 or R2, respectively, as defined above, or R1' and R2' form together with the C atom they are attached to a CR1'R2' group selected from a group consisting of a C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl optionally substituted one or more times with R10, a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R10, a mono- or bicyclic aryl or heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R10,

each R10 is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, O(C=O)O-(NR1''R2'')-S(=O)_pR₃, =O, =S, R₂₀, NHCOR₂₀, NH₂, NHR₂₀, N(R₂₀)₂, OH, OR₂₀, OSiH₃, OSi(R₂₀)₃, S(=O)_pR₃, =N-S(=O)_pR₃, -N=N-(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR₃, and =N-N=(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR₃, wherein R1''R2''N forms a monocyclic saturated heterocycle optionally substituted with one or more R10'; provided that when R10 is O(C=O)O-(NR1''R2'')-S(=O)_pR₃, S(=O)_pR₃, =N-S(=O)_pR₃, -N=N-(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR₃, or =N-N=(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR₃, said R₃ is not substituted with NR1R2 or SNR1R2;

each R10' is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, NHCOR₂₀, NH₂, NHR₂₀, N(R₂₀)₂, OH, OR₂₀, OSiH₃, and OSi(R₂₀)₃;

each R20 is independently selected from a group consisting of C₁₋₃₀-alkyl, C₂₋₃₀-alkenyl, C₂₋₃₀-alkynyl, aryl, C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-heteroaryl, wherein said aryl or heteroaryl is optionally substituted one or more times with C₁₋₄-alkyl, NO₂, CN, NH₂, NMe₂, OH and/or OMe;

each R30 is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, OH, OR₂₀, OSiH₃, OSi(R₂₀)₃, NHCOR₂₀, NR1R2, and S(=O)_p-NR1R2, provided that when R30 is NR1R2 or S(=O)_p-NR1R2 said NR1R2 is not substituted with O(C=O)O-(NR1''R2'')-S(=O)_pR₃, S(=O)_pR₃, =N-S(=O)_pR₃, -N=N-(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR₃, or =N-N=(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR₃;

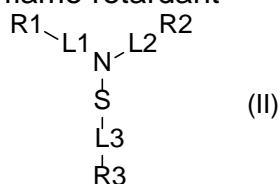
each R40 is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, OH, OR₂₀, OSiH₃, OSi(R₂₀)₃, NHCOR₂₀, NR1R2, S(=O)_pR₃ and a saturated or partly unsaturated monocyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R10', provided that when R40 is NR1R2 or S(=O)_pR₃ said R₃ is not substituted with NR1R2 or S(=O)_p-NR1R2 and said NR1R2 is not substituted with

O(C=O)O-(NR^{1''}R^{2''})-S(=O)_pR³, -S(=O)_pR³, =N-S(=O)_pR³, -N=N-(R^{1''}R^{2''}N)-S(=O)_pR³, or =N-N=(R^{1''}R^{2''}N)-S(=O)_pR³;

each R⁵⁰ is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, OH, OR₂₀, OSiH₃, OSi(R₂₀)₃, NHCOR₂₀, NR₁R₂, S(=O)_pR³, and a saturated or partly unsaturated monocyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R^{10'}, provided that when R⁵⁰ is NR₁R₂ or S(=O)_pR³ said R³ is not substituted with NR₁R₂ or S(=O)_p-NR₁R₂ and said NR₁R₂ is not substituted with O(C=O)O-(NR^{1''}R^{2''})-S(=O)_pR³, S(=O)_pR³, =N-S(=O)_pR³, -N=N-(R^{1''}R^{2''}N)-S(=O)_pR³, or =N-N=(R^{1''}R^{2''}N)-S(=O)_pR³; and

each p is independently selected from the group consisting of 0, 1 and 2.

2. Use of a polymer comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II) as a flame retardant



wherein the said sulfonamide moiety is included in a main chain of the polymer, in a pendant group of the polymer or is part of a crosslink of the polymer and wherein

L¹, L², and L³ are each independently selected from a group consisting of a bond, C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl, -(C=O)-, -O-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-O-, O, NH-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-NH-, NH, and NR₂₀;

each R¹ and R² is independently selected from a group consisting of H, S(=O)_pR³, C₁₋₃₀-alkyl, C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl optionally substituted one or more times with R¹⁰, C₂₋₃₀-alkenyl, C₂₋₃₀-alkynyl, C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-X-C₁₋₂₀-alkyl, C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-X-C₁₋₇-cycloalkyl optionally substituted one or more times with R¹⁰, a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R¹⁰, and a mono- or bicyclic aryl or heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R¹⁰; or

L¹, L², R¹, and R² together with the N atom they are attached to form a NR₁R₂ group selected from a group consisting of a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R¹⁰; a mono-, bi-, tri-, tetra- or pentacyclic heteroaryl optionally

substituted one or more times with R10; N=CR1'R2'; and N=S=S;

R3 is selected from a group consisting of C₁₋₃₀-alkyl, C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl optionally substituted one or more times with R30, C₂₋₃₀-alkenyl, C₂₋₃₀-alkynyl, NR1R2, a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R30, and a mono-, bi-, or tricyclic aryl or heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R30;

or

L1, L3, R1, and R3 together with the N atom and the S atom they are attached to from a group selected from a mono-, bi-, or tricyclic heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R40, and a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R40; and R2 is as defined above;

or

L1, L2, L3, R1, R2, and R3 together with the S atom and the N atom to which they are attached to form a mono-, bi- or tricyclic heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R50;

each R1' and R2' is independently R1 or R2, respectively, as defined above, or R1' and R2' form together with the C atom they are attached to a CR1'R2' group selected from a group consisting of a C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl optionally substituted one or more times with R10, a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R10, a mono- or bicyclic aryl or heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R10,

X is O, S, NH, NR20, P, Si, or Se;

each R10 is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR20, CHO, COR20, OCOR20, O(C=O)O-(NR1''R2'')-S(=O)_pR3, =S, =O, R20, NHCOR20, NH₂, NHR20, N(R20)₂, OH, OR20, OSiH₃, OSi(R20)₃, S(=O)_pR3, =N-S(=O)_pR3, -N=N-(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR3, and =N-N=(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR3, wherein R1''R2''N forms a monocyclic saturated heterocycle optionally substituted with one or more R10'; provided that when R10 is O(C=O)O-(NR1''R2'')-S(=O)_pR3, S(=O)_pR3, =N-S(=O)_pR3, -N=N-(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR3, or =N-N=(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR3, said R3 is not substituted with NR1R2 or SNR1R2;

each R10' is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR20, CHO, COR20, OCOR20, =O, R20, NHCOR20, NH₂, NHR20, N(R20)₂, OH, OR20, OSiH₃, and OSi(R20)₃;

each R20 is independently selected from a group consisting of C₁₋₃₀-alkyl, C₂₋₃₀-alkenyl, C₂₋₃₀-alkynyl, aryl, C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-heteroaryl, wherein said aryl or heteroaryl is optionally substituted one or more times with C₁₋₄-alkyl, NO₂, CN, NH₂, NMe₂, OH and/or OMe;

5 each R30 is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, OH, OR₂₀, OSiH₃, OSi(R₂₀)₃, NHCOR₂₀, NR₁R₂, and S(=O)_p-NR₁R₂, provided that when R30 is NR₁R₂ or S(=O)_p-NR₁R₂ said NR₁R₂ is not substituted with O(C=O)O-(NR₁'R₂')-S(=O)_pR₃, S(=O)_pR₃, =N-S(=O)_pR₃, -N=N-(R₁'R₂'N)-S(=O)_pR₃, or =N-N=(R₁'R₂'N)-S(=O)_pR₃;

10 each R40 is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, OH, OR₂₀, OSiH₃, OSi(R₂₀)₃, NHCOR₂₀, NR₁R₂, S(=O)_pR₃ and a saturated or partly unsaturated monocyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀', provided that when R40 is NR₁R₂ or S(=O)_pR₃ said R₃ is not substituted with NR₁R₂ or S(=O)_p-NR₁R₂ and said NR₁R₂ is not substituted with O(C=O)O-(NR₁'R₂')-S(=O)_pR₃, -S(=O)_pR₃, =N-S(=O)_pR₃, -N=N-(R₁'R₂'N)-S(=O)_pR₃, or =N-N=(R₁'R₂'N)-S(=O)_pR₃;

15 each R50 is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, OH, OR₂₀, OSiH₃, OSi(R₂₀)₃, NHCOR₂₀, NR₁R₂, S(=O)_pR₃, and a saturated or partly unsaturated monocyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀', provided that when R50 is NR₁R₂ or S(=O)_pR₃ said R₃ is not substituted with NR₁R₂ or S(=O)_p-NR₁R₂ and said NR₁R₂ is not substituted with O(C=O)O-(NR₁'R₂')-S(=O)_pR₃, S(=O)_pR₃, =N-S(=O)_pR₃, -N=N-(R₁'R₂'N)-S(=O)_pR₃, or =N-N=(R₁'R₂'N)-S(=O)_pR₃; and

20 each p is independently selected from the group consisting of 0, 1 and 2;

25 provided that at least one of R₁, R₂ and R₃ is linked to the polymer
30 3. Use of a compound as claimed in claim 1 or use of a polymer as claimed in claim 2, wherein

L₁, L₂, and L₃ are each independently selected from a group consisting of a bond, C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl, -(C=O)-, O, NH, and NR₂₀;

35 each R₁ and R₂ is independently selected from a group consisting of H, S(=O)_pR₃, C₁₋₃₀-alkyl, C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl optionally substituted one or more times with R₁₀, C₂₋₃₀-alkenyl, C₂₋₃₀-alkynyl, C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-X-C₁₋₂₀-alkyl, C₁₋₁₀-

alkylenyl-X-C₁₋₇-cycloalkyl optionally substituted one or more times with R10, a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R10, and a mono- or bicyclic aryl or heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R10; or

5 L1, L2, R1, and R2 together with the N atom they are attached to form a NR1R2 group selected from a group consisting of a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R10, a mono-, bi-, tri-, tetra- or pentacyclic heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R10; N=CR1'R2'; and N=S=S;

10 R3 is selected from a group consisting of C₁₋₃₀-alkyl, C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl optionally substituted one or more times with R30, C₂₋₃₀-alkenyl, C₂₋₃₀-alkynyl, NR1R2, a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R30, and a mono-, bi-, or tricyclic aryl or heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R30;

15 or

L1, L3, R1, and R3 together with the N atom and the S atom they are attached to from a group selected from a mono-, bi-, or tricyclic heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R40, and a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R40; and R2 is as defined above;

20 or

L1, L2, L3, R1, R2, and R3 together with the S atom and the N atom to which they are attached to form a mono-, bi- or tricyclic heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R50;

25 each R1' and R2' is independently R1 or R2, respectively, as defined above, or R1' and R2' form together with the C atom they are attached to a CR1'R2' group selected from a group consisting of a C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl optionally substituted one or more times with R10, a saturated or partly unsaturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R10, a mono- or bicyclic aryl or heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R10,

30 X is O, S, NH, NR20, P, Si, or Se;

each R10 is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR20, CHO, COR20, OCOR20, =O, R20, NHCOR20, NH₂, NHR20, N(R20)₂, OH, OR20, OSiH₃, OSi(R20)₃, S(=O)_pR3, =N-S(=O)_pR3, -N=N-(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR3, and =N-N=(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR3,

wherein R1''R2''N forms a monocyclic saturated heterocycle optionally substituted with one or more R10'; provided that when R10 is S(=O)_pR3, =N-S(=O)_pR3, -N=N-(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR3, or =N-N=(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR3, said R3 is not substituted with NR1R2 or SNR1R2;

5 each R10' is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, NHCOR₂₀, NH₂, NHR₂₀, N(R₂₀)₂, OH, OR₂₀, OSiH₃, and OSi(R₂₀)₃;

each R₂₀ is independently selected from a group consisting of C₁₋₃₀-alkyl, C₂₋₃₀-alkenyl, C₂₋₃₀-alkynyl, aryl, C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-heteroaryl, wherein said aryl or heteroaryl is optionally substituted
10 one or more times with C₁₋₄-alkyl, NO₂, CN, NH₂, NMe₂, OH and/or OMe;

each R₃₀ is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, OH, OR₂₀, OSiH₃, OSi(R₂₀)₃, NHCOR₂₀, NR_{1R2}, and S(=O)_p-NR_{1R2}, provided that
15 when R₃₀ is NR_{1R2} or S(=O)_p-NR_{1R2} said NR_{1R2} is not substituted with S(=O)_pR₃, =N-S(=O)_pR₃, -N=N-(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR₃, or =N-N=(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR₃;

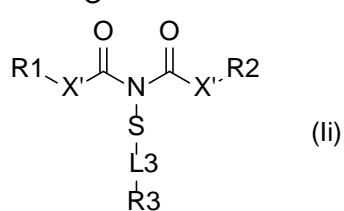
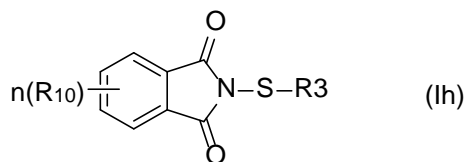
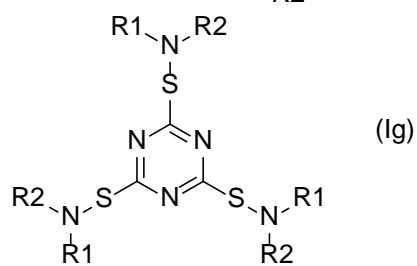
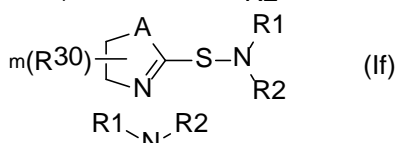
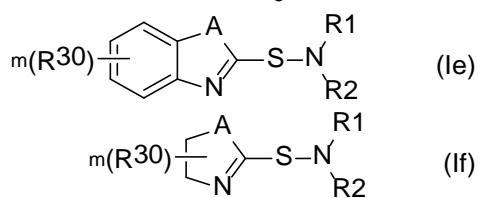
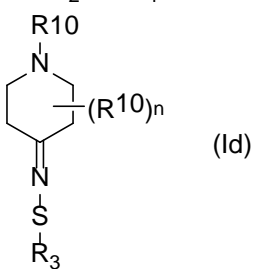
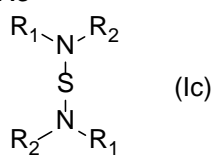
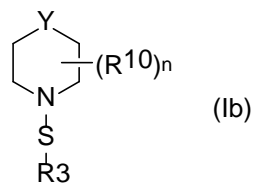
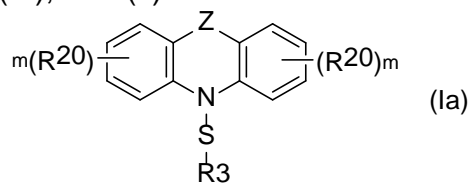
each R₄₀ is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, OH, OR₂₀, OSiH₃, OSi(R₂₀)₃, NHCOR₂₀, NR_{1R2}, S(=O)_pR₃ and a saturated or partly
20 unsaturated monocyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R10', provided that when R₄₀ is NR_{1R2} or S(=O)_pR₃ said R₃ is not substituted with NR_{1R2} or S(=O)_p-NR_{1R2} and said NR_{1R2} is not substituted with -S(=O)_pR₃, =N-S(=O)_pR₃, -N=N-(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR₃, or =N-N=(R1''R2''N)-
25 S(=O)_pR₃;

each R₅₀ is independently selected from a group consisting of NO₂, CN, SO₃H, COOH, COOR₂₀, CHO, COR₂₀, OCOR₂₀, =O, R₂₀, OH, OR₂₀, OSiH₃, OSi(R₂₀)₃, NHCOR₂₀, NR_{1R2}, S(=O)_pR₃, and a saturated or partly
30 unsaturated monocyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R10', provided that when R₅₀ is NR_{1R2} or S(=O)_pR₃ said R₃ is not substituted with NR_{1R2} or S(=O)_p-NR_{1R2} and said NR_{1R2} is not substituted with S(=O)_pR₃, =N-S(=O)_pR₃, -N=N-(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR₃, or =N-N=(R1''R2''N)-S(=O)_pR₃; and

each p is independently selected from the group consisting of 0, 1
35 and 2.

4. The use as claimed in claim 1, wherein compound of formula (I) is

selected from a group consisting of compounds of formula (Ia), (Ib), (Ic), (Id), (Ie), (If), (Ig), (Ih), and (Ii)

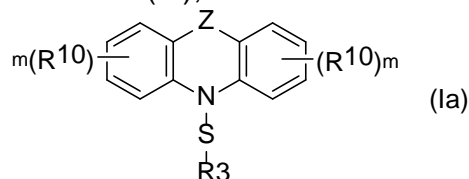


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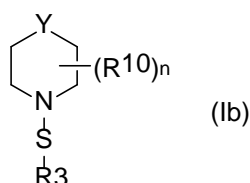
wherein each m is independently 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4, n is from 0 to 8, X' is a bond, N or O, Z is selected from a group consisting of a bond, O, S, NH, NR₂₀, N-SR₃, CH₂, CHR₂₀, C(R₂₀)₂, and C=O, Y is selected from the group consisting of a bond, CH₂, CHR₁₀, C(R₁₀)₂, N-SR₃, C=O, C=N-SR₃, and
 5 C=N-N(R₁'R₂'N)-SR₃, and R₁, R₂, R₃, R₁₀, R₂₀, R₃₀, R₄₀ and R₅₀ are as defined in claim 1.

5. The use as claimed in claim 1, wherein compound of formula (I) is a compound of formula (Ia),



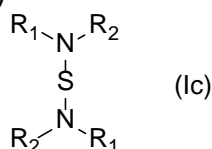
10 wherein each m is independently 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4, and each R₁₀ and R₃ is as in defined in claim 1, and Z is a bond, O, S, NH, NR₂₀, NSR₃, CH₂, CHR₂₀, C(R₂₀)₂, or C=O.

6. The use as claimed in claim 1, wherein compound of formula (I) is a compound of formula (Ib),



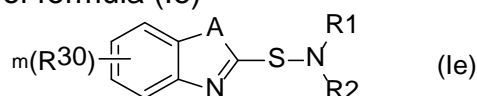
15 wherein n is from 0 to 8, Y is selected from a group consisting of CH₂, CHR₁₀, C(R₁₀)₂, N-SR₃, C=O, C=N-SR₃, and C=N-N(R₁'R₂'N)-SR₃, wherein R₁'R₂'N forms a monocyclic saturated heterocycle, and each R₁₀ and R₃ is as defined in claim 1.

20 7. The use as claimed in claim 1, wherein the compound of formula (I) is a compound of formula (Ic)



wherein R₁ and R₂ are each independently as defined in claim 1.

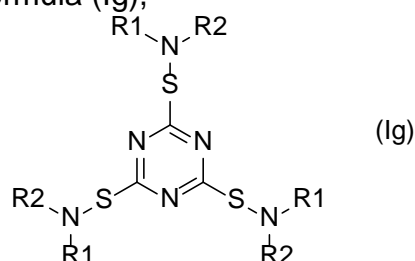
25 8. The use as claimed in claim 1, wherein compound of formula (I) is a compound of formula (Ie)



wherein m is 0 to 4, A is S, O or NH, and R₁, R₂, and R₃₀ are each

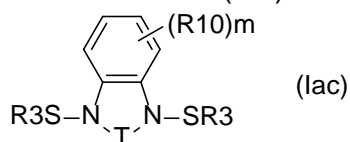
independently as defined in claim 1.

9. The use as claimed in claim 1, wherein compound of formula (I) is a compound of formula (lg),



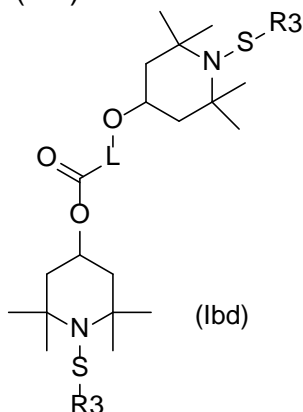
5 wherein each R1 and R2 is independently as defined in claim 1.

10. The use as claimed in claim 1, wherein compound of formula (I) is a compound of formula (Iac)



10 wherein m is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4, preferably 0, and T is selected from the group consisting of C=O, C=S, C=N-SR3, N-SR3, N, S, O and P; and each R3 and R10 is independently as defined in claim 1.

11. The use as claimed in claim 1, wherein compound of formula (I) is a compound of formula (Ibd)



15 wherein each R3 is as in claim 1 and L is bond or C₁₋₁₀-alkylenyl-(C=O)-.

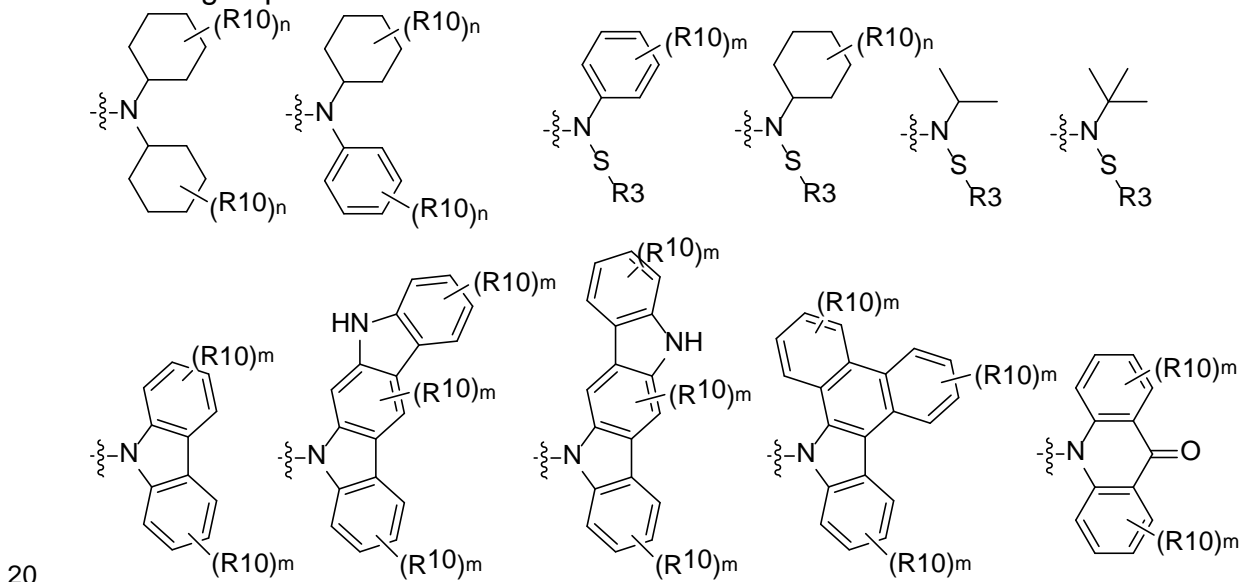
12. The use as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 11, wherein each R1 and R2 is independently selected from branched C₃₋₃₀-alkyl, C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl, a mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R10, a mono- or bicyclic aryl or heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more
20 times with R10; or R1 and R2 together with the N atom they are attached to

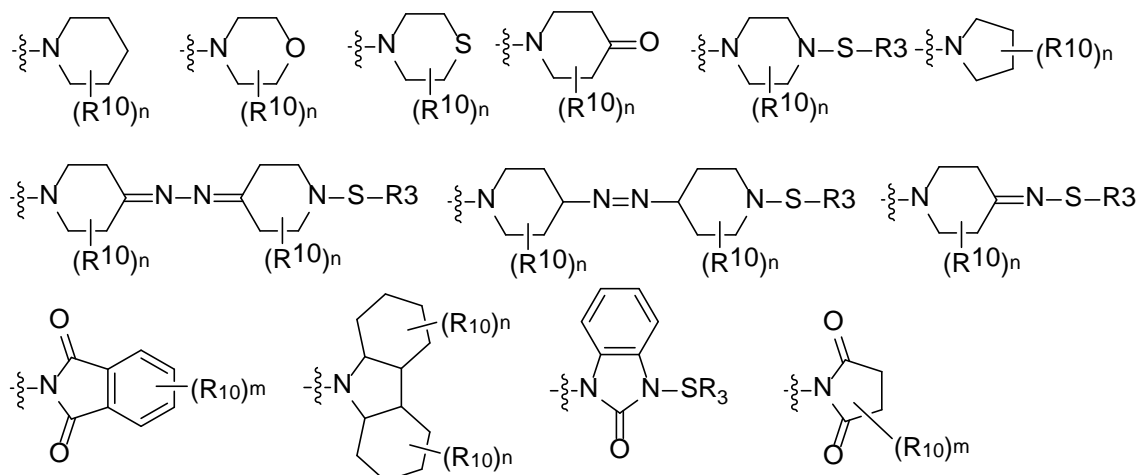
form a saturated mono- or bicyclic heterocycle optionally further comprising 1 to 4 heteroatoms selected from N, S and O and optionally substituted one or more times with R10; or a mono-, bi-, tricyclic heteroaryl optionally further comprising 1 to 4 heteroatoms selected from N, S and O and optionally substituted one or more times with R10, and wherein each R10 is independently as defined in claim 1.

13. The use as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 11, wherein R1 and R2 are each independently selected from the group consisting of branched C₃₋₇-alkyl, C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl, saturated heterocycle optionally substituted one or more times with R10, mono- or bicyclic aryl or heteroaryl optionally substituted one or more times with R10.

14. The use as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 11, wherein one of R1 and R2 is SR3 and the other is selected from the group consisting of branched C₃₋₇-alkyl, C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl, saturated heterocycle optionally substituted with one or more R10, mono- or bicyclic aryl or heteroaryl optionally substituted with one or more R10.

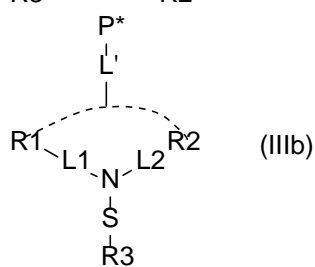
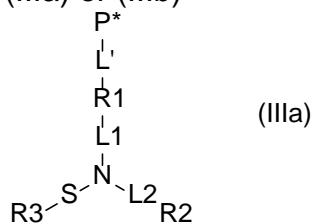
15. The use as claimed in any one of claim 1 to 11, wherein NR1R2 forms a group selected from:





wherein each m is independently 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4, each n is independently 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8, and each R_3 , R_{10} and R_{20} independently is as defined in claim 1.

16. The use as claimed in claim 2, wherein the polymer comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating is a polymer of formula (IIIa) or (IIIb)

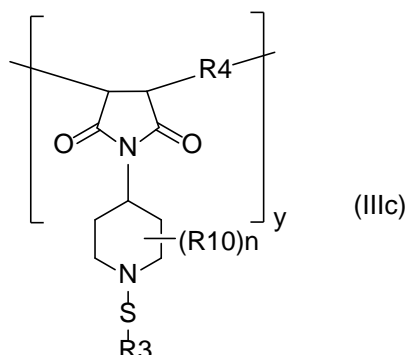


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wherein R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , L_1 , L_2 and L' are as defined in claim 2 and P^* refers to a repeating unit of a polymeric backbone.

17. The use as claimed in claim 2, wherein the polymer comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II) is a polymer of formula (IIIc)

15



wherein R3 and R10 are as defined in claim 2, n is 0 to 8, preferably 0 to 4, R4 is C₁₋₃₀-alkylenyl and y refers to number of repeating units of the polymer.

5 18. The use as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 17, wherein R3 is a mono- bi- or tricyclic aryl or heteroaryl, optionally substituted one or more times with R30.

19. The use as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the compound of formula (I) is selected from the group consisting of

- 10 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-(phenylthio)piperidin-4-one (1);
 1-((4-methoxyphenyl)thio)-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-4-one (2);
 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-((4-nitrophenyl)thio)piperidin-4-one (3);
 1-(2-nitrophenylthio)-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-4-one (4);
 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-(4-methylphenylthio)piperidin-4-one (5);
 15 1-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylthio)-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-4-one (6);
 1-(2-pyridylthio)-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-4-one (7);
 1,2-bis(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-(phenylthio)piperidin-4-ylidene)hydrazine (8);
 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-(phenylthio)-4-piperidyl methacrylate (9);
 20 1-[(1-disulfenylideneamino)sulfenyl-2'2'6'6'-tetramethylpiperidin-4-one (10);
 trans-2,5-dimethyl-1,4-bis(phenylthio)piperazine (11);
 1-butylsulfanyl-2'2'6'6'-tetramethylpiperidine (12);
 4'-thiobis-morpholine (13);
 25 1,1'-thiobis-(2,6-dimethyl)piperidine (14);
 1,1'-thiobis-(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl)piperidine (15);
 N-1,5,9-((4-methoxyphenyl)thio))-bis-(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl)-amine (16);
 1,1'-thiobis phtalimide (17);
 30 1,1'-thiobis-carbazole (18);

- 2-[(4-methoxyphenyl)thio]-1H-Isoindole-1,3(2H)-dione (19);
9-(phenylthio)-9*H*-carbazole (20),
9-[(4-methoxyphenyl)thio]-9*H*-carbazole (21);
N-2-naphthalenyl-*N*-phenyl-4-methylbenzenesulfenamide (22);
5 *N*-bis[4-(1-methyl-1-phenylethyl)phenyl]-4-
methylbenzenesulfenamide (23);
N-cyclohexyl-*S*-phenyl-*N*-(phenylthio)thiohydroxylamine (24);
2,4,6-tris(4-morpholinylthio)-[1,3,5]-triazine (25);
S-(benzo[d]thiazol-2-yl)-*N,N*-diisopropylthiohydroxylamine (26);
10 *S*-(benzo[d]thiazol-2-yl)-*N,N*-dicyclohexylthiohydroxylamine (27);
S-(benzo[d]thiazol-2-yl)-*N*-(benzo[d]thiazol-2-ylthio)-*N*-(tert-
butyl)thiohydroxylamine (28);
benzo[c][1,2,5]thiadiazole (29);
3-(piperazin-1-yl)benzo[d]isothiazole (30);
15 5-nitrobenzo[c]isothiazol-3-amine (31); and
3-phenyl-1,2,4-thiadiazol-5-amine (32)
bis(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-(phenylthio)piperidin-4-yl)decanedioate
(33);
bis(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-(phenylthio)piperidin-4-yl) carbonate (34);
20 and
1,3-bis(phenylthio)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazol-2(3*H*)-one (35);
or wherein the polymer comprising one or more repeating units,
wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of
formula (II), is poly[3-methyl-4-(2-methyldocosyl)-1-(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-
25 (phenylthio)piperidin-4-yl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione] (36).
20. The use as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 19, wherein said
compound of formula (I) and/or the polymer comprising one or more repeating
units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide
moiety of formula (II), is used in combination with one or more other com-
30 pound(s) of formula (I).
21. The use as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 19, wherein said
compound of formula (I) and/or the polymer comprising one or more repeating
units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide
moiety of formula (II), is used in combination with one or more other flame re-
35 tardant(s).
22. The use as claimed in claim 21, wherein the other flame retard-

ant is a non-halogenated flame retardant.

23. The use as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 22, wherein the compound of formula (I) and/or the polymer comprising one or more repeating units, wherein at least one of the repeating units comprises a sulfenamide moiety of formula (II), is used for providing flame retarding properties to a polymeric substrate.

24. The use as claimed in claim 23, wherein the compound of formula (I) is incorporated chemically to a part or all of the polymeric material of the polymeric substrate.

10 25. A composition comprising

(a) one or more compound(s) of formula (I) as defined in any one of claims 1 and 3 to 17; and

(b) a polymeric substrate.

15 26. The composition as claimed in claim 25, wherein the compound of formula (I) is incorporated chemically to a part or all of the polymeric material of the polymeric substrate.

27. The composition as claimed in claim 25 or 26, which comprises, in addition to the components (a) and (b), (c) further additives selected from the group consisting of polymer stabilizers and additional flame-retardants, such as melamine containing flame retardants, phosphorus containing flame-retardants, further nitrogen containing flame-retardants other than melamine containing flame retardants, and inorganic flame-retardants.

28. The composition as claimed in claim 27, wherein the additional flame retardant is a non-halogenated flame retardant.

25 29. Use of a composition defined in any one of claims 25 to 28 as a flame retardant.

30 30. A method of providing flame retardant composition as defined in claim 25, comprising the step of adding a compound of formula (I) as defined in any one of claims 1 and 2 to 17 to a substrate to obtain a flame retardant composition.

(57) ABSTRACT

The present invention is in the field of flame retardants and relates to use of sulfenamides as flame retardants, in particular in polymeric substrates.