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DeSimone

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[54] METHOD OF MAKING FLUOROPOLYMERS

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Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation of Ser. No. 302,642, Sep. 27, 1994, Pat. No. 5,496,901, which is a continuation of PCT/US93/01626 Feb. 26, 1993, which is a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 858,150, Mar. 27, 1992, abandoned.

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[58] Field of Search 526/89, 942, 245, 526/247, 251

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[57] ABSTRACT

A process for making a fluoropolymer is disclosed. The process comprises solubilizing a fluoromonomer in solvent comprising a carbon dioxide fluid, and then polymerizing the fluoromonomer to produce a the fluoropolymer. A preferred solvent for carrying out the process is supercritical carbon dioxide; preferred fluoromonomers for carrying out the process are fluoroacrylate monomers such as 1,1-dihydroperfluorooctyl acrylate. The polymerization step is preferably carried out in the presence of an initiator such as azobisisobutyronitrile.

31 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet