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DeSimone

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[54] METHOD OF MAKING FLUOROPOLYMERS

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Related U.S. Application Data

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[52] U.S. Cl. **528/490; 526/89; 526/245; 526/247; 526/251; 526/942**

[58] Field of Search **528/490; 526/89, 526/245, 247, 251, 942**

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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.

16 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet