UK Patent Application (19) GB (11) 2471977

(43) Date of Reproduction by UK Office

19.01.2011

(21) Application No:

1019392.8

(22) Date of Filing:

21.04.2009

(30) Priority Data:

(31) 61046726 (31) 12427064

(32) 21.04.2008

(33) **US**

(32) 21.04.2009

(33) US

(86) International Application Data: PCT/US2009/041213 En 21.04.2009

(87) International Publication Data:

WO2009/131982 En 29.10.2009

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(51) INT CL:

C09K 8/512 (2006.01) C09K 8/588 (2006.01)

C09K 8/508 (2006.01)

(56) Documents Cited by ISA: EP 0368244 A US 6222091 B1 US 20020001698 A1

WO 2001/096707 A US 5403893 A

(58) Field of Search by ISA: INT CL C09K, E21B Other: EPO-Internal

(54) Title of the Invention: Composition and method for recovering hydrocarbon fluids from a subterranean

Abstract Title: Composition and method for recovering hydrocarbon fluids from a subterranean reservoir

(57) This invention is directed to a composition comprising expandable polymeric microparticles comprising an interpenetrating polymer network (IPN). The IPN constrains the microparticle to an unexpended volume average particle size diameter of from about 0.05 to about 5,000 microns. Labile cross-links in the polymers of the IPN are subject to degradation, which results in release of the expandable microparticle so that the microparticle expands. The invention is further directed to the use of the composition for modifying the permeability of subterranean formations and increasing the mobilization and/or recovery race of hydrocarbon fluids present in the formations.



