Aroclors are soluble in paint and varnish oils and solvents and are compatible with most film-forming coating resins. The Aroclor compounds improve adhesion to the substrate. Adding Aroclors to paint, varnish or lacquer formulations imparts properties to the film that correspond to the particular character of the Aroclor used. The hard, resinous Aroclors tend to give increased hardness to films; the viscous Aroclors impart flexibility.

Aroclors are excellent grinding and dispersion media for pigments used in paints and varnishes. Aroclor 1254 is used to disperse aluminum powder in a paste form which can be incorporated easily into paints and varnishes. The Aroclor imparts excellent leafing qualities, brightness or luster and does not tarnish the aluminum pigment on aging. Moreover, the coating composition does not support combustion.

aroclors in paint, varnish and lacquer formulations



VARNISHES AND ALKYDS

Aroclors 4465 and 5460 will produce paints that are very quick drying and yet have excellent durability. The weight of Aroclor used may be from 30% to 50% of the weight of the oils.

The Aroclors do not react chemically with oils, hence there is no advantage in heating together in making a varnish. They are best added as a "chill back" or as a cold cut in the thinning operation. As far as incorporation of the Aroclors is concerned, the only reason for heating is to make the Aroclors liquid so they can be more readily mixed with the oils.

Aroclor 1260 is best for short oil varnishes that are required at the same time to be flexible. The Aroclors impart water and alkali resistance, and with these qualities enhance the value of the other resins used in the varnish. The suggested starting formulation is two parts by weight of oil, one part of Aroclor 1260 and one part of other resin. These

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proportions can be varied as required. The Aroclor may be considered to function in the formulation as an oil, with the difference that it does not oxidize and lose its flexibility.

Resins of the alkyd, phenolic or ester gum type, with a harder Aroclor such as 5460, may also be used in making varnish formulations.

EPOXY RESIN COATINGS

The high compatibility of Aroclor compounds with epoxy resins makes these materials of great value in formulating epoxy coatings. Normally, 10 to 15% of Aroclor 1260 or 1262 is added to the epoxy composition to improve flexibility with a minimum effect on the corrosion resistance and adhesive characteristics of the film.

NITROCELLULOSE COATINGS

In pyroxylin or nitrocellulose lacquers, the Aroclors can function both as plasticizers modifying the properties of the film and as film-forming bodying resins. Aroclors are highly compatible with nitrocellulose and with other resins and plasticizers commonly used in lacquer formulating. They impart weather resistance, luster, adhesion and decreased burning rate. The Aroclors' excellent electrical characteristics (high dielectric strength and resistivity and low power factor) and their property of retarding the passage of moisture and gases through nitrocellulose make the Aroclors of special value in coatings for electrical insulating materials.

To illustrate the modification possible to obtain by changes in formulation, three lacquer formulas are given below. All have excellent durability but the third is much softer and more flexible than the other two. Only the solids contents are given. The amounts tabulated are parts by weight.

Aroclor Lacquers

	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3
½ second Nitrocellulose (dry)	100	100	100
Dammar resin	80	—	—
Ester Gum	—	80	—
Aroclor 1260	20–39	20	80–70
Dibutyl Phthalate	20–0	20	—
Tricresyl Phosphate	—	—	39–70

No. 1 and No. 2 have excellent sanding and polishing qualities. No. 3 is very flexible but too soft for sanding.

Where extremely high flexibility is desired, as for example in lacquers for high tension automotive cables, the following composition is suggested:

15-20 second R. S. Nitrocellulose	100 parts by weight
Tricresyl Phosphate	120 parts by weight
Aroclor 1242	80 parts by weight

The accompanying trilinear diagrams show the practical compatibility limits of Aroclors 1254 and 1262 when used in combination with some other resins and plasticizers. Aroclor 1260 gives values almost the same as those shown for 1262. The less viscous Aroclors have greater compatibility; the more resinous Aroclors have less compatibility than the ones shown.

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CHLORINATED RUBBER AND STYRENE-BUTADIENE COPOLYMERS

Aroclors are outstanding for compounding modified rubber finishes. They impart exceptional corrosion resistance, chemical resistance, oxidation resistance to these coatings, and improve adhesion. Typical applications include masonry coatings for swimming pools, stucco homes and highway paints, as well as protective and decorative coatings for steel structures, railway tank and gondola cars, wood and metal maritime equipment.

In rubber base coatings, Aroclor 1254 is used as a liquid flexibilizing plasticizer and commonly used in combination with Aroclor 5460 which serves as a resin fortifier. The outstanding chemical resistance, corrosion resistance and oxidation resistance of rubber base Aroclor coatings make them outstanding protective coatings for chemical plants, boats, highway marking, and masonry. Monsanto Technical Bulletins No. PL-306, PL-311, and PL-326 cover the use of Aroclors in rubber base coatings.



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CELLULOSE ACETATE BUTYRATE LACQUERS

The higher Aroclor compounds are widely used with cellulose acetate butyrate, in the manufacture of low cost lacquers that are flame resistant. Typical uses for this type of lacquer include paper coating, lacquers for plastics and strippable coatings for paint booths.

A typical paper lacquer with minimum tendency to curl is reported* to contain the following:

	By Weight
Half-second Butyrate	20%
Aroclor 1260	20%
Acetone	10%
Isobutyl Acetate	10%
Ethyl Alcohol	10%
Toluene	30%

ETHYL CELLULOSE COATINGS

The Aroclors are highly compatible with ethyl cellulose. The liquid Aroclors impart great flexibility, the resinous Aroclors impart great hardness. For example, 75 parts by weight of Aroclor 1242 with 100 parts of ethyl cellulose produces great flexibility and a slight tackiness. Aroclor 5460 on the other hand — in the same proportion — produces a very hard and somewhat brittle composition.

For coatings of high gloss and exceptional weathering properties to be applied to rigid surfaces, compositions containing equal parts by weight of Aroclor 5460 and ethyl cellulose are recommended. For more flexibility in the coating one of the softer Aroclors should be used — either alone or as a partial replacement for the Aroclor 5460.

Ethyl cellulose formulations plasticized with Aroclors find end use applications as protective lacquers, adhesives, and as strippable coatings.

The solid Aroclor compounds, such as Aroclor 5460 are widely used in hot melt applications for the protection of tools and metal parts. They are normally used with ethyl cellulose or cellulose acetate-butyrate resins.

CREPE RUBBER COATINGS

Aroclor 1262 is used as a low cost plasticizer for crepe rubber in paint compositions. Used in concentrations of 5 to 50% based on the weight of the rubber polymer, it increases the gloss and alkali resistance of the film and strengthens the adhesion of the film to steel.

*W. M. Gearheart and F. M. Ball, OFFICIAL DIGEST, Vol. 343, 1953.

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