

NATURAL FLAME RETARDANTS FOR PLASTICS

NATURAL CLAY MINERALS MODIFIED WITH
PHOSPHORIC DERIVATIVES LIGNIN
AND CHITOSAN

B. Podkościelna, B. Tarasiuk, A. Puszka



Introduction

Increasing fire safety requirements and the need to reduce the environmental impact of synthetic flame retardants drive the search for natural, effective, and sustainable solutions.

This proposal introduces flame retardants based on clay minerals modified with phosphoric acid derivatives, lignin, and chitosan to improve the mechanical and flame performance of polymer systems.



Why Natural Clay Minerals?



Renewable Sources



Effective Fire Protection



Low Environmental Impact



Alignment with Sustainability

Low Environmental Impact



Potential for Modification & Functionalization

Natural clay minerals offer renewable sources, low toxicity, and effective flame-retardant properties, making them ideal for sustainable polymer development.



Natural Clay Minerals

(Base Flame Retardants)

- Kaolin
- Bentonite
- Talc
- Montmorillonite
- Clinoptilolite



Kaolin



Bentonite



Talc



Montmorillonite

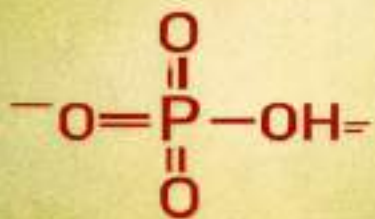


Clinoptilolite

These minerals act as natural flame-retardant bases due to their layered structure, thermal stability, and ability to form protective barriers during combustion.

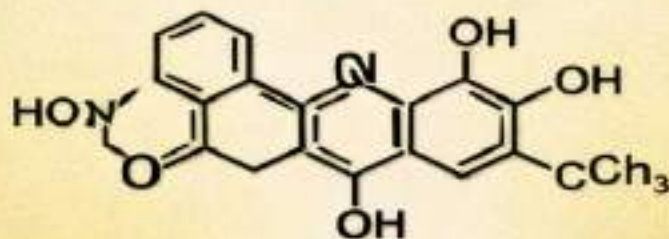
Modification with Bio-Based Additives

Phosphoric Acid Derivatives



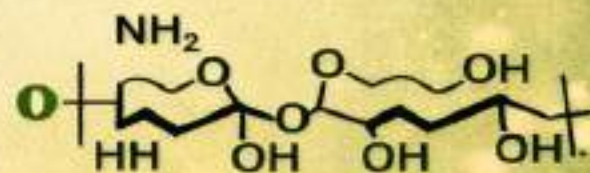
Char Formation
& Flame Inhibition

Lignin



Enhanced Carbon Yield
& Thermal Stability

Chitosan



Nitrogen Enrichment
& Adhesion Improvement



Clay Mineral

Bio-based additives enhance natural flame retardants for plastics, creating effective and eco-friendly hybrid systems.

Synergistic Modification Mechanism



Phosphorous derivatives, lignin, and chitosan are adsorbed onto or anchored to the mineral surface, forming a stable composite structure. This combination enhances flame retardancy, mechanical performance, and environmental compatibility.

In Action – Heat & Flame Protection

Flame Exposure

Char Layer Barrier

Reduced Heat

Less Smoke

Phosphoric Acid Derivatives

Lignin

Chitosan

Clay Mineral Layer

Polymer Matrix

Upon heat exposure, the hybrid system forms a protective char layer reinforced by mineral and bio-based components.

This barrier slows heat transfer, reduces smoke emission, and prevents polymer dripping.

Environmental & Safety Benefits

Reduced Toxic Emissions



Less Smoke
& Harmful Gases

Improved Material Stability



Increased
Heat Resistance

Eco-Friendly Composition



Halogen-Free
& Non-Toxic

Enhanced Safety in Use



Lower Fire Risk
& Better Protection

Bio-based flame retardant systems minimize environmental impact while improving fire safety and mechanical performance.

Their halogen-free composition ensures cleaner combustion and sustains material design.

Performance Summary



**Thermal
Resistance**



**Mechanical
Strength**



**Smoke
Emission**



**Flame
Spread**

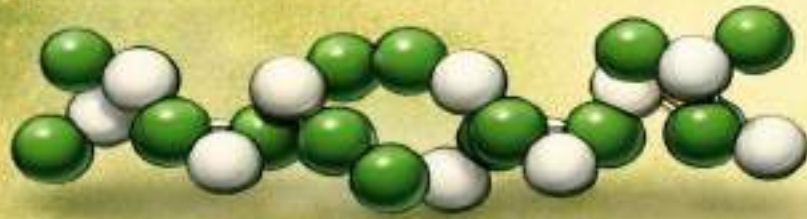


**Eco
Impact**

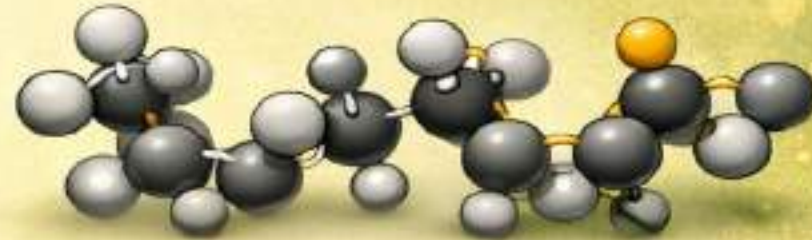


The synergistic system combining phosphoric acid derivatives, lignin, and chitosan with clay minerals ensures **balanced performance** — improved flame retardancy, mechanical integrity, and environmental compatibility.

Applications in Polyolefins



Polyethylene (PE)



Polypropylene (PP)



Pipes



Packaging



Automotive Panels



Textiles

Natural clay minerals modified with phosphoric acid derivatives, lignin, and chitosan enhance the flame retardancy and durability of polyolefins while maintaining environmental safety.

Potential Applications



**Automotive
Industry**



**Building &
Construction**



**Electrical &
Electronics**



**Textiles
& Fibers**



Packaging

Final Conclusions



**Synergistic
Effect**



**Effective
Fire Barrier**



**Material
Integrity**



**Stable &
Durable**



**Environmental
Advantage**



**Eco-Friendly
Solution**



**Future
Perspective**



**Innovative
Potential**

Sustainable and high-performance flame retardant systems for safe, durable, and environmentally responsible materials.