

petroleum pitch

A residue from heat treatment and distillation of petroleum fractions. It is solid at room temperature, consists of a complex mixture of numerous predominantly aromatic and alkyl-substituted aromatic hydrocarbons, and exhibits a broad softening range instead of a defined melting temperature.

Note:

The hydrogen aromaticity (ratio of aromatic to total hydrogen atoms) varies between 0.3 and 0.6. The aliphatic hydrogen atoms are typically present in alkyl groups substituted on aromatic rings or as naphthenic hydrogen.

Source:

PAC, 1995, 67, 473 (*Recommended terminology for the description of carbon as a solid (IUPAC Recommendations 1995)*) on page 499