

emulsifier

A surfactant which when present in small amounts facilitates the formation of an emulsion, or enhances its colloidal stability by decreasing either or both of the rates of aggregation and coalescence.

Source:

PAC, 1972, 31, 577 (*Manual of Symbols and Terminology for Physicochemical Quantities and Units, Appendix II: Definitions, Terminology and Symbols in Colloid and Surface Chemistry*) on page 612