

coalescence

in colloid chemistry

The disappearance of the boundary between two particles (usually droplets or bubbles) in contact, or between one of these and a bulk phase followed by changes of shape leading to a reduction of the total surface area. The flocculation of an emulsion, viz. the formation of aggregates, may be followed by 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 610