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Abogados

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AS: 92.891

Señores

SUPERINTENDENCIA DE INDUSTRIA Y COMERCIO
DIVISION DE NUEVAS CREACIONES
E. S. D.

Radicación: 03106997 12/08/05 Folios: 9
Fecha (d/m): 2005-12-06/16:29:07
Tramite: 811 PCT-PAIENT 379 FASE NACI 538 PETICION
Destinatario: 2824 DIVISION DE NUEVAS CREACIONES

REF.: Expediente No. 03 106.997 solicitud de Patente FASE NACIONAL
Corresp. a la Solicitud Internacional PCT/US02/16477
a nombre de: KIMBERLY – CLARK WORLDWIDE, INC.
Titulada: ALMOHADILLA LABIAL QUE TIENE UNA MUESCA

JUAN PABLO CADENA SARMIENTO, vecino de Bogotá, portador de la tarjeta profesional No. 57492 del C.S.J., obrando como apoderado sustituto de la Sociedad KIMBERLY – CLARK WORLDWIDE, INC.; según lo acredita el documento de poder anexo; ratifico la solicitud presentada por el doctor Ramiro Castro Duque, ASUMO el conocimiento del expediente en referencia y de acuerdo con el Artículo 44 de la Decisión 486 de la Comisión de la Comunidad Andina, me permito solicitar que se examine si la invención contenida en la solicitud en referencia es patentable.

De acuerdo con lo anterior, me permito anexar el recibo oficial de caja No. 05-57,941 por valor de \$186.000.

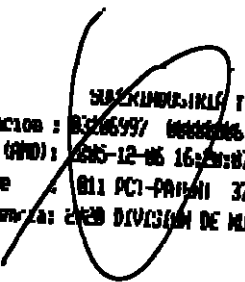
De la Señora Jefe atentamente,


JUAN PABLO CADENA SARMIENTO
C.C. No. 80.410.337 de Usaquén
T.P. No.57492 del C.S.J.
Cra 7 No. 16-56 Piso 9

Diciembre 05, 2005
CHP/MEV/hsr

181





Subordinados y Liquidación
Radicación : 83266997 00000006 Folios: 9
Fecha (PMD): 2005-12-06 16:20:17
Trámite : 811 PCT-PAT/MI 379 FASE NÚM. 538 PETICION
Dependencia: 2428 DIVISION DE MARCAS CREACIONES

NIT : 800176089-2

RECIBO OFICIAL DE CAJA : 5 - 57,941
FECHA : AGOSTO 3 DE 2005

***** CONSIGNACION *****

DEPOSITANTE	TIPO PAGO	BANCO	CUENTA	No. PAGO	FECHA PAGO	Vr. PAGO
BRIGARD & CASTRO LTDA	CONSIGNACION	BANCO POPULAR	050-00110-6	34158526	03/08/2005	25,590,000.00

***** CONCEPTO *****

CANT.	RENTISTICO	CONCEPTO	TOTAL CONCEPTO
1	50005-01-01 SOLICITUDES	114 PTC CAP-II EXAMEN DE PATENTIBILIDAD	186,000.00
		TOTAL :	\$ 186,000.00

SON: CIENTO OCHENTA Y SEIS MIL PESOS

RESPONSABLE : 

RECIBO DE CAJA APLICADO AL ASUNTO No.

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

Office of the
Secretary of State

APOSTILLE

(Convention de La Haye du 5 octobre 1961)

Country: United States of America

- 2 This public document has been signed by Cheryl R. Gorges
- 3 acting in the capacity of Notary Public, State of Wisconsin
- 4 bears the seal/stamp of Notary Public, State of Wisconsin

CERTIFIED

5 at Madison, Wisconsin

6 August 16, 2002

7 by the Secretary of State of Wisconsin

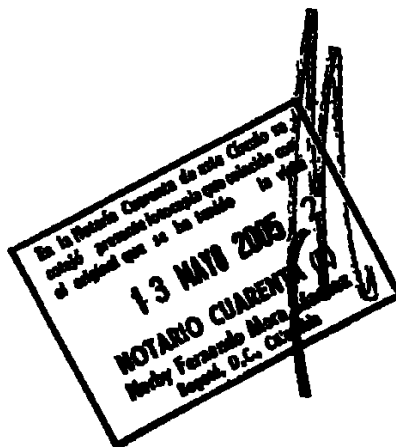
No 73756

Seal/stamp:

10 Signature:

Douglas La Follette

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State



PODER.

Yo (nosotros)

domiciliado(s) en

Nombre(amos) a: RAMIRO CASTRO DUQUE y/o JUAN PABLO CADENA SARMIENTO y/o BEATRIZ JARAMILLO S. de Santafé de Bogotá, Colombia, apoderados verdaderos y legales con poder especial, amplio y suficiente, para recabar de las oficinas y autoridades colombianas administrativas, judiciales y de policía, en cualquier instancia o recurso, la obtención de patentes de invención, registros de marcas, diseños industriales, modelos de utilidad, depósitos de nombres comerciales y enseñas, registros de derechos de autor y contratos sobre los mismos, obtención de certificados de obtentor de variedades vegetales, así como sus prórrogas, renovaciones, anotaciones de traspaso, cambios de nombre y/o domicilio; elaborar, tramitar y registrar contratos de licencia y licencias de cualesquiera clases; intervenir como demandante o como demandado en cualquier instancia y recurso ante cualquier juez, corporación, funcionario público o autoridad en acciones judiciales, administrativas y de policía tales como: oposiciones al registro de marcas; acciones de caducidad; cancelación y nulidad; acciones reivindicatorias, acciones derivadas de la obtención o explotación de licencias; acciones de competencia desleal; demandas penales; acciones de indemnización de perjuicios, reclamos y observaciones a solicitudes de patentes, diseños industriales, modelos de utilidad, en el ejercicio de medidas cautelares y en otras acciones o medidas similares.

A este efecto, lo(s) faculto(amos) para elevar solicitudes, formular descripciones, enmiendas, protestas, declaraciones, oposiciones, cancelaciones, nulidades, apelaciones y reclamos; pagar impuestos, cuotas y gravámenes prescritos por la ley; renunciar o desistirse a derechos concedidos o en curso de concesión; recibir toda clase de documentos y valores, dando el descargo respectivo, y, en general, para dar ante dichas autoridades todos los pasos necesarios al efecto indicado y tomar todas las medidas que creyeren conducentes al resguardo de mis (nuestros intereses), con todas las demás facultades legales necesarias.

Este poder comprende la facultad de ratificar o

POWER OF ATTORNEY

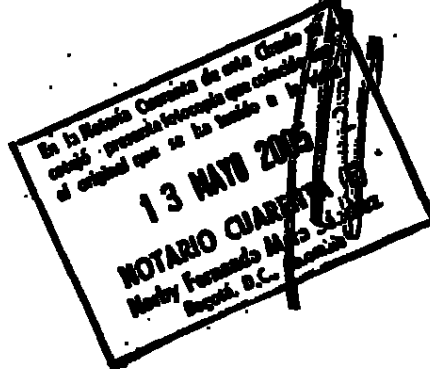
I (We) Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc.

domiciled in 401 N. Lake Street, Neenah, Wisconsin, 54956, USA.

Hereby appoint RAMIRO CASTRO DUQUE and/or JUAN PABLO CADENA SARMIENTO and/or BEATRIZ JARAMILLO S. of Santafé de Bogotá, Colombia, my (our) true and lawful attorneys with special, ample and sufficient power to obtain from the Colombian administrative, judicial and police offices and authorities, in any instance, privileges of patents of invention, registration of trademarks, industrial designs and utility models; registration of commercial names and emblems, registration of copyright and contracts related thereto, certificates of obtainers of vegetables varieties, as well as extensions, renewals and recordal of assignments and changes of name and domicile related to the above; to prepare, prosecute and register licenses of any kind; to act as plaintiff or defendant in any instance or recourse, and before any judge, corporation, public official or authority in judicial, administrative and police actions, such as: oppositions to the registration of trademarks; caducity, cancellation and nullity actions; claim actions derived from the obtaining or exploration of licenses, action of unfair competition; penal demands, actions of indemnities for damages; claims or observations on patent applications, models, industrial designs and utility models; in the exercise of preventive measures; and in other actions or similar proceedings.

To that effect they are hereby empowered to file applications, formulate descriptions, amendments, protests, declarations, oppositions, cancellations, nullifications, appeals and claims; to pay taxes, quotas and assessments prescribed by law, renounce or waive the rights granted or in the process of granting; to receive all kind of documents and valuables, giving the respective release of receipt, and, in general, to take before said authorities the necessary steps to such effect, and any measures that they may deem pertinent to the safeguard of my (our) interests) with all the other necessary legal powers.

This power includes the faculty to ratify or confirm desist, settle and compromise on my (our) behalf and



**CERTIFICADO NOTARIAL
(SOCIEDAD)**

Hoy de de personalmente compareció ante mí
a quien conozco, y de quien me consta que
firmó el anterior documento, debidamente
juramentado declaró y dijo que él es
de

Sociedad legalmente constituida para un
periodo de duración que aún no ha terminado;
que el declarante está autorizado por dicha
compañía para conferir este poder; que el sello
estampado por él al pie de tal poder, en
nombre y representación de la expresada
compañía, es el sello oficial de ella; y que el
objeto para el cual se confiere este
instrumento está comprendido dentro del de la
sociedad.

El suscrito Notario hace constar que tuvo a la
vista las pruebas de la existencia de la
sociedad.

Estado de
con fecha

y que quien confiere el presente poder es su
representante.

Notario Público (sello)

**NOTARIAL CERTIFICATE
(CORPORATION)**

On this day of of personally appeared before
me Nancy Lee Carter

to me known, and known to me to be the
person who signed the foregoing instrument
who being by me duly sworn did depose and
say that he (she) is the Assistant Secretary
of Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc.

Which is legally constituted for a term not yet
expired, that deponent is authorized by said
Company to confer this Power of Attorney:
that the seal affixed hereunto by the deponent
in the name and on behalf of said Corporation
is the corporate seal thereof; and that the
purpose for which this instrument is granted
is included within the corporate purpose of
company.

The undersigned Notary Public attests that he
has seen the documents that prove the
existence of the company.

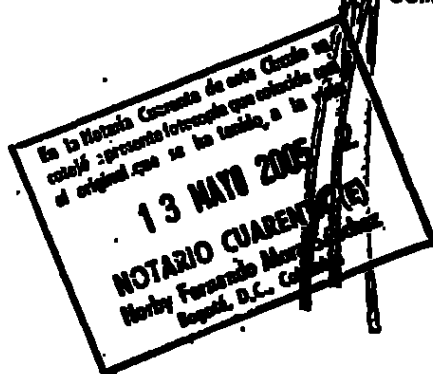
State of Wisconsin
under date of

and that he (she) who grants the
power of attorney is its Representative.

Cheryl R. Berger
Notary Public (Seal)

My commission expires September 11, 2005

NOTARIAL CERTIFICATE



185

TRADUCCIÓN SIMPLE AL ESPAÑOL de la apostilla que vienen junto con el poder dado por Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc, domiciliada en 401 N. Lake Street, Neenah, Wisconsin, 54956 Estados Unidos de América a Ramiro Castro Duque y/o Juan Pablo Cadena Sarmento y/o Beatriz Jaramillo S. domiciliados en la Carrera 7 # 16-56 P. 9, Bogotá.

APOSTILLE

(Convención de La Haya del 5 de Octubre de 1961)

1. País: ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMERICA
2. Este documento público ha sido firmado por Cheryl R. Gorges
3. actuando en capacidad de Notario Público, Estado de Wisconsin
4. lleva el sello/timbre del Notario Público, Estado de Wisconsin

CERTIFICADO

5. en Madison, Wisconsin
6. Agosto 6 de 2002
7. por Secretario de Estado de Wisconsin
8. No. 73756
9. Sello/Timbre
10. Firma

Douglas La Follette (Firma)
DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE



TRADUCCION OFICIAL NO.236/2005-.

TRADUCCION DE LOS SELLOS QUE SE ENCUENTRAN EN EL PODER OTORGADO POR KIMBERLY-CLARK WORLDWIDE, INC., DOMICILIADA EN 401 N. LAKE STREET, NEENAH, WISCONSIN 54956, ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMERICA, A LOS DOCTORES RAMIRO CASTRO DUQUE Y/O JUAN PABLO CADENA SARMIENTO. Y/O BEATRIZ JARAMILLO S.

OTORGADO Y FIRMADO EN NEENAH, WISCONSIN, EL DIA 6 DE AGOSTO DE 2002

FIRMADO: NANCY LEE CARTER, SECRETARIO ASISTENTE
KIMBERLY-CLARK WORLDWIDE, INC.

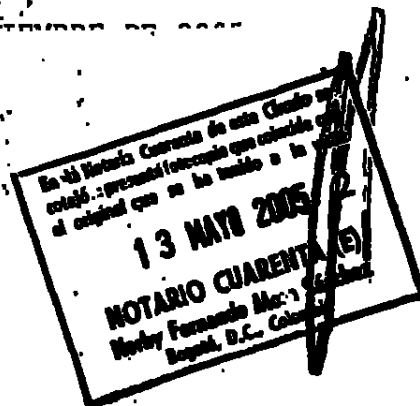
CERTIFICADO NOTARIAL (SOCIEDAD)

HOY PERSONALMENTE COMPARECIO ANTE MI NANCY LEE CARTER, A QUIEN CONOZCO Y DE QUIEN ME CONSTA QUE FIRMO EL ANTERIOR DOCUMENTO, DEBIDAMENTE JURAMENTADO DECLARO Y DIJO QUE EL ES EL SECRETARIO ASISTENTE DE KIMBERLY-CLARK WORLDWIDE, INC., SOIEDAD LEGALMENTE CONSTITUIDA PARA UN PERIODO DE DURACIÓN QUE AUN NO HA TERMINADO; QUE EL DECLARANTE ESTA AUTORIZADO POR DICHA COMPAÑIA PARA CONFERIR ESTE PODER; QUE EL SELLO ESTAMPADO POR EL AL PIE DE TAL PODER, EN NOMBRE Y REPRESENTACIÓN DE LA EXPRESADA COMPAÑIA, ES EL SELLO OFICIAL DE ELLA; Y QUE EL OBJETO PARA EL CUAL SE CONFIERE ESTE INSTRUMENTO ESTA COMPRENDIDO DENTRO DEL DE LA SOCIEDAD.

EL SUSCRITO NOTARIO HACE CONSTAR QUE TUVO A LA VISTA LAS PRUEBAS DE LA EXISTENCIA DE LA SOCIEDAD.

Y QUE QUIEN CONFIERE EL PRESENTE PODER ES SU REPRESENTANTE.

FIRMADO: CHERYL R. GORGES, NOTARIO PUBLICO, CON COMISIÓN
HASTA EL 11 DE SEPTIEMBRE DE 2005



APOSTILLA

CONVENIO DE LA HAYA DEL 5 DE OCTUBRE DE 1961

1. PAIS: ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMERICA - ESTADO DE WISCONSIN
EL PRESENTE DOCUMENTO PUBLICO
2. HA SIDO FIRMADO POR: CHERYL R. GORGES
3. ACTUANDO EN SU CAPACIDAD DE: NOTARIO PUBLICO
4. LLEVA EL SELLO DE: NOTARIO PUBLICO, ESTADO DE WISCONSIN.

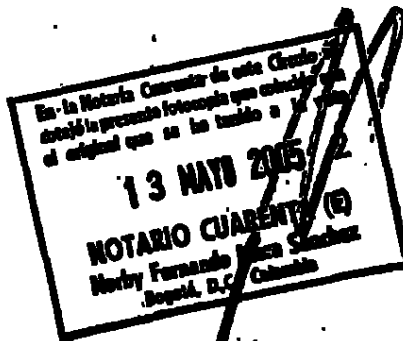
CERTIFICADO

5. EN: MADISON, WISCONSIN
6. EL: 16 DE AGOSTO DE 2002
7. POR: SECRETARIO DE ESTADO, ESTADO DE WISCONSIN
8. BAJO EL NO.: 73756
9. SELLO: ESTADO DE WISCONSIN
10. FIRMADO: DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, SECRETARIO DE ESTADO.

LA TRADUCTORA OFICIAL

Helena Uribe de Lemoine

HELENA URIBE DE LEMOINE





ORGANIZACION ELECTORAL
REGISTRADURÍA NACIONAL DEL ESTADO CIVIL

GAVIRI

5562241

REGISTRO CIVIL DE DEFUNCIÓN

Indicativo
Serial

Datos de la oficina de registro							
Clase de oficina:	Registraduría	Notaría	☒	Consulado	Corregimiento	Ins. de Policía	Código 9995
País - Departamento - Municipio - Corregimiento o Inspección de Policía							
COLOMBIA CUNDINAMARCA BOGOTÁ D.C.						NOTARIA 32.	

Datos del inscrito	
Apellido y nombres completos	
CASTRO DUQUE RAMIRO	
Documento de identificación (Clase y número)	Sexo (en Letras)
C.C. No. 170322 DE BOGOTÁ	MASCULINO

Datos de la defunción		
Lugar de la Defunción País - Departamento - Municipio - Corregimiento o Inspección de Policía		
COLOMBIA CUNDINAMARCA BOGOTÁ D.C.		
Fecha de la defunción		Número de certificado de defunción
Año 2004 Mes 10 Día 30	Hora 04:10 PM	A- 2094375.
Presunción de muerte		
Lugar de que profiere la sentencia		Fecha de la sentencia
Año Mes Día		Año Mes Día
Documento presentado	Nombre y cargo del funcionario	
Autorización Judicial ☐ Certificado Médico ☒	ANDRÉS DÍAZ CAMPOS, R.M. No. 79982662	

Datos del denunciante	
Apellido y nombres completos	
EDGAR DAVID REGINO II.	
Documento de identificación (Clase y número)	Firma
C.C. No. 15.030.154 DE LORICA/ CORDOBA	

Primer testigo	
Apellido y nombres completos	
Documento de identificación (Clase y número)	
Firma	

Segundo testigo	
Apellido y nombres completos	
Documento de identificación (Clase y número)	
Firma	

Fecha de inscripción		Nombre y cargo del funcionario que inscribe	
Año 2004 Mes 11 Día 02	BLANCA ESTHER RESTREPO		NOTARIA

PADRES: ALFONSO CASTRO		ESPACIO PARA NOTAS
MERCEDES DUQUE.		

ORIGINAL PARA LA OFICINA DE REGISTRO

NOTARIA 32

DEL CIRCULO DE SANTA FE DE BOGOTA, D.C.

Germán Eleázar Moreno L.
Notario

COMO SECRETARIO DELEGADO EN LA NOTARIA TREINTA Y DOS (32) DEL
CIRCULO DE BOGOTA

CERTIFICO QUE:

La presente acta es fiel copia del original tomada del registro
civil de defunciones serial indicativa número: **56224**
que expido en la ciudad de Bogotá D.C. hoy: **05 NOV. 2004**

NOTARIA 32 DEL
CIRCULO DE BOGOTA D.C.
SECRETARIO DELEGADO

NELSON FLORES C.
SECRETARIO DEL PRADO PARA COPIAS
DECRETO 1334 DE 1996

DIVISION DE NUEVAS CREACIONES

RADICACIÓN EXPEDIENTE No. 03-106997

**EL EXTRACTO DE LA PRESENTE SOLICITUD DE PATENTE DE INVENCION -
PCT FUE PUBLICADO EN LA GACETA DE PROPIEDAD INDUSTRIAL No 555,
DE FECHA 31 DE AGOSTO DE 2005, EL TERMINO HABIL SEÑALADO POR
LA LEY EXPIRA EL 28 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 2005.**

NOTA: Dentro del plazo de los seis (6) meses siguientes a partir de la fecha de publicación en la gaceta de Propiedad Industrial, deberá solicitar y cancelar el examen de patentabilidad so pena de que la solicitud caiga en abandono, de acuerdo con lo establecido en el Artículo 44 de la Decisión 486/2000.

SE PRESENTARON OPOSICIONES POR PARTE DE TERCEROS.

SI

NO **X**

196
190

PCT

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
International Bureau

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(31) International Patent Classification ⁶ : A61F 13/15	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 98/57608 (43) International Publication Date: 23 December 1998 (23.12.98)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/12512 (22) International Filing Date: 15 June 1998 (15.06.98) (30) Priority Date: 08/676,305 16 June 1997 (16.06.97) US 09/071,425 1 May 1998 (01.05.98) US (71) Applicant: THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY [US/US]; One Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (US). (72) Inventors: OSBORN, Thomas, W., III; 400 Deerview Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45224 (US). BROWN, Pamela, Jean; 7939 Seabreeze Lane, Mahoningville, OH 45039 (US). (74) Agents: REED, T. David et al.; The Procter & Gamble Company, 5299 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45217 (US).	(51) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GR, OH, GM, GW, HU, ID, IL, IN, JP, KR, KZ, KP, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GB, GR, KR, LS, MW, SD, SE, SG, ZW), European patent (AM, AZ, BY, EG, KR, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LI, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BI, CF, CO, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published With international search report.	
(54) Title: ABSORBENT INTERLABIAL DEVICE (57) Abstract An absorbent interlabial device worn by female women for catamenial purposes, incontinence protection, or both, is disclosed. The absorbent interlabial device of the present invention includes a liquid pervious topsheet, a liquid impervious backsheet, and an absorbent core positioned between the two. The length of the device is between about 60 mm and about 130 mm. The width is between about 25 mm and 50 mm. The device has an axis of preferred bending along its longitudinal centerline. When folded along the axis and inserted into the wearer's interlabial space, the topsheet maintains contact with the walls of the wearer's labia. A method of using a system of feminine hygiene products is also disclosed. The system includes the use of an absorbent interlabial device in combination with a sanitary napkin. The absorbent interlabial device of the present invention may also be used in combination with an absorbent tampon. The absorbent interlabial device may be packaged in a common package with a sanitary napkin or a tampon as a feminine hygiene kit.		

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification: A61F 13/15	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 98/57609 (43) International Publication Date: 23 December 1998 (23.12.98)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/12517 (22) International Filing Date: 15 June 1998 (15.06.98) (30) Priority Data: 08/876,206 16 June 1997 (16.06.97) US (71) Applicant: THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY [US/US]: One Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (US). (72) Inventors: OSBORN, Thomas, W., III; 400 Dearview Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45224 (US). HAMDONS, John, Lee; 7379 Dart Commander Court, Hamilton, OH 45011 (US). HORNEY, James, Cameron; 2845 LaPaulle Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45211 (US). (74) Agents: REED, T., David et al.; The Procter & Gamble Company, 5299 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45217 (US).	(51) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, A2, BA, BE, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GR, GM, GW, HU, ID, IL, IN, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (OH, OM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SE, UG, ZW), European patent (AM, AZ, BY, EG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TO). Published With international search report.	
(54) Title: INTERLABIAL DEVICE ADAPTED FOR MENSES COMPONENT MANAGEMENT (57) Abstract Absorbent devices, and more particularly absorbent devices that are worn interlabially by female wearers for catamenial purposes, incontinence protection, or both, are disclosed. The interlabial absorbent device of the present invention comprises a main absorbent portion and a pair of flexible extensions joined to the main absorbent portion. The main absorbent portion has a distal surface and comprises an acquisition member and at least one storage member, in fluid communication with the acquisition member, that is disposed laterally outboard of the acquisition member. In use, the distal surface of the main absorbent portion is positioned furthest inward into the space between the wearer's labia majora. The pair of flexible extensions extends downwardly and laterally outward from the distal surface, and preferably is capable of maintaining contact with the inside surfaces of the wearer's labia majora when the wearer's body goes through a range of motions, including squatting. Additionally, the flexible extensions are preferably capable of covering the fingertips of the wearer as the absorbent device is inserted into the interlabial space. The interlabial device further preferably comprises a backsheet that is disposed on the surface of the flexible extensions that is opposite the body contacting surface thereof and on all surfaces of the main absorbent portion except the proximal surface.		

PCT

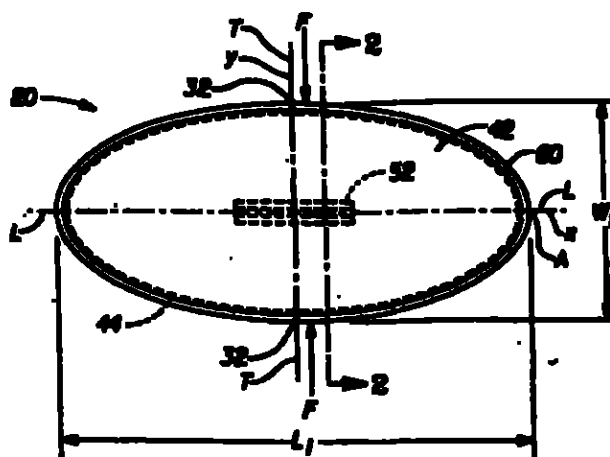
WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification: A61F 15/00, 13/15	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 98/57610 (43) International Publication Date: 23 December 1998 (23.12.98)
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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/12610 (22) International Filing Date: 15 June 1998 (15.06.98) (30) Priority Date: 08/476,205 16 June 1997 (16.06.97) US 08/071,444 1 May 1998 (01.05.98) US (71) Applicant: THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY (US/US); One Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (US). (72) Inventors: OSBORN, Thomas, W., III; 400 Dearview Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45224 (US). BROWN, Pamela, Jean; 7939 Sandpiper Ln., Malmesville, OH 45039 (US). FITZPATRICK, Matthew, Preston; 2101 Grandia Road #909, Cincinnati, OH 45206 (US). (74) Agents: REED, T. David et al.; The Procter & Gamble Company, 5209 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45217 (US).	(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GR, GU, GM, GW, HU, ID, IL, IN, JP, KR, KP, KZ, LC, LE, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LI, MC, NL, PT, SE, OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TO). Published With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.
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(54) Title: FEMINE HYGIENE SYSTEM AND KIT USING AN ABSORBENT INTERLABIAL DEVICE



(57) Abstract

An absorbent interlabial device worn by female wearers for external purposes, incontinence protection, or both, is disclosed. The absorbent interlabial device of the present invention includes a liquid pervious topsheet, a liquid impervious backsheet, and an absorbent core positioned between the two. The length of the device is between about 40 mm about 130 mm. The width is between about 25 mm and about 30 mm. The device has an axis of preferred bending along its longitudinal centerline. When folded along the axis and inserted into the wearer's interlabial space, the topsheet maintains contact with the walls of the wearer's labia. A method of using a system of feminine hygiene products is also disclosed, the system includes the use of an absorbent interlabial device in combination with a sanitary napkin. The absorbent interlabial device of the present invention may also be used in combination with an absorbent tampon. The absorbent interlabial device may be packaged in a common package with a sanitary napkin or a tampon as a feminine hygiene kit.

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International Bureau

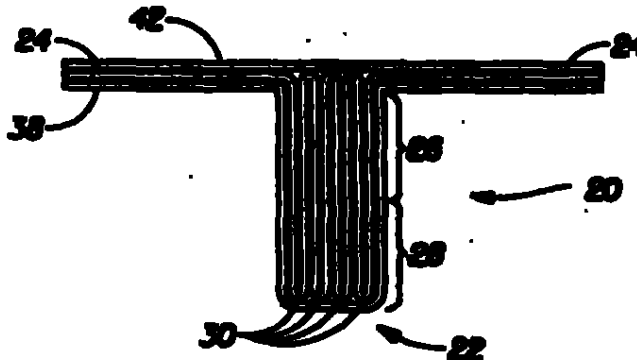
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6: A61F 13/15	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 98/29075 (43) International Publication Date: 9 July 1998 (09.07.98)
(31) International Application Number: PCT/US97/23770 (22) International Filing Date: 23 December 1997 (23.12.97) (30) Priority Data: 08/778,925 3 January 1997 (03.01.97) US (71) Applicant: THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY [US/US]; One Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (US). (72) Inventor: OSBORN, Thomas, Ward, III; 400 Deanview Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45224 (US). (74) Agents: REED, T., David et al.; The Procter & Gamble Company, 5299 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45217 (US).	(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GR, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), European patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BL, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.	

(54) Title: ABSORBENT INTERLABIAL DEVICE HAVING PLEATED STRUCTURE

(57) Abstract

Absorbent devices, and more particularly absorbent devices that are worn interlabially by female wearers for menstrual purposes, incontinence protection, or both, are disclosed. The absorbent interlabial device of the present invention comprises a main absorbent portion comprising a pleated structure and a pair of flexible extensions joined to the main absorbent portion. The main absorbent portion comprises an upper portion, and a lower portion opposed to the upper portion. In use, the upper portion is positioned furthest inward into the space between the wearer's labia majora. The pair of flexible extensions extends downwardly and laterally outward from the upper portion of the main absorbent portion, and preferably is capable of maintaining contact with the inside surfaces of the wearer's labia majora when the wearer's body goes through a range of motions, including squatting. Additionally, the flexible extensions are preferably capable of covering the fingertips of the wearer as the absorbent device is inserted into the interlabial space.



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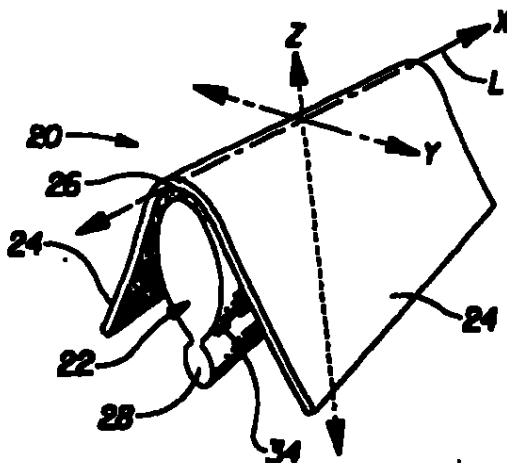
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6: A61F 13/15	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 98/29077 (43) International Publication Date: 9 July 1998 (09.07.98)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US97/23780 (22) International Filing Date: 23 December 1997 (23.12.97) (30) Priority Date: 08/778,520 3 January 1997 (03.01.97) US (71) Applicant: THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY (US/US); One Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (US). (72) Inventor: OSBORN, Thomas, Ward, III; 400 Dearview Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45224 (US). (74) Agents: REED, T., David et al.; The Procter & Gamble Company, 5289 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45217 (US).	(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GR, GH, HU, ID, IL, IN, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), European patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, EE, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.	

(54) Title: ABSORBENT INTERLABIAL DEVICE WITH FLEXIBLE EXTENSIONS

(57) Abstract

Absorbent devices, and more particularly absorbent devices that are worn interlabially by female wearers for menstrual purposes, incontinence protection, or both, are disclosed. The absorbent interlabial device of the present invention comprises a main absorbent portion and a pair of flexible extensions joined to the main absorbent portion. The main absorbent portion comprises an upper portion, and a lower portion opposed to the upper portion. In use, the upper portion is positioned furthest inward into the space between the wearer's labia majora. The pair of flexible extensions extends downwardly and laterally outward from the upper portion of the main absorbent portion, and preferably is capable of maintaining contact with the inside surfaces of the wearer's labia majora when the wearer's body goes through a range of motions, including squatting. Additionally, the flexible extensions are preferably capable of covering the fingertips of the wearer as the absorbent device is inserted into the interlabial space.



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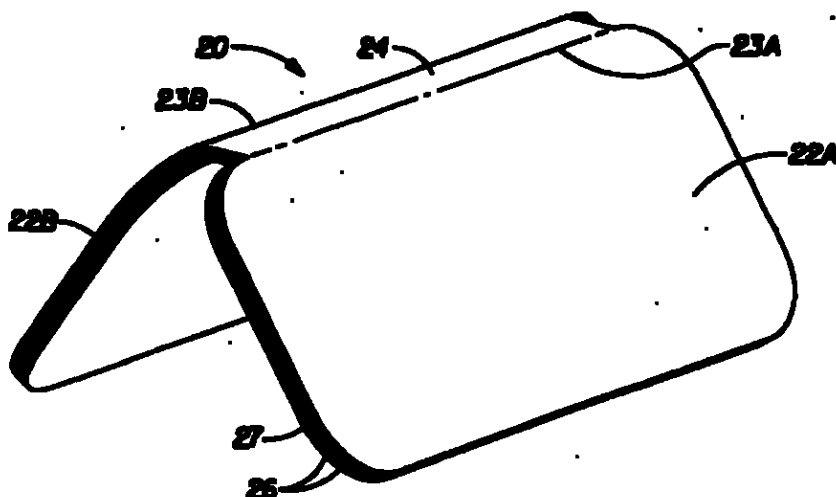
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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6 : A61F 13/15	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 98/29078 (43) International Publication Date: 9 July 1998 (09.07.98)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US97/23833 (22) International Filing Date: 22 December 1997 (22.12.97) (30) Priority Data: 08/778,521 3 January 1997 (03.01.97) US (71) Applicant: THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY (US/US); One Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (US). (72) Inventors: OSBORN, Thomas, Ward, III; 400 Deerview Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45224 (US). MAYER, Katherine, Louise; 47 Grandview Avenue, Newport, KY 41071 (US). HINES, Latha, Margory; 320 East Mills Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45215 (US). MILLERADA, Edward, John; 3613 Winding Creek Way, West Chester, OH 45069 (US). (74) Agents: REED, T. David et al.; The Procter & Gamble Company, 5299 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45217 (US).	(53) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GR, GH, GW, HU, ID, IL, IN, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (OH, OM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), European patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TO). Published With international search report.	

(54) Title: THIN COMFORTABLE INTERLABIAL ABSORBENT STRUCTURE



(57) Abstract

An interlabial absorbent structure is disclosed. The interlabial absorbent structure comprises a pair of absorbent panels that are sufficiently flexible such that the panels can, at least partially, conform to the walls of a wearer's interlabial space. The panels are joined by an isthmus which is positioned furthest into a wearer's interlabial space when the interlabial absorbent product is worn. Alternative embodiments of the isthmus are also described which direct bodily fluids that are deposited thereon along the longitudinal length of the interlabial absorbent structure.



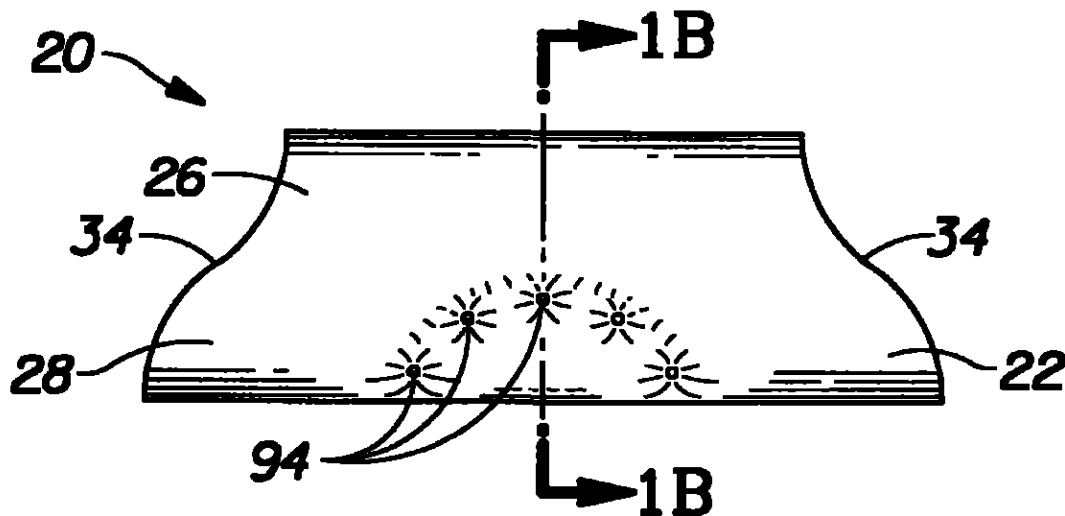
US006045544A

United States Patent [19]
Hershberger et al.[11] **Patent Number:** **6,045,544**
[45] **Date of Patent:** ***Apr. 4, 2000**[54] **SHAPED ABSORBENT INTERLABIAL DEVICE**[75] **Inventors:** Michael Nyle Hershberger, Cincinnati;
Ronald Ray McFall, West Chester;
Pamela Jean Brown, Maineville;
Thomas Ward Osborn, III, Cincinnati,
all of Ohio[73] **Assignee:** The Procter & Gamble Company,
Cincinnati, Ohio[*] **Notice:** This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.[21] **Appl. No.:** 08/979,980[22] **Filed:** Nov. 26, 1997**Related U.S. Application Data**

[63] Continuation-in-part of application No. 08/833,606, Jan. 26, 1997, Pat. No. 5,762,644, and a continuation-in-part of application No. 08/876,206, Jan. 16, 1997, and a continuation-in-part of application No. 08/869,897, Jan. 5, 1997, and a continuation-in-part of application No. 08/778,520, Jan. 3, 1997, and a continuation-in-part of application No. 08/778,925, Jan. 3, 1997, abandoned, and a continuation-in-part of application No. 08/778,521, Jan. 3, 1997, and a continuation-in-part of application No. 08/706,371, Aug. 28, 1996, abandoned.

[51] **Int. Cl.**⁷ A61F 13/15[52] **U.S. Cl.** 604/385.1; 604/378; 604/330;
604/904[58] **Field of Search** 604/330, 363,
604/378, 385.1, 904**Primary Examiner**—John G. Weiss**Assistant Examiner**—Dennis Ruhl**Attorney, Agent, or Firm**—Matthew P. Fitzpatrick; Jeffrey V. Bamher; Jacob C. Rasser[57] **ABSTRACT**

Absorbent devices, and more particularly absorbent devices that are worn interlabially by female wearers for catamenial purposes, incontinence protection, or both, are disclosed. The absorbent interlabial device of the present invention comprises a main absorbent portion with an upper portion, a lower portion opposed to the upper portion, and two ends. The upper portion faces toward the vestibule of the wearer during insertion of the device into the wearer's interlabial space and during use. The ends of the absorbent device are preferably taped so that the lower portion of the interlabial device is longer than the upper portion. The ends are also provided with at least one curvilinear segment, with the ends preferably having a sinusoidal or S-shape. The absorbent interlabial device preferably also has an arcuate pattern of discrete autogenous bonds. The combination of the preferred S-shaped ends and the arcuate bonding pattern provides greater product stiffness control for simultaneous improved comfort and handling characteristics.

23 Claims, 8 Drawing Sheets

205
197



US005738212A

United States Patent [19]
Pollard et al.

[11] **Patent Number:** **5,738,212**
[45] **Date of Patent:** **Apr. 14, 1998**

[54] **FIBROUS PAD AND A DISPENSING PACKAGE THEREFOR**

[73] **Inventors:** Ricky Alan Pollard, Moscow; Charles John Berg, Jr., Cincinnati, both of Ohio

[73] **Assignee:** The Procter & Gamble Company, Cincinnati, Ohio

[21] **Appl. No.:** 725,449

[22] **Filed:** Oct. 4, 1996

[51] **Int. Cl.⁶** B65D 83/10

[52] **U.S. Cl.** 206/363; 206/210; 206/535; 15/208

[58] **Field of Search** 206/362, 581, 206/210, 823, 570, 555, 449; 15/208, 209.1, 244.1, 244.4

[56] **References Cited**

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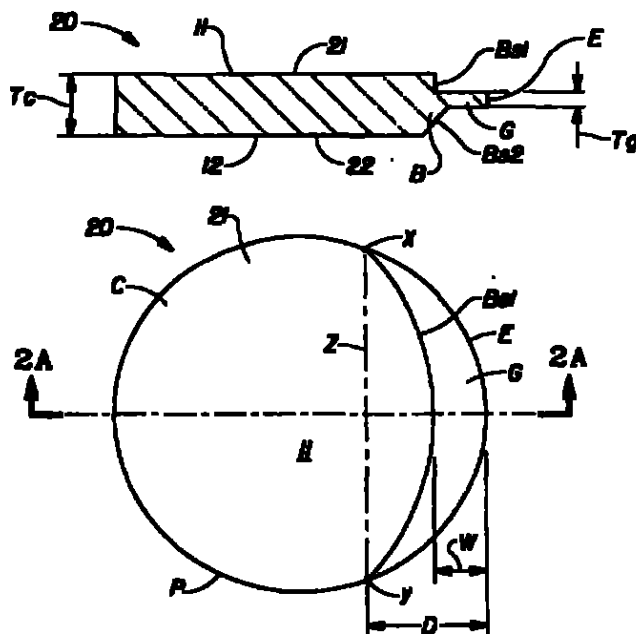
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Primary Examiner—Paul T. Sewell
Assistant Examiner—Nhan T. Lam
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Vladimir Vitenberg; Larry L. Huston; E. Kelly Lianman

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A fibrous pads package comprises a lightweight dispensing package having a dispensing opening and a plurality of discrete fibrous pads sequentially disposed in the dispensing package in an abutting relationship with each other. Each of the plurality of fibrous pads comprises a cleansing portion and a gripping portion of a predetermined size and shape. Each of the pads may have a transitional portion between the cleansing portion and the gripping portion. The cleansing portion has a cleansing portion thickness T_c and a cleansing portion flexural rigidity R_c ; and the gripping portion has a gripping portion thickness T_g and a gripping portion flexural rigidity R_g . The cleansing portion thickness T_c is at least about 10% greater than the gripping portion thickness T_g , and the cleansing portion flexural rigidity R_c is at least about 100% less than the gripping portion flexural rigidity R_g . The gripping portion has a distinct gripping edge. The gripping edges of the plurality of fibrous pads are separable from one another such that the gripping edges may be spaced apart for dispensing. Optionally, the plurality of pads may be compressed within the dispensing package.

22 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets



204
198



US005136208A

United States Patent [19]
Rosenbluth et al.

[11] Patent Number: 5,336,208
[45] Date of Patent: * Aug. 9, 1994

- [54] URINARY INCONTINENCE PAD
[75] Inventors: Robert F. Rosenbluth, Laguna Niguel; Jay A. Lankar, Laguna Beach; George R. Greene, Costa Mesa; Rodney A. Brownstein, Mission Viejo; Patrick A. Moley, Laguna Niguel, all of Calif.
[73] Assignee: Advanced Surgical Intervention, Inc., San Clemente, Calif.
[*] Notice: The portion of the term of this patent subsequent to Dec. 24, 2008 has been disclaimed.
[21] Appl. No.: 810,845
[22] Filed: Dec. 28, 1991

Related U.S. Application Data

- [63] Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 639,921, Jan. 10, 1991, Pat. No. 5,074,855.
[31] Int. Cl.³ A61F 5/44; A61F 13/15; A61F 13/20; A61B 5/00
[32] U.S. Cl. 604/329; 604/330; 604/358; 604/385.1; 604/387; 128/761
[38] Field of Search 604/358, 360, 365, 369, 604/385.1, 386, 387, 389, 327, 331, 347, 352, 329, 330; 128/761

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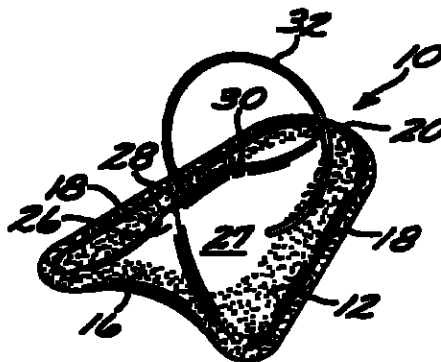
754481 8/1956 United Kingdom 81/2

Primary Examiner—Randall L. Green
Assistant Examiner—Elizabeth M. Burke
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Klein & Sackner

[37] ABSTRACT

A device for managing urinary incontinence in a human female includes a resilient body resilient adapted to fit between the labia minora and the floor of the vestibule of the vulva, thereby occluding the urethral meatus. An adhesive is applied to the body to provide a sealing engagement with the urethral meatus. In a first embodiment, the body has a base that seats against the floor of the vestibule, and a pair of flexible, lateral flaps that engage the labia minora. A layer of adhesive is applied to the base. A layer of highly-absorbent, hydrophilic material may be situated between the base and the adhesive layer, and/or a layer of scrim material may be so situated. The body may have a longitudinal ridge with a posterior edge having a finger hole to facilitate installation and removal of the device. In a second embodiment, the body is substantially tubular, with the adhesive applied to the exterior surface of the body. In the first and second embodiments, the body is preferably formed of a biodegradable material. In a third embodiment, the body is a flexible bladder or sac, filled with a suitable liquid or gel, that conformingly fits between the labia minora and the floor of the vestibule so as to occlude the urethral meatus. The exterior surface of the bladder is coated with an adhesive to provide a sealing engagement with the meatus. In all embodiments, the preferred adhesive is a mixture of poly 2-hydroxyethyl methacrylate and polyethylene glycol.

48 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets



205
199

United States Patent [19]
Hirschman

[11] **3,983,873**
[43] **Oct. 5, 1976**

[54] **FEMININE HYGIENIC PAD**
[76] **Inventor:** **Stanley Z. Hirschman, 110-11 Queens Blvd., Forest Hills, N.Y. 11375**
[22] **Filed:** **July 3, 1974**
[21] **Appl. No.:** **485,374**

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[52] **U.S. CL.....** **128/285; 128/270; 128/290 R**
[51] **Int. CL².....** **A61F 13/28; A61F 13/16**
[58] **Field of Search.....** **128/285, 270, 290 R, 128/290 W, 290 H**

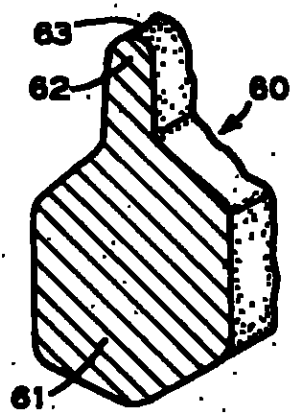
Primary Examiner—Aldrich F. Medbery

[57] **ABSTRACT**
A feminine hygienic pad for insertion into the interlabial space; the pad having a geometric configuration which (1) facilitates insertion of the pad into the interlabial space; and (2) has an improved retention within the space notwithstanding a substantial increase in weight of the pad upon absorption of discharged liquid.

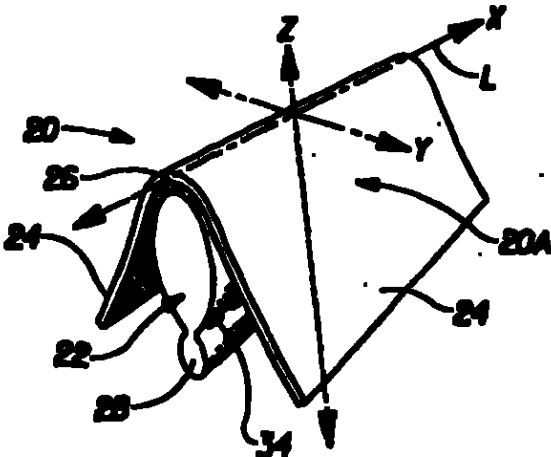
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23 Claims, 20 Drawing Figures



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(51) International Patent Classification 6: A61L 15/00	A2	(11) International Publication Number: WO 98/55158 (43) International Publication Date: 10 December 1998 (10.12.98)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/00855 (22) International Filing Date: 3 June 1998 (03.06.98) (30) Priority Data: 08/669,700 5 June 1997 (05.06.97) US (71) Applicant: THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY [US/US]; One Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (US). (72) Inventors: OSBORN, Thomas, Ward, III; 400 Deerview Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45224 (US). KLOFFA, Thomas, James; 10404 Hopewell Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45249 (US). (74) Agent: REED, T., David et al.; The Procter & Gamble Company, 3299 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45217 (US).	(52) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GR, GM, GW, HU, ID, IL, IN, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LR, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.	
(54) Title: ABSORBENT INTERLABIAL DEVICE TREATED WITH A POLYERLOKANE EMOLLIENT (57) Abstract Absorbent devices, and more particularly absorbent devices that are worn interlabially by female wearers for catamenial purposes, incontinence protection, or both, that have an emollient composition on their body-contacting surfaces are disclosed. The interlabial device has a body-contacting surface that is pre-moistened or pre-treated with an emollient to prevent drying of the wearer's labial tissue and to reduce friction of the structure against the wearer's labial tissue. The absorbent device is preferably capable of maintaining contact with the inside surfaces of the wearer's labial region when worn. The emollient composition comprises a plastic or fluid emollient such as mineral oil, petrolatum and/or polyethylene, an immobilizing agent such as a fatty alcohol or wax to immobilize the emollient on the body-contacting surface of the device, and optionally a hydrophilic surfactant to improve wettability of the coated surface. Because the emollient is substantially immobilized on the surface of the absorbent device, less emollient is required to impart the desired therapeutic or protective emollient coating benefits. 		

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(51) International Patent Classification 6: A61F 13/15	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 99/00083 (43) International Publication Date: 7 January 1999 (07.01.99)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/11949 (22) International Filing Date: 9 June 1998 (09.06.98) (30) Priority Data: 08/883,606 26 June 1997 (26.06.97) US (71) Applicant: THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY [US/US]; One Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (US). (72) Inventors: OSBORN, Thomas, Ward, II; 400 Dearview Drive, West Chester, OH 45069 (US). JOHNSON, Bradley, Neil; 7468 Coachford Drive, West Chester, OH 45069 (US). (74) Agents: REED, T. David et al; The Procter & Gamble Company, 5299 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45217 (US).	(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GR, GM, GW, HU, ID, IL, IN, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (OH, OM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TO). Published With international search report.	
(54) Title: TOILET-DEVICE DISPOSABLE ABSORBENT INTERLABIAL (57) Abstract Absorbent devices, and more particularly toilet-disposable absorbent devices that are worn interlabially by female wearers for catamenial purposes, incontinence protection, or both, are disclosed. The absorbent interlabial device of the present invention comprises a central absorbent portion and preferably a pair of flexible extensions joined to the central absorbent portion. The main absorbent portion comprises an upper portion, and a lower portion opposed to the upper portion. In use, the upper portion is positioned furthest inward into the space between the wearer's labia majora. The pair of flexible extensions extends downwardly and laterally outward from the upper portion of the main absorbent portion, and preferably is capable of maintaining contact with the inside surfaces of the wearer's labia majora when the wearer's body goes through a range of motions, including squatting. Additionally, the flexible extensions are preferably capable of covering the fingertips of the wearer as the absorbent device is inserted into the interlabial space. The components of the absorbent device are preferably biodegradable. The device disperses into a plurality of fragments when exposed to mildly agitated room temperature water. The small size of the device contributes to its flushability. The dispersibility, flushability, and biodegradability of the device all contribute to the ability of the device to be effectively and reliably disposed of in a toilet.		

PCT

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
International Bureau

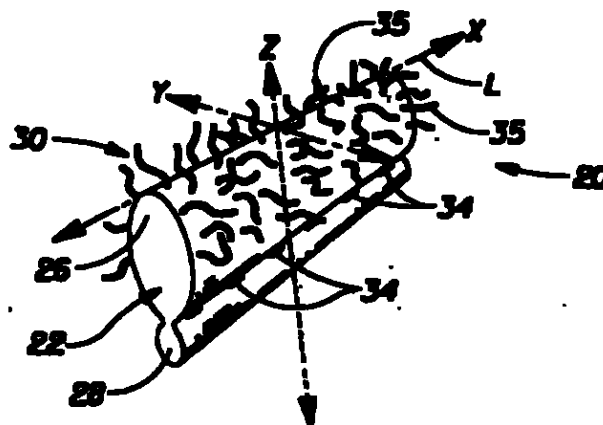
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6: A61F 13/15		A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 99/18905
			(43) International Publication Date: 22 April 1999 (22.04.99)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/21297		(51) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AT (Utility model), AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, CZ (Utility model), DE, DE (Utility model), DK, DK (Utility model), EE, EE (Utility model), ES, FI, FI (Utility model), GB, GB, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SK (Utility model), SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (OH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BI, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).	
(22) International Filing Date: 7 October 1998 (07.10.98)			
(30) Priority Date: 08/949,109 10 October 1997 (10.10.97) US			
(71) Applicant: THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY [US/US]; One Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (US).			
(72) Inventors: OSBORN, Thomas, Ward, III; 400 Desanview Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45224 (US). VISSCHER, Ronald, Brouwer; 829 Kingfisher Lane, Glendale, OH 45246 (US).			
(74) Agents: REED, T., David et al.; The Procter & Gamble Company, 5299 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45217-1087 (US).		Published With international search report.	

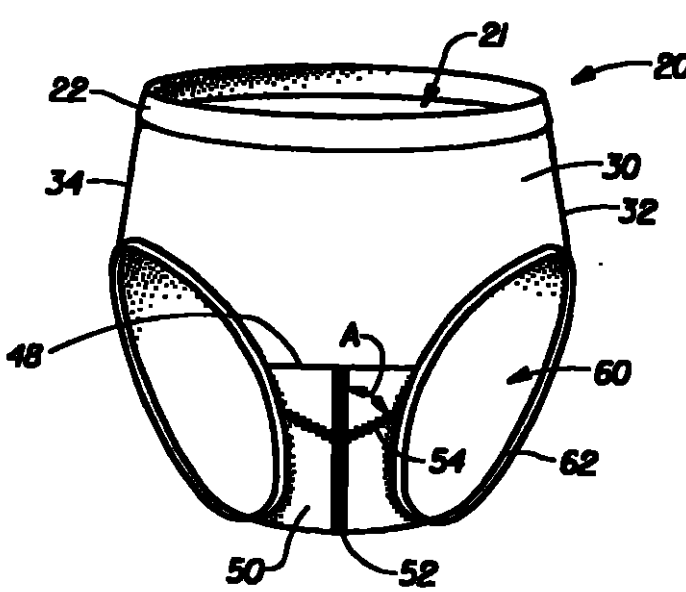
(54) Title: **ABSORBENT INTERLABIAL DEVICE COMPRISING A FLUID ACQUISITION/TRANSFER COMPLEX**

(57) Abstract

The present invention provides an absorbent device insertable into the interlabial space of a female wearer. The absorbent device comprises a main absorbent portion comprising an upper portion and a lower portion. The upper portion has a top surface facing toward the vestibule floor of the wearer during insertion into the interlabial space. The upper portion leads the lower portion during insertion of the absorbent device; i.e., the lower portion is spatially opposed to the upper portion, and upon insertion of the absorbent device into a wearer's interlabial space, the lower portion faces away from the vestibule floor of the wearer. Additionally, a fluid acquisition/transfer complex is positioned about and extends at least from the upper portion of the main absorbent portion. The fluid acquisition/transfer complex is configured to be in intimate contact with the folds and creases of the interlabial space of the female wearer. Furthermore, the fluid acquisition/transfer complex receives fluid from the folds and creases of a wearer's interlabial space and transfers fluid to the main absorbent portion.



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : A61F 13/15, 13/16	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 99/25289
		(43) International Publication Date: 27 May 1999 (27.05.99)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/23757 (22) International Filing Date: 9 November 1998 (09.11.98) (30) Priority Data: 60065,240 13 November 1997 (13.11.97) US 60065,294 13 November 1997 (13.11.97) US (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY [US/US]; One Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (US). (72) Inventors; and (73) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): CARSTENS, Jerry, Edward [US/US]; 7451 Wetherington Drive, West Chester, OH 43069 (US). REDWINE, Nona, Jane [US/US]; 881 Tradewind Drive, Mason, OH 45040 (US). SCHMITZ, Deborah, Catherine [US/US]; 8097 Timberline Way, West Chester, OH 43069 (US). (74) Agents: REED, T., David et al.; The Procter & Gamble Company, 5299 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45217-1087 (US).	(31) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AT (Utility model), AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, CZ (Utility model), DE, DE (Utility model), DK, DK (Utility model), EE, EE (Utility model), ES, FI, FI (Utility model), GB, GB (Utility model), GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SK (Utility model), SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.	
(54) Title: SYSTEM OF HIGHLY EFFICIENT ABSORBENT ARTICLE AND UNDERGARMENT FOR SUPPORTING THE SAME		
(57) Abstract A system of a highly efficient absorbent article and a supporting garment, such as an undergarment, for supporting the absorbent article in sustained close contact with a wearer's body is disclosed. The absorbent article is capable of maintaining contact with and covering at least a portion of the inside surfaces of the wearer's labia, at least a portion of the exterior surfaces of the wearer's labia, and at least a portion of the crotch region of the supporting garment. The supporting garment may fit the wearer's body so closely that it resembles a comfortable "second skin". The absorbent article is flexible under the body-contacting forces that are applied by the supporting garment so that it also conforms to the wearer's body. 		



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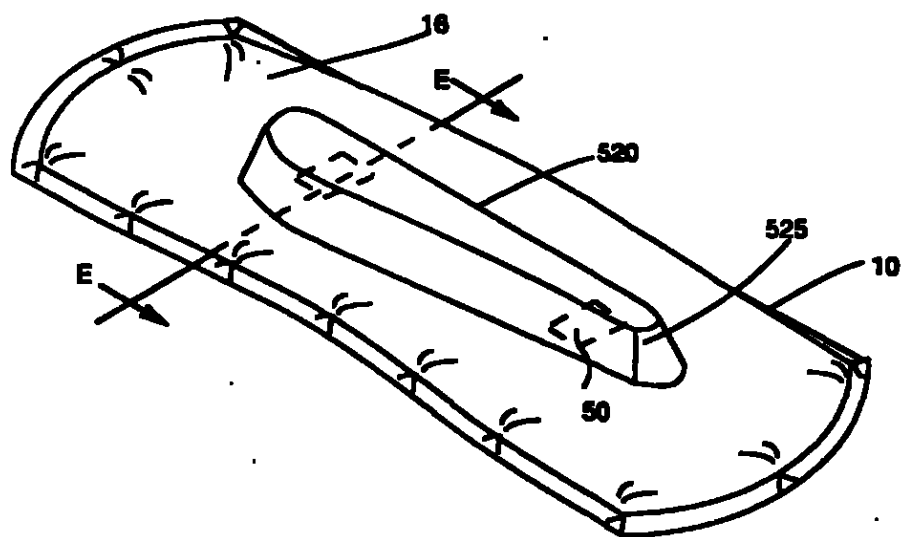
(72) DRAGNEA, RALUCA, CA

(71) DRAGNEA, RALUCA, CA

(51) Int.Cl.⁶ A61F 13/15

(34) SERVIETTE HYGIENIQUE INTERLABIALE EPOUSANT LA
FORME ANATOMIQUE

(34) ANATOMICALLY SHAPED INTERLABIAL PAD AND
SANITARY NAPKIN



(57) An absorbent hygiene article comprised of an absorbent sanitary pad and a soft absorbent anatomically conformable interlabial pad is disclosed. The interlabial pad intercepts and absorbs body fluids and conducts the excess fluid to a conventional sanitary pad.





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European Patent Office
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Publication number: **0 162 451 B1**

①

EUROPEAN PATENT SPECIFICATION

④ Date of publication of patent specification: 07.08.91 ⑥ Int. Cl. A61F 13/15

② Application number: 85108238.0

③ Date of filing: 21.05.85

⑤ Label sanitary pad.

⑧ Priority: 21.05.84 US 612506
27.08.84 US 654827
01.03.85 US 707336

⑨ Date of publication of application:
27.11.86 Bulletin 86/48

⑩ Publication of the grant of the patent:
07.08.91 Bulletin 91/32

⑪ Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH DE FR IT LI LU NL SE

⑫ References cited:
EP-A- 6 161 863 FR-A- 2 426 336
GB-A- 754 451 US-A- 2 902 527
US-A- 4 078 739 US-A- 4 327 644
US-A- 4 433 972

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EP 0 162 451 B1

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Publication number: **0 302 523 B1**

EUROPEAN PATENT SPECIFICATION

Date of publication of patent specification: 20.04.94 **Int. Cl.⁴ A61F 13/15**

Application number: 89112819.3

Date of filing: 05.08.89

A pad for absorption of human exudata.

Priority: 05.05.87 US 83883

Date of publication of application:
05.02.89 Bulletin 89/05

Publication of the grant of the patent:
20.04.94 Bulletin 94/15

Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH DE ES FR GB GR IT LI LU NL SE

References cited:

EP-A- 0 182 481	EP-A- 0 348 405
US-A- 2 084 431	US-A- 2 321 355
US-A- 2 408 588	US-A- 2 620 578
US-A- 2 955 102	US-A- 3 575 174
US-A- 3 814 181	US-A- 3 885 112
US-A- 4 122 334	US-A- 4 573 483

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EP 0 302 523 B1

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(10)



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Office européen des brevets



(11) EP 0 426 197 B1

(12) EUROPEAN PATENT SPECIFICATION

(45) Date of publication and mention
of the grant of the patent:
18.10.1997 Bulletin 1997/42

(51) Int. Cl.⁶: A61F 13/46

(21) Application number: 80121057.3

(22) Date of filing: 02.11.1980

(54) Absorbent products having flexible, hydrophilic wick means
Absorbierende Gegenstände mit flexiblen hydrophilen Dochtsinrichtungen
Produits absorbants comportant des dispositifs de mèches hydrophiles flexibles

(84) Designated Contracting States:
CH DE FR LI

(30) Priority: 02.11.1980 US 431089

(43) Date of publication of application:
06.05.1991 Bulletin 1991/19

(73) Proprietor: McNEIL-PPC, INC.
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(56) References cited:
EP-A- 0 381 880 FR-A- 2 804 789
GB-A- 2 023 687 US-A- 4 428 130

EP 0 426 197 B1

Note: Within nine months from the publication of the mention of the grant of the European patent, any person may give notice to the European Patent Office of opposition to the European patent granted. Notice of opposition shall be filed in a written reasoned statement. It shall not be deemed to have been filed until the opposition fee has been paid. (Art. 99(1) European Patent Convention).

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Publication number: **0 597 498 A1**

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

Application number: **83118398.1**

Int. Cl. A61F 13/18

Date of filing: **12.11.83**

Priority: **12.11.83 US 878162**

Date of publication of application:
18.05.84 Bulletin 8420

Designated Contracting States:
BE DE ES FR GB IT NL SE

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Intertabial sanitary pads.

An intertabial sanitary pad (10) is disclosed including a pickup module (20) containing an absorbent which is adapted to fit in or adjacent to a vaginal opening, a capacity module (30) containing an absorbent which is adapted to be positioned remote from the vaginal opening, and fluid-wicking fibers (22,32) serving as the absorbent and further communicating with both the pickup (20) and capacity (30) modules for carrying fluid from the pickup module (20) to the capacity module (30). The fluid-wicking fibers (22,32) are longitudinally oriented and packed in the capacity module (30) at a bulk density greater than in the pickup module (20). The pickup module (20) has a fluid-permeable cover (24), while the capacity module (30) has a fluid-impermeable batle (36) capable of containing fluid therein. The capacity module (30) can have a flattened fan shape and can contain superabsorbent (34).



EP 0 597 498 A1



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(11) EP 0 607 985 B2

(12) NEW EUROPEAN PATENT SPECIFICATION

(45) Date of publication and mention
of the opposition decision:
02.03.2001 Bulletin 2001/18

(51) Int. Cl.: A61F 13/15

(45) Mention of the grant of the patent:
27.05.1994 Bulletin 1994/22

(21) Application number: 94100862.8

(22) Date of filing: 21.01.1994

(54) Pre-bent anatomically shaped self-aligning sanitary napkin
Vorgebogene anatomisch geformte selbstausrichtende Damenbinde
Serviette hygiénique, précurbé, de forme anatomique, s'autoalignant

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH DE DK ES FR GB IE IT LI LU MC NL PT
SE

(30) Priority: 22.01.1993 US 8018

(43) Date of publication of application:
27.07.1994 Bulletin 1994/30

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(74) Representative:
Greening, Hans Wilhelm, Dipl.-Ing. et al
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(56) References cited:
EP-A- 0 335 253 EP-A- 0 408 403
WO-A-89/14814 FR-A- 2 433 937
US-A- 2 331 356 US-A- 2 662 537

EP 0 607 985 B2

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(11) **EP 0 680 739 B1**

(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT SPECIFICATION**

(45) Date of publication and mention
of the grant of the patent:
17.03.1999 Bulletin 1999/11

(51) Int. Cl.⁶: A61F 13/15

(21) Application number: 88106571.3

(22) Date of filing: 02.05.1988

(54) **Anatomically shaped sanitary napkin**
Anatomisch geformte Damenbinde
Serviette hygiénique de forme anatomique

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH DE DK ES FR GB GR IE IT LI LU MC NL
PT SE
Designated Extension States:
SI

(30) Priority: 03.05.1984 US 237873

(43) Date of publication of application:
08.11.1988 Bulletin 1988/45

(73) Proprietor: McNEIL-PPC, INC.
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(56) References cited:
EP-A- 0 238 083 EP-A- 0 354 188
EP-A- 0 525 778 GB-A- 2 170 108

EP 0 680 739 B1

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(19)  **Europäisches Patentamt**
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets



(11) **EP 1 072 244 A2**

(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(43) Date of publication: 31.01.2001 Bulletin 2001/05 (51) Int. Cl.⁷: A61F 13/538, A61F 13/539
(21) Application number: 00115482.2
(22) Date of filing: 18.07.2000

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU
MC NL PT SE
Designated Extension States:
AL LT LV MK NO SI
(30) Priority: 18.07.1999 US 358947
(71) Applicant: McNEIL-PPC, INC.
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(54) **Absorbent article comprising flocked fibers**

(57) An absorbent article is provided comprising flocked fibers adhered to one or more internal surfaces of an absorbent article comprising a cover, an absorbent core, and a backsheet, such as the internal surface of the cover, either surface of the absorbent core, or the internal surface of the backsheet.

EP 1 072 244 A2

(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(43) Date of publication:
09.08.2001 Bulletin 2001/19

(51) Int. Cl.: A61F 13/15

(21) Application number: 00124182.0

(22) Date of filing: 07.11.2000

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU
MC NL PT SE TR
Designated Extension States:
AL LT LV MK RO SI

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(30) Priority: 08.11.1999 US 436397

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(74) Representative:
Greening, Hans Wilhelm, Dipl.-Ing.
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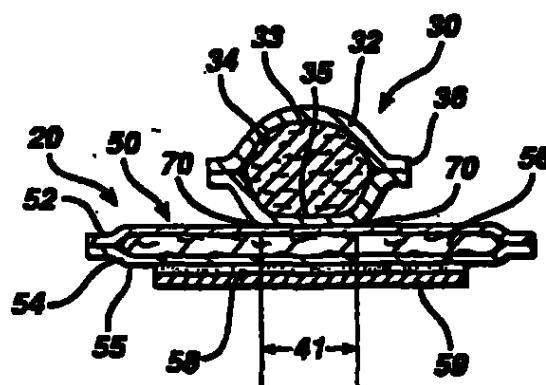
(72) Inventors:
• Glasgow, Tara
New Hope, PA 18938 (US)

(54) **Compound sanitary napkin**

(57) A compound sanitary napkin including a primary absorbent member (30) and a secondary absorbent member (50). The primary absorbent member includes an absorbent core (34) and a liquid pervious topsheet (32) superposed on the absorbent core and a flexible backsheet (35) under the absorbent core, the topsheet and the backsheet being affixed together to enclose the

absorbent core around an outer periphery to form a flange seal. The secondary absorbent member includes a liquid pervious topsheet (52), a liquid impervious barrier sheet (54) joined to the topsheet and an absorbent element (56) positioned between the topsheet and the barrier sheet. The primary absorbent member and the secondary absorbent member are joined together to form a unitary structure.

FIG. 3b



BREVET D'INVENTION.

XVI. — Habillement.

1. — MACHAIRE, SARTRE, LINERIE, FLEURS ET FLEURS, CORSETS, LINGERIE.

N° 595.971

*translation (RWS)
attached.*

Tampon préservateur tenant lieu de bande menstruelle.

M^{me} PIERRE SCHNEIDER résident en Allemagne.Demandé le 31 mars 1925, à 14^h 58^m, à Paris.

Délivré le 31 juillet 1925. — Publié le 13 octobre 1925.

L'objet de la présente invention est un tampon applicable lors du flux menstruel et obviant aux principaux inconvénients de celui-ci.

On sait que, pour capter le sang menstruel et pour l'empêcher de souiller le linge ou les vêtements, on a recours aux bandes périodiques, que les dames maintiennent au moyen d'une ceinture de forme appropriée, adjointe d'une bande d'entre-deux qui est absorbante et peut-être même changée.

Or, elles sont fréquemment incommodées par le port de cette ceinture et de sa bande intérieure, car le frottement excessif ne peut être évité, et il provoque même de l'inflammation à la peau. Ainsi, la bande intérieure est déjà contrariante à cause de sa dimension, qui donne lieu à une souillure de toutes les parties de la peau arrivant en contact avec elle aussitôt qu'un flux de sang particulièrement abondant a percé toute la bande d'entre-deux et toute la bande extérieure.

C'est à ces inconvénients que la présente innovation vient porter remède, et cela, essentiellement, du fait de rendre superflue la ceinture enveloppante, grâce aux petites dimensions du tampon, car elles ne dépassent pas celles des lèvres de la vulve.

Afin d'assurer une adhérence parfaite du tampon intérieur, on le conforme en section aplatie, à peu près triangulaire ou ronde.

Le dessin annexé à la présente demande montre à titre d'exemple une forme de réalisation de l'invention :

La fig. 1 est une coupe par le tampon, la fig. 2 en est une vue en perspective et la fig. 3 montre une application pratique.

Le tampon à introduire, désigné par 2, est une espèce de torade, à section à peu près triangulaire, obtenue par l'enroulage ou le pressage de bandes soit en gaze, soit en tulle, mousseline ou autre tissu analogue, ou bien encore, en cellulose, ouate cellulosique, ouate de coton ou toute autre matière d'un grand pouvoir absorbant, torade enrobée ou non dans une enveloppe de ce tissu, de façon à prendre une forme aplatie, soit triangulaire, soit ronde, son épaisseur étant de 1 à 3 centimètres pour une longueur de 5 à 10 centimètres, avec bord pouvant être uni ou bien se rétrécissant.

C'est ce tampon que l'on introduit entre les lèvres de la vulve à où, grâce à sa conformation, il demeure en place sans que l'on doive recourir à une mesure quelconque; et c'est ce qui rend superflue l'emploi d'une ceinture ou de bandes de retenue, sans empêcher toutefois de passer à employer ces accessoires quand la personne ne tient pas à quitter brusquement ses habitudes et qu'il est préférable de faciliter son passage de l'ancienne à la nouvelle méthode.

Prix du fascicule : 2 francs.

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214

(12) UK Patent Application (10) GB (11) 2 227 666 A
(43) Date of A publication 06.09.1999

(21) Application No 8894514.7

(22) Date of filing 18.10.1988

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(51) INT CL⁸
A61F 13/00

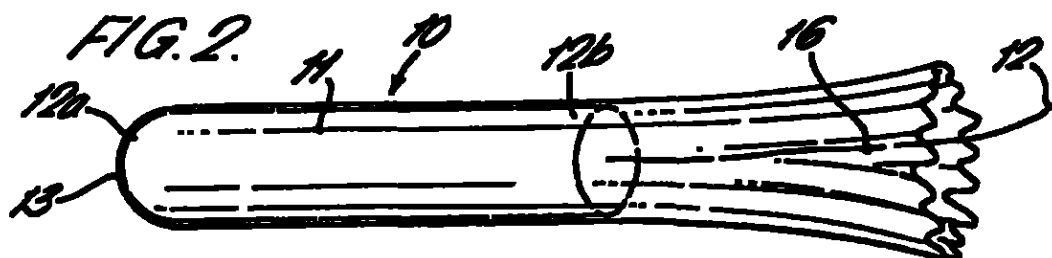
(52) UK CL (Edition I)
A61F RPT

(56) Documents cited
GB 8895002 A US 4027673 A US 3846737 A
US 3874038 A

(58) Field of search
UK CL (Edition J) A61F RPT
INT CL⁸ A61F

(84) Improvements in digital tampons

(57) The present invention relates to a tampon comprising a body (11) of compressed absorbent material and a skin (16) fixed to and extending from one end of the tampon to form a finger cover.



At least one drawing originally filed was informal and the print reproduced here is taken from a later filed formal copy.

GB 2 227 666 A

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(12) UK Patent Application (10) GB (11) 2 238 286 A
(43) Date of A publication 22.05.1991

(21) Application No 8999138.2	(51) INT CL ⁴ B65D 85/00
(22) Date of filing 18.11.1989	(52) UK CL (Edition I) B6C CPA C101 U18 81120
(71) Applicant Avi Joshua Levin 52 Park Avenue South, London, N8 6LT, United Kingdom	(53) Documents cited EP 0313009 A US 4573400 A US 3489104 A
(72) Inventor Avi Joshua Levin	(54) Field of search UK CL (Edition J) A48, B6C CPA CWA1 CW28 INT CL ⁴ A48C, B65D Online data bases: W.P.I.
(74) Agent under Address for Service Michael John Ajello 38a Bramhall Lane South, Bramhall, Stockport, Cheshire SK7 1AH, United Kingdom	

(54) A disposable pack of items for changing infants' nappies

(57) A disposable pack of items for changing infants' nappies comprising an outer flat envelope (10) perforated along one edge and containing a folded changing mat (12) a first sachet (13) of moist impregnated wipes (14) which are easily removed one handed, a second sachet (15) containing a protected cream or lotion, and a disposal bag (16) in which the envelope and the other items of the pack together with any soiled items may be enclosed after use and the bag closed by tie handles (20).

GB 2 238 286 A

PCT

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
International Bureau

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : A61F 13/15	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 96/16626 (43) International Publication Date: 6 June 1996 (06.06.96)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US95/15359 (22) International Filing Date: 24 November 1995 (24.11.95) (30) Priority Data: 08/344,591 23 November 1994 (23.11.94) US 08/380,830 30 January 1995 (30.01.95) US (71) Applicant: ATHENA MEDICAL CORPORATION (US/US); 10170 S.W. Nimbus Avenue, Portland, OR 97223 (US). (72) Inventors: GERSTENBERGER, Roland, W.; 111 Cloverleaf Lane, Asheville, NC 28803 (US); BUCK, Robert, L.; 1325 Hemlock Street, Lake Oswego, OR 97034 (US). (74) Agents: SCHNEIDER, Steven, C. et al.; Carter & Schneider, P.A., Suite 103, 56 Central Avenue, P.O. Box 2985, Asheville, NC 28802 (US).	(53) Designated States: AM, AT, AU, BR, BG, BE, BY, CA, CH, CN, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GR, HU, IS, JP, KR, KZ, KP, KR, KZ, LK, LR, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BI, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG), ARIPO patent (KE, LR, MW, SD, SZ, UG). Published With international search report Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.	
(54) Title: BIODEGRADABLE ABSORBENT PADS AND METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MAKING (57) Abstract A biodegradable feminine hygienic insertable pad (12) which includes a biodegradable inner absorbent liner (13) made of cotton or rayon and a biodegradable outer cover (15, 34) also made of cotton or rayon. The edges (78, 80) of the outer cover (15, 34) are sewn together to form a hollow cylinder. Also disclosed are a method and an apparatus for manufacturing the pads (12). A rope (16) of absorbent material and a web of the outer covering (34) are brought together in a die (26). The die (26) is in the form of a hollow tube (50) and a tapered guide (36) which causes the outer covering to enclose the absorbent material (16) with the seams for the outer covering (34) being on the inside of the pad (12). The die (26) includes an opening (66, 76) for exposing the adjacent edges of the web (34) so that the edges (78, 80) may be sewn together. Also adjacent panels (86, 88) are formed by sewing the pad (12) itself.		

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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
International Bureau

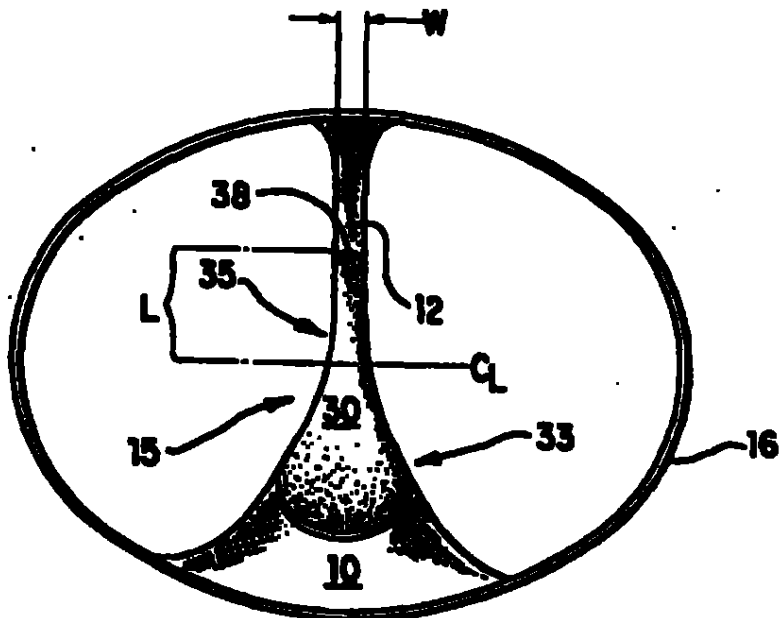
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification: A61F 13/15, 13/20		AI	(11) International Publication Number: WO 97/39713
			(43) International Publication Date: 30 October 1997 (30.10.97)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US97/08826		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GR, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ARIPO patent (OH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG), European patent (AM, AZ, BY, EG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).	
(22) International Filing Date: 21 April 1997 (21.04.97)			
(30) Priority Date: 08/636,001 22 April 1996 (22.04.96) US			
(60) Parent Application or Grant (63) Related by Continuation US 08/636,001 (CIP) Filed on 22 April 1996 (22.04.96)		Published With international search report.	
(71)(72) Applicant and inventor: DARBY, Kenneth, J. (US/US); 10275 Seagrape Way, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418 (US).			
(74) Agents: HANDELMAN, Joseph, H.; Ladas & Parry, 26 West 61st Street, New York, NY 10023 (US) et al.			

(54) Title: FEMININE PAD SHAPED FOR USE WITH A THONG GARMENT

(57) Abstract

A feminine sanitary pad (30) shaped to fit the contours of a thong style garment (10) from the front of the wearer of that garment to beyond the crotch of the wearer. The pad is generally "V" shaped, so that the vertex (38) of the "V" can be positioned below and externally of the vagina of the wearer. The lower end portion (35) of the pad is uniform in width along the greater portion of its length.



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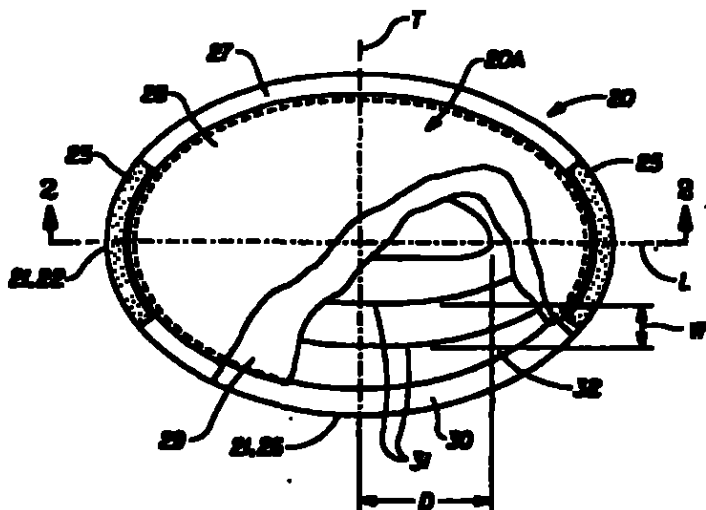
WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
International Bureau

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : A61F 13/15		A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 98/00085
			(43) International Publication Date: 8 January 1998 (08.01.98)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US97/10607		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GR, HU, IL, IS, JP, KR, KZ, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LI, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Brazilian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LI, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TO).	
(22) International Filing Date: 13 June 1997 (13.06.97)			
(30) Priority Date: 08/675,138 3 July 1996 (03.07.96) US			
(71) Applicant: THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY (US/US); One Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (US).			
(72) Inventors: HAMMONS, John, Lee; 7379 Dent Commander Court, Hamilton, OH 45011 (US); DYER, John, Collins; 3760 Sherbrooke Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45241 (US).			
(74) Agents: REED, T., David et al.; The Procter & Gamble Company, 5299 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45217 (US).		Published With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.	
(54) Title: ABSORBENT ARTICLE WITH FOAM ABSORBENT STRUCTURE PROVIDING IMPROVED MENSTRUAL ACQUISITION AND FIT			
(57) Abstract Absorbent articles such as sanitary napkins, panty liners, adult incontinence devices, and the like are disclosed. The absorbent articles described herein comprise a foam absorbent structure comprising a hydrophilic, flexible, nonwoven polymeric foam structure of interconnected open cells which is particularly suitable for absorbing blood and blood-based liquids. The foam structure is multilayered compressible and has resistance to compression deflection of from about 5% to about 85% when measured under a confining pressure of 0.74 psi at 31 °C after 15 minutes. In preferred embodiments, the foam structure is compressible under such forces that when it is placed in the space between the wearer's labia majora, it will be compressed without deforming the wearer's labia majora, and will be molded by the wearer's labia and conform to the shape thereof. The absorbent structure may comprise an acquisition/fit portion and a storage portion wherein the acquisition/fit portion has softer mechanical properties than the storage portion, and is a capillary gradient in the direction of the storage portion.			

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(54) TITLE: WATER DISPERSIBLE AND FLUSHABLE INTERLABIAL ABSORBENT STRUCTURE



(57) Abstract

A suitable and dispersible interlaminar absorbent structure is described. The absorbent structure comprises a liquid pervious topsheet which preferably comprises a wet laid, sprayed fibrous web having a temporary wet strength resin incorporated therein, the topsheet also having a body surface provided with a plurality of fibrils, the fibrils comprising a water swellable resilient material, a backsheet impervious to bodily fluids which preferably comprises a wet laid fibrous assembly having a temporary wet strength resin incorporated therein, the body surface of the backsheet being coated with a water swellable resilient material, an absorbent core positioned between the topsheet and the backsheet, and means for removably attaching the interlaminar absorbent structure to a wearer's undergarment. The topsheet and the backsheet are joined, at least about their periphery, using a water soluble adhesive. Alternative embodiments of the present invention can also comprise more conventional materials.

PATENT SPECIFICATION

DRAWINGS ATTACHED

855,537

Date of Application and filing Complete Specification: July 8, 1939.

No. 23473/39.

Complete Specification Published: Dec. 7, 1960.



Index at Acceptance:—Class 81(7), E1M.

International Classification:—A61L.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

Improvements in or relating to Sanitary Tampons

I, ROBERT RYAN, of Bergstrasse, Pinner, Austria, a citizen of Austria, do hereby declare the invention, for which I pray that a patent may be granted to me, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to a sanitary tampon of that known type which is intended to be gripped between the labia majora and consists of a spirally wound strip of absorbent material such as wadding. In these tampons the several turns of the package must lie firmly one on the other in order to avoid fraying and to retain shape. This has the disadvantage, however, that the absorption capacity is much reduced and the secretion can penetrate only the outer layers of the package so that only a small amount of secretion can be absorbed. For this reason the interior of these tampons is not fully utilized.

The invention provides a tampon of this type in which the absorption capacity, for a given size of tampon, is increased by an increase in its surface area.

This is achieved according to the invention in that the strip is provided with through holes extending at least approximately at right angles to the axis of the tampon and/or with short cuts extending through the tampon and disposed in rows in planes passing through the axis of the tampon. In addition to the increase in surface area, the loosening of the tightly rolled strip at the cuts and holes acts also to provide an increase in absorption capacity.

In sanitary towels which are suspended by a girdle it is known to provide an outer layer, consisting of flamed rubber and intended to contact the genital part, with holes in order to facilitate the penetration of the secretion into the interior of the towel, which is filled with cellulose wadding, and to increase the absorption capacity.

In tampons according to the invention, which are worn without fastening means and are only gripped, such holes and cuts are new and have

the special advantage that they not only increase the absorption capacity of the tampon but also contribute to the firm holding thereof because the mucous membranes of the labia penetrate the holes and cuts so that slipping is safely prevented.

Some illustrative embodiments of such tampons will be explained more fully hereinafter with reference to the accompanying drawing, in which Figs. 1 to 3 show three different tampons according to the invention.

Fig. 1 shows a tampon 1 consisting of a rolled-up strip of wadding wrapped in a net-like gauze. This tampon is provided with through holes 2 extending at right angles to the axis of the tampon, and disposed in rows in planes passing through the axis, to increase the area of the absorbent surface and to improve the hold on the body. The strip of wadding may be wound on a core, e.g., of cellulose wadding.

Fig. 2 shows a tampon which is contained in an enclosing net-like gauze 4 and which has a multiplicity of longitudinally extending cuts 5, arranged in similar manner to the holes 2 and serving the same purpose as the holes 2.

Fig. 3 shows a tampon which consists of a spirally wound strip of wadding compressed so as to be of oval sectional area, which is wrapped in a net-like gauze and in the surface of which several rows of short cuts 7 alternating with holes 6 are provided on opposite faces. The holes 6 and cuts are similarly arranged to the holes 2 and cuts 5 and serve the same purpose.

WHAT I CLAIM IS:—

1. A sanitary tampon which is intended to be gripped between the labia majora without fastening means, characterized in that it consists of a spirally wound strip of absorbent material, which strip is provided with through holes extending at least approximately at right angles to the axis of the tampon and/or with short cuts extending through the tampon and disposed in rows in planes passing through the axis of the tampon.

[Price 2s. 6d.]

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(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(43) Date of publication: 15.11.2000 Bulletin 2000/46
(51) Int. Cl.⁷: A61F 13/15
(21) Application number: 00100004.5
(22) Date of filing: 09.05.2000

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU
MC NL PT SE
Designated Extension States:
AL LT LV MK RO SI
(30) Priority: 12.05.1999 US 310296
(71) Applicant: McNEIL-PPC, INC.
Skillman, NJ 08558 (US)

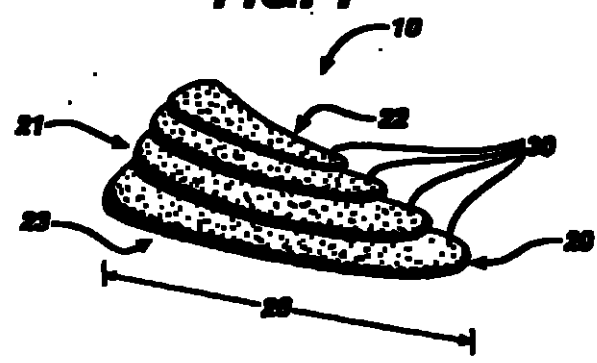
(72) Inventors:
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PA 19058 (US)
(74) Representative:
Greening, Hans Wilhelm, Dipl.-Ing.
BOEHMERT & BOEHMERT
Frank-Joseph-Strasse 38
80801 München (DE)

(54) **Absorbent interlabial article**

(57) The present invention relates to an absorbent article designed and configured to fit between the labia. The article employs a plurality of stacked, flexible elements (30) and provides improved fit and article retention, improved collection of bodily fluids and solids typically left unabsorbed by conventional interlabial

products, ability to deliver various additives such as medicaments to the tissue surrounding the labia, and an adjustable placement depth to meet consumers' varying physical and psychological needs.

FIG. 1



EP 1 051 956 A1

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**SUPERINTENDENCIA DE INDUSTRIA Y COMERCIO
DIVISIÓN DE NUEVAS CREACIONES**

2020

Bogotá, D. C., 11 de Mayo de 2007

Doctor

JUAN PABLO CADENA SARMIENTO

Representante **KIMBERLY – CLARK WORLDWIDE, INC**

ASUNTO

Radicación No. **03-106997**
Trámite **002**
Evento **001**
Actuación **430**
Oficio **000-6118**
Folios **037**

Como resultado del examen de fondo, realizado con fundamento en el artículo 45 de la Decisión 486 de la Comisión de la Comunidad Andina, se le comunica

1) Documentos estudiados:

- a) Para el presente estudio se tendrán en cuenta el capítulo descriptivo, comprendido en los folios 29 a 72 de la solicitud en estudio.
- b) Para el presente estudio se tendrán en cuenta los dibujos comprendidos en los folios 17 a 26 de la solicitud en estudio.
- c) Para el presente estudio se tendrá en cuenta el capítulo reivindicatorio que comprende 24 reivindicaciones en los folios 73 a 77 de la solicitud en estudio.
- D) Conforme lo establece los artículos 9, 10 y 11 de la Decisión 486 de la Comisión de la Comunidad Andina, la presente solicitud en estudio fue presentada el 4 de diciembre de 2003, y en el momento de la radicación se presentó como solicitud PCT FASE NACIONAL y donde SI se reclamó prioridad de las primeras solicitudes presentadas en Estados Unidos US60/297001, US60/315255, US60/315256, US10/036635 y US10/036990

2) Objeto de la Invención

- a) Las reivindicaciones 1 a 24 de la solicitud en estudio se refieren a:
 - I) (1.) Un artículo absorbente que comprende absorbente, el artículo absorbente está configurado para estar colocado dentro del vestíbulo de una usuaria hembra, el absorbente tiene una geometría esencialmente circular y una periferia, el absorbente tiene por lo menos una muesca situada en su periferia.

- ii) (11.-) El artículo absorbente configurado para colocarse dentro del vestíbulo de una usuaria hembra, el artículo absorbente comprende un absorbente, el absorbente tiene un eje longitudinal principal, un eje transversal principal, los lados longitudinales espaciados y separados primero y segundo, las áreas de extremo transversales espaciadas y separadas primera y segunda, los lados longitudinales junto con las áreas de extremo transversales generalmente formando la periferia del absorbente, y por lo menos una muesca situada en la periferia del absorbente.
- b) Los anteriores productos buscan mejorar artículos absorbentes desechables.
- c) Según la Clasificación Internacional de Patentes, la codificación para esta solicitud corresponde a: A 61 F 13/472

3) Claridad de la Solicitud

- a) El artículo 28 de la Decisión 486 de la Comisión de la Comunidad Andina de Naciones establece

"La descripción deberá divulgar la invención de manera suficientemente clara y completa para su comprensión y para que una persona capacitada en la materia técnica correspondiente pueda ejecutarla"

La descripción no es clara toda vez que el solicitante no puede emplear nombres comerciales dentro del texto, como por ejemplo KOTEX®. Los dibujos tampoco se encuentran correctamente relacionados. Estas objeciones y otras adicionales fueron planteadas en los exámenes de la fase internacional PCT. El solicitante deberá corregir todos estos defectos.

- b) El artículo 30 de la Decisión 486 de la Comisión de la Comunidad Andina establece que

"Las reivindicaciones definirán la materia que se desea proteger mediante la patente. Deben ser claras y concisas y estar enteramente sustentadas por la descripción. Las reivindicaciones podrán ser independientes o dependientes. Una reivindicación será independiente cuando defina la materia que se desea proteger sin referencia a otra reivindicación anterior. Una reivindicación será dependiente cuando defina la materia que se desea proteger refiriéndose a una reivindicación anterior. Una reivindicación será dependiente cuando defina la materia que se desea proteger refiriéndose a una reivindicación anterior.- Una reivindicación que se refiera a dos o más reivindicaciones anteriores se considerará reivindicación dependiente múltiple."

El capítulo reivindicatorio no es claro toda vez que:

- i) El solicitante deberá atender todos los requerimientos hechos en la fase internacional, toda vez que en la solicitud no han sido corregidos.

- ii) No se encuentra correctamente redactado. Por su estructura todas las reivindicaciones deben constar de dos partes. Una primera parte, el preámbulo, sirve para situar el objeto de la invención dentro de un contexto técnico, es lo que se conoce y sobre lo que no se reclama ningún privilegio. La segunda parte, o parte característica, define lo que se considera novedoso y se desea proteger. Estas dos partes están separadas por expresiones como 'caracterizado por' o similares. Debe corregirse todo el capítulo en especial la reivindicación independiente.
- iii) No se aceptan frases ambiguas como "dimensiones suficientes", "alrededor" o similares. Las reivindicaciones deben ser claras y concisas.
- iv) No se precisa la materia sobre la cual se solicita protección. Cómo se explicará en el punto 4), la presente solicitud no posee unidad de invención, por lo que no está definida la materia sobre la cual se solicita protección.

De acuerdo a lo anterior, el capítulo reivindicatorio no cumple con el requisito de claridad de acuerdo a lo establecido en el Art. 30 de la Decisión 486.

4) Evaluación de la Unidad de Invención

El artículo 25 de la Decisión 486 de la Comisión de la Comunidad Andina establece

"La solicitud de patente sólo podrá comprender una invención o un grupo de invenciones relacionadas entre sí, de manera que conformen un único concepto inventivo"

La presente solicitud carece de unidad de invención toda vez que configura DOS diferentes objetos. La definición de la materia que caracteriza a cada una de las reivindicaciones independientes es muy diferente entre sí. Esto permite afirmar que no se trata del mismo producto. Todo el problema radica en configurar varias reivindicaciones independientes con materia diferente. El solicitante debe establecer una sola reivindicación independiente dirigida al producto en la forma más simple de la solicitud de invención. Partiendo de allí establecer reivindicaciones dependientes que amplíen esa forma más simple hasta su forma más compleja.

De acuerdo a lo anterior, la presente solicitud no cumple con el requisito de unidad de invención de acuerdo al Art. 25 de la Decisión 486. De continuar con el impedimento, esta oficina procederá a estudiar solo el primer grupo de invenciones que conformen un único concepto inventivo.

5) Determinación del Estado de la Técnica y Evaluación de los requisitos de patentabilidad

Cuando el solicitante haya corregido el capítulo reivindicatorio y lo haya orientado de forma tal que sea claro lo que quiere le sea protegido, en ese momento esta oficina podrá elaborar una determinación correcta del estado de la técnica y una evaluación correcta de los requisitos de patentabilidad

Sin embargo, y de acuerdo a lo informado por las oficinas de examen de la solicitud en su fase internacional, esta solicitud carece de los requisitos necesarios para que se le conceda el privilegio solicitado. Además, consultadas las bases de datos y los archivos con que cuenta la entidad, especialmente bajo las clasificaciones A 61 F 13/15 y las más cercanas a ellas, se encontró que antes del 8 de junio de 2001 (fecha para determinar el estado de la técnica) habían sido publicados los documentos que se enumeran en la siguiente tabla los cuales se relacionan con artículos absorbentes con muescas.

Nº	Documento	Fecha de Publicación
D1	WO 98 57608	1998.12.23
D2	WO 98 57609	1998.12.23
D3	WO 98 57610	1998.12.23
D4	WO 98 29075	1998.07.09
D5	WO 98 29077	1998.07.09
D6	WO 98 29078	1998.07.09
D7	US 6 045 544	2000.04.04
D8	US 5 738 212	1998.04.14
D9	US 5 336 208	1994.08.09
D10	US 3 983 873	1976.10.05
D11	WO 98 55158	1998.12.10
D12	WO 99 00083	1999.01.07
D13	WO 99 18905	1999.04.22
D14	WO 99 25289	1999.05.27
D15	CA 2 277 728	1999.11.24
D16	EP 0 162 451	1985.11.27
D17	EP 0 302 523	1989.02.08
D18	EP 0 426 197	1991.05.08
D19	EP 0 597 498	1994.05.18
D20	EP 0 607 985	1994.07.27
D21	EP 0 680 739	1995.11.08
D22	EP 1 072 244	2001.01.31
D23	EP 1 097 683	2001.05.09
D24	FR 595 971	1925.10.13
D25	GB 2 227 666	1990.08.08
D26	GB 2 238 286	1991.05.29
D27	WO 96 16626	1996.06.06
D28	WO 97 39713	1997.12.30
D29	WO 98 00085	1998.01.08
D30	WO 98 08475	1998.03.05
D31	GB 855357	1960.12.07
D32	EP 1 051 956	2000.11.15

Al hacer un primer análisis, existen cientos de documentos que relacionan de forma directa o indirecta lo esbozado en la presente solicitud. Como se dijo, solo se podrá efectuar un correcto análisis cuando el solicitante haya corregido la solicitud. Sin embargo, de los cientos de documentos mencionados se hacen referencia a los anteriores que corresponderían al arte más cercano, por lo que la presente solicitud carecería de los requisitos de patentabilidad para que se le conceda el privilegio solicitado.

En conclusión los requisitos de patentabilidad de la presente solicitud se podrían ver afectados así:

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Nº	Documento	Reivindicaciones afectadas	Requisito que afecta
D1	WO 98 57608	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D2	WO 98 57609	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D3	WO 98 57610	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D4	WO 98 29075	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D5	WO 98 29077	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D6	WO 98 29078	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D7	US 6 045 544	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D8	US 5 738 212	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D9	US 5 338 208	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D10	US 3 983 873	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D11	WO 98 55158	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D12	WO 99 00083	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D13	WO 99 18905	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D14	WO 99 25289	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D15	CA 2 277 728	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D16	EP 0 162 451	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D17	EP 0 302 523	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D18	EP 0 426 197	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D19	EP 0 597 498	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D20	EP 0 607 985	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D21	EP 0 680 739	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D22	EP 1 072 244	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D23	EP 1 097 683	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D24	FR 595 971	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D25	GB 2 227 666	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D26	GB 2 238 286	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D27	WO 96 16626	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D28	WO 97 39713	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D29	WO 98 00085	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D30	WO 98 08475	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D31	GB 855357	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo
D32	EP 1 051 956	1 - 24	Novedad
			Nivel inventivo

6) Notificación

En cumplimiento del artículo 45 de la Decisión 486 de la Comisión de la Comunidad Andina, se le indica que dentro del término de sesenta días contados a partir de la fecha de la notificación de la presente comunicación debe responder a la notificación. En caso de no dar respuesta al presente requerimiento, o si a pesar de la respuesta subsistieran los impedimentos para la concesión, se denegará la patente.

Notifíquese el presente oficio conforme a lo dispuesto por el numeral 5.2, literal e) del capítulo quinto del título primero de la Circular Única N° 10 de 2001


ALIX CARMENZA CÉSPEDES DE VERGEL
Jefe División de Nuevas Creaciones

El anterior requerimiento fue notificado por fijación en la lista, de fecha

18 MAYO 2007

Concepto Técnico N°	EXAMINADOR TÉCNICO Código No.	EXAMINADOR JURÍDICO Código No.
726	202003	