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(54) Title: TUFTED COVERING FOR FLOORS AND/OR WALLS

(57) Abstract: A floor covering includes a primary backing having yarns tufted through the primary backing forming wear surface portions comprised of the back stitches of the tufted yarns in conjunction with non-tufted areas of the primary backing, also forming exposed wear surfaces. Both exposed wear surfaces portions form an aesthetic design pattern whereby a low, dense broadloom or modular carpet is provided at reduced materials and costs. Preferably, the primary backing is comprised of a woven polypropylene and a secondary backing is provided with the cut or loop yarns on the back side of the primary backing being fixed in place by a resin. A secondary backing formed of a composition of EVA, calcium carbonate and resin, overlaid by a woven scrim, is provided. The secondary backing may be formed of a needle-bonded synthetic fiber. Additionally, the primary backing may be formed of a non-woven material such as nylon and polyester.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : B32B 3/02, 33/00
 US CL : 428/ 94-96; 442/164, 170-171, 173-174, 188, 224-226, 239-240, 242, 251
 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
 U.S. : Please See Continuation Sheet

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
 EAST

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 4,064,816 A (SPANEL et al) 27 December 1977 (27.12.1977), See Entire Document	20
Y	JP 01-227715 A (GOKUJYO SHIKIMONO) 08 March 1988 (08.03.1988), Abstract.	20
A	WO 9838374 A2 (THE DOW CHEMICAL COMPANY) 03 September 1988 (03.09.1988), See Entire Document.	1-20
X	US 5,612,113 A (IRWIN, Sr.) 18 March 1997 (18.03.1997), Claim 1, Abstract, Column 3, lines 4-10.	1
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Y	Column 2, lines 10-15, lines 57-69. Column 1, lines 10-15. Column 3, lines 10-20. Column 4, lines 30-3. Abstract.	2,3,5-8,13,14,18,19

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"T"
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
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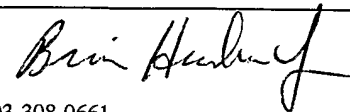
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C. (Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X --- Y	US 4,988,551 A (ZEGLER) 29 January 1991 (29.01.1991), Column 4, lines 7-15. Column 4, lines 63-69. Column 4, lines 10-15, lines, 20-30 and lines 52-69. Abstract	1,13 ----- 5-9,15,18,19
X --- Y	US 3,895,149 A (SHEFFLER et al) 15 July 1975 (15.07.1975), Column 2, lines 6-19. Column 1, lines 15-20. Abstract.	1,15 ----- 18,19
Y	US 4,411,666 A (HASHIZUME et al) 25 October 1983 (25.10.1983), Column 1, lines 59-69 and Column 3, lines 28-32.	2,10
Y	US 6,162,748 A (SCHILLING et al) 19 December 2000 (19.12.2000), Abstract. Column 1, lines 15-24. Column 3, lines 22-30 and Column 3, lines 62-69.	1,3,8,9,18,19
X,P --- Y,P	US 6,344,254 B1 (SMITH et al) 05 February 2002 (05.02.2002), Abstract and Figure 1. Abstract Column 8, lines 40-45,54-50. Column 10, lines 54-69 Column 11, lines 4-17. Column 15, lines 30-45.	1,3 ----- 2,5-8,10-15,18-20