(54) Title: IMPROVED SEWING METHOD TO INCREASE SEAM STRENGTH

(57) Abstract: An improved garment seam with bonded fabric surfaces caused by the melting of at least one low-melt sewing thread that is used in conjunction with conventional high-melt sewing threads to construct the seam. The melted low-melt sewing thread acts like an adhesive to bond together the folds of fabric making up the seam. A sufficient amount of heat, and if necessary pressure, is applied to the seam which causes the low-melt thread to flow into the fabric interstices thereby creating a seam and permanently bonding the first and second garment components together along the seam to produce a stronger seam that is possible using stitches comprised of conventional high-melt sewing thread alone.
ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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US CL. : 112/475.08-475.26, 2/69

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimal documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 112/475.08-475.26, 2/69

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)

heat or melt; high with melt; seam; melt

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELevANT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>US 5,003,502 A (BENSTOCK ET AL.) 02 April 1991, see entire document.</td>
<td>1-13</td>
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10 August 2005 (10.08.2005)

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