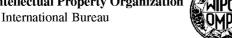
(19) World Intellectual Property Organization





(43) International Publication Date 8 September 2006 (08.09.2006) CT (10) International Publication Number WO 2006/093615 A3

(51) International Patent Classification: *G02B 1/04* (2006.01) *D01F 8/14* (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2006/003741

(22) International Filing Date: 3 February 2006 (03.02.2006)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:

11/068,158 28 February 2005 (28.02.2005) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): 3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY [US/US]; 3M Center, Post Office Box 33427, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (US).

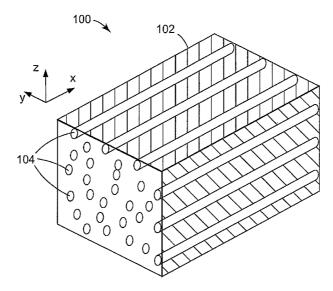
(72) Inventors: OUDERKIRK, Andrew, J.; 3m Center, Post Office Box 33427, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (US). BENSON, Olester Jr.; 3m Center, Post Office Box 33427, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (US). BREISTER, James, C.; 3m Center, Post Office Box 33427, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (US). BROTT, Robert L.; 3m Center, Post Office Box 33427, Saint Paul, Minnesota

55133-3427 (US). CHOU, Yeun-jong,; 3m Center, Post Office Box 33427, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (US). FLEMING, Patrick R.,; 3m Center, Post Office Box 33427, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (US). KOPECKY, William J.,; 3m Center, Post Office Box 33427, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (US). NORTH, Diane,; 3m Center, Post Office Box 33427, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (US). STUMO, Roger J.,; 3m Center, Post Office Box 33427, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (US). THUNHORST, Kristin L.,; 3m Center, Post Office Box 33427, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (US). WILSON, Bruce B.,; 3m Center, Post Office Box 33427, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (US).

- (74) Agents: PRALLE, Jay, R. et al.; 3M Center, Office Of Intellectual Property Counsel, Post Office Box 33427, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (US).
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: COMPOSITE POLYMER FIBERS



(57) Abstract: A composite polymer fiber comprises a polymer filler material and a plurality of polymer scattering fibers disposed within the filler material. At least one of the filler material and the scattering fibers is formed of a birefringent material. The refractive indices of the filler material and the scattering fibers can be substantially matched for light incident in a first polarization state on the composite polymer fiber and unmatched for light incident in an orthogonal polarization state. The scattering fibers may be arranged to form a photonic crystal within the composite fiber. The composite fibers may be extruded and may be formed into a yarn, a weave or the like. If the filler material is soluble, it may be washed out of the yarn or weave, and the scattering fibers may then be infiltrated with a resin that is subsequently cured.



WO 2006/093615 A3



SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, 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, LV, 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).

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

 as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))

Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report: 19 October 2006

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.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No PCT/US2006/003741

•) F	CT/US2006/003741		
a. classi INV .	FICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER G02B1/04 D01F8/14				
According to	o International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national clas	sification and IPC			
		fication symbols)			
Documenta	tion searched other than minimum documentation to the extent t	hat such documents are include	d in the fields searched		
Electronic d	ata base consulted during the international search (name of dat	a base and, where practical, se	earch terms used)		
	data base consuled during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) and the search terms used) an				
C. DOCUM	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the	e relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.		
Х			1,2,4,7		
Y		3,5			
A	LTD; PARK, JOON, YONG) 19 December 2002 (2002-12-19)	ONICS CO.,			
Υ	18 March 2004 (2004-03-18) paragraph [0106]; figure 12 paragraph [0117]; figures 17-2	·	3,5		
		-/			
			,		
X Furt	her documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	X See patent family	annex.		
* Special of	categories of cited documents:	"T" later document publish	ned after the international filing date		
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance		cited to understand the			
'E' earlier document but published on or after the international filing date 'I' document which may throw doubts on priority, claim(s) or		cannot be considered	cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to		
which citatio	Is cited to establish the publication date of another n or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular cannot be considered	relevance; the claimed invention to involve an inventive step when the		
other means 'P' document published prior to the international filling date but		ments, such combina in the art.	ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.		
Date of the actual completion of the international search			,		
1	5 August 2006	24/08/200	06		
		Authorized officer	Authorized officer		
NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,		Stabel, /	Stabel, A		

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No PCT/US2006/003741

C(Continua	tion). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
А	WO 2004/070464 A (KONINKLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V; HUCK, HUBERTINA, P., M; HIKMET, R) 19 August 2004 (2004-08-19) page 8, lines 14-21; figure 5	34
	·	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No PCT/US2006/003741

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 4357389	A 02-11-1	982 JP JP JP	1445771 56041234 62052770	Α	30-06-1988 17-04-1981 06-11-1987
WO 02101422	A 19-12-2	002 JP KR US	2004522200 2003026336 2004031435	Α	22-07-2004 31-03-2003 19-02-2004
US 2004052484	A1 18-03-2	004 AU WO GB	1494402 0239159 2384323	A1	21-05-2002 16-05-2002 23-07-2003
WO 2004070464	A 19-08-2	004 CN EP US	1748174 1595181 2006139948	A1	15-03-2006 16-11-2005 29-06-2006