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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

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— as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the
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(54) Title: FLEXIBLE RATCHET MECHANISM FOR THE HEADBAND OF PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR

(57) Abstract: A ratchet mechanism for the headband of a protective helmet or other headgear allows for adjustment of the size and fit of the headband. The headband has overlapping rear end portions which are enclosed in a housing, which is comprised of an outer substantially arc-shaped housing section joined to an inner substantially arc-shaped housing section. Also contained within the housing sections is an adjustment mechanism adapted to cause lateral movement of the overlapping rear end portions of said headband with respect to one another. The outer and inner housing sections are substantially segmented into multiple discrete portions such that the respective housing sections are flexible along defined boundaries between the discrete portions to provide for a better and more comfortable fit.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US05/26136

| <p>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(7) : A42B 3/00 US CL : 2/181 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|---|---|--|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| <p>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</p> <p>Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) U.S. : 002/181,416,317,418,419,420,183,dig.11;24/68B,69A,484</p> <p>Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched</p> <p>Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) Please See Continuation Sheet</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| <p>Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201</p> | | <p>Authorized officer WILLIAM DIXON <i>Janice Ford</i> Telephone No. 571-272-1600 <i>for</i></p> | | | | | | | | | | |

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Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:

Search Text: EAST;US-PGPUB;USPAT;EPO;JPO;DERWENT;IBM_TDB

Search Terms: inner and outer, upper and lower, first and second, housing, case, casing, flexibility or bend, headbend, same, portion, segment, section, conform