



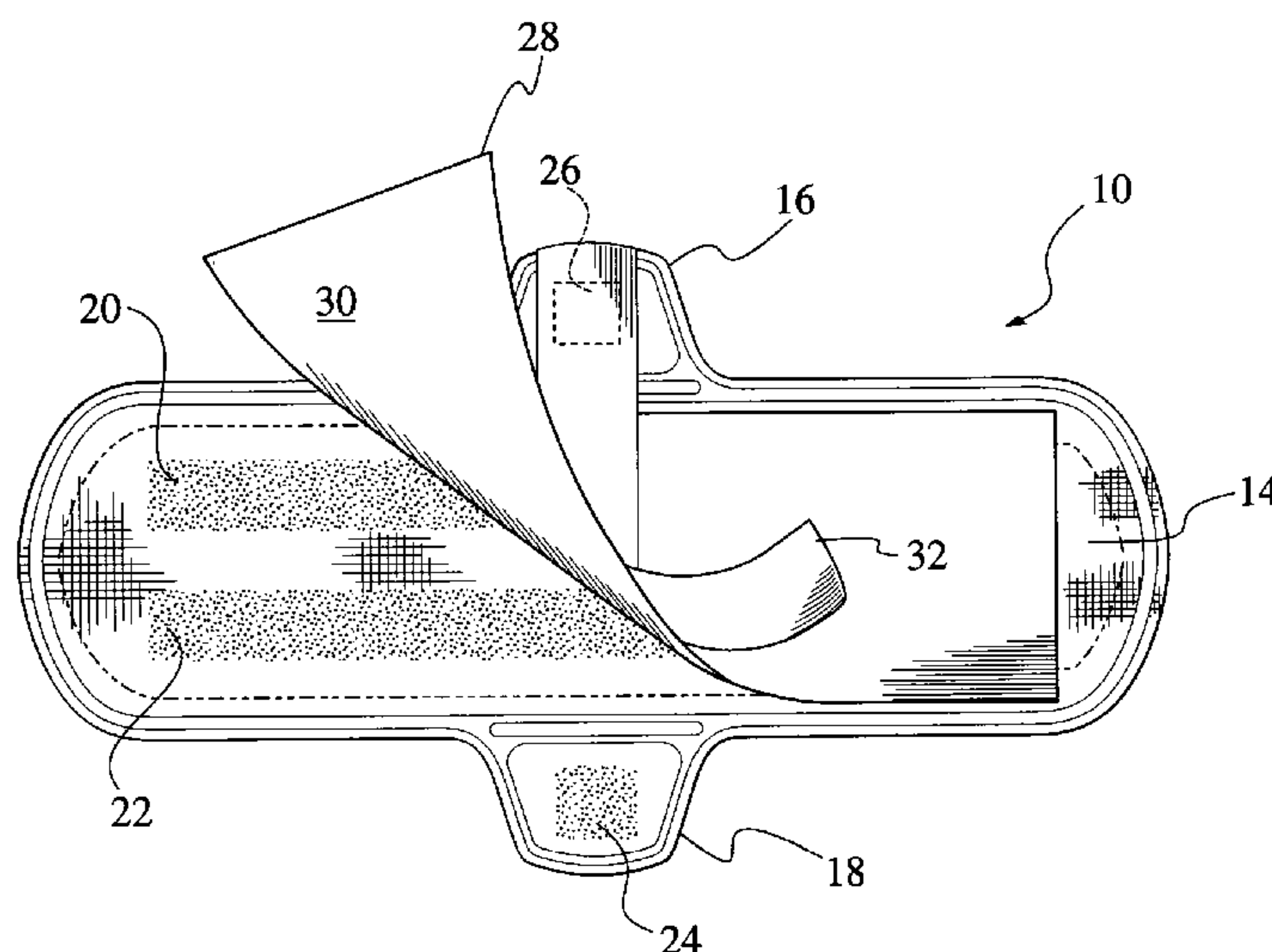
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(54) **ARTICLE ABSORBANT MUNI D'UN SYSTEME ADHESIF DE MAINTIEN EN POSITION RECOUVERT DE BANDES PELABLES LIEES LES UNES AUX AUTRES, ET APPAREIL ET METHODE D'EMBALLAGE DUDIT ARTICLE**

(54) **SANITARY ABSORBENT ARTICLE WITH AN ADHESIVE POSITIONING SYSTEM COVERED BY RELEASE STRIPS LINKED TO ONE ANOTHER AND METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PACKAGING THE ABSORBENT ARTICLE**



(57) A sanitary napkin with laterally projecting positioning tabs. The adhesive securement system of the sanitary napkin includes three adhesive zones in a spaced apart relationship, namely one zone on the main body of the sanitary napkin and one zone on the undergarment facing surface of each positioning tab. A quick-remove peelable protective layer covers the adhesive zones when the sanitary napkin is not in use. The protective layer includes a primary release strip extending longitudinally on the sanitary napkin to cover the adhesive zone on the main body and a transversal secondary release strip overlaying the adhesive zones on the positioning tabs. This arrangement allows to remove the entire protective layer in a single peel-off stroke. The invention also relates to a method and apparatus for folding a positioning tab of the sanitary napkin over its main body during a packaging operation that inserts the sanitary napkin in a disposable pouch. The method comprises the steps of creating a crease in the transverse release strip of the protective layer, near the juncture between the positioning tab and the main body of the sanitary napkin. The transverse release strip is made of sufficiently rigid paper material so the crease maintains the positioning tab in a folded condition during the packaging operation.



ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A sanitary napkin with laterally projecting positioning tabs. The adhesive securement system of the sanitary napkin includes three adhesive zones in a spaced apart relationship, namely one zone on the main body of the sanitary napkin and one zone on the undergarment facing surface of each positioning tab. A quick-remove peelable protective layer covers the adhesive zones when the sanitary napkin is not in use. The protective layer includes a primary release strip extending longitudinally on the sanitary napkin to cover the adhesive zone on the main body and a transversal secondary release strip overlaying the adhesive zones on the positioning tabs. This arrangement allows to remove the entire protective layer in a single peel-off stroke. The invention also relates to a method and apparatus for folding a positioning tab of the sanitary napkin over its main body during a packaging operation that inserts the sanitary napkin in a disposable pouch. The method comprises the steps of creating a crease in the transverse release strip of the protective layer, near the juncture between the positioning tab and the main body of the sanitary napkin. The transverse release strip is made of sufficiently rigid paper material so the crease maintains the positioning tab in a folded condition during the packaging operation.

TITLE: SANITARY ABSORBENT ARTICLE WITH AN ADHESIVE
POSITIONING SYSTEM COVERED BY RELEASE STRIPS
LINKED TO ONE ANOTHER AND METHOD AND APPARATUS
FOR PACKAGING THE ABSORBENT ARTICLE

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FIELD OF THE INVENTION

10 The present invention relates to the art of
manufacturing structures for absorbing body exudate and,
more particularly, to a disposable sanitary absorbent
article with a quick-remove protective layer shielding the
adhesive securement system of the absorbent article when
the latter is not in use. The invention also extends to
a method and apparatus for folding the absorbent article.

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

20 Disposable absorbent articles, such as sanitary
napkins, are maintained against the perineal region of the
wearer by adhesively securing the sanitary napkin to the
crotch portion of the undergarment. The adhesive
securement system usually comprises a plurality of
adhesive zones distributed on the barrier layer which
create a bond with the undergarment material to maintain
25 the sanitary napkin in place in spite of movements and
compression forces acting on it particularly when the

