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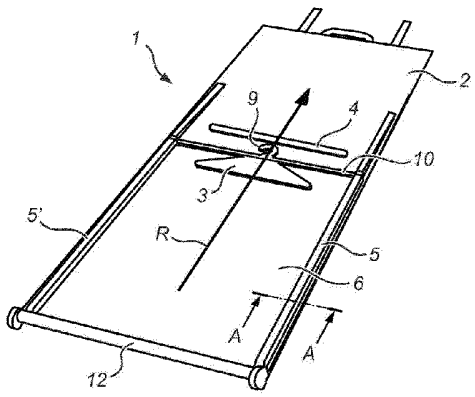
(54) **Garment holding device.**

(57) The present invention relates to a garment holding device comprising a main sheet of material rollable in a rolling direction and at least one cloth attachment means attached to said main sheet, wherein the main sheet is provided with at least two elongated elevated zones on the front side of the main sheet, essentially mutually parallel arranged at or near the edges of said main sheet and parallel to said rolling direction, such that when the device is rolled up, a curved spacing is created for holding a suit or another garment, without substantial forces being exerted thereto and without sharp bends.



NL C 2011394

GARMENT HOLDING DEVICE

The present invention relates to a garment holding device according to the preamble of claim 1.

Such devices are known, and serve to store and/or transport garments, such as suits and dresses or gowns. Their advantage is that they enable compact storage and transport and convenient handling of the garments.

The American patent US 5.624.026 issued March 20, 1995 discloses a garment holding device for use with various types of luggage comprising a substantially cylindrical hollow tube about which suits and other garments can be completely wrapped, a fabric cover for holding garments securely about the outer surface of the tube, and a flexible hanger which is capable of holding suits and other garments against the outside of the tube while being flexible enough to conform to the curvature of the tube. A fabric cover wraps around the garments and the tube and holds the garments securely against the outer surface of the tube. Because the garments will be rolled instead of folded over 180 degrees, wrinkling of the garments will be reduced. The hollow center of the cylinder is utilized to carry bulky and awkward shaped objects such as shoes. The way the suits and garments are wrapped around the outside of a cylinder allows the luggage to be compact and easy to carry. Additionally, the garments no longer have to be folded and incur wrinkling, but can be gently wrapped around the outside of the cylinder. This product is available on the market under the tradename Skyroller(R).

Although the known device of US 5.624.026 is an improvement over traditional garment holders that require a suit and other clothes to be folded into two halves or more parts, which almost certainly results in wrinkling of the respective piece of garment and is not compact, the known device still suffers from the disadvantage that it causes wrinkling of the suit or other garment transported and/or stored. Therefore it is a goal of the present invention to provide an improved garment holding device, in particular a garment holding device that prevents wrinkling, while maintaining the compactness of the known device described in US 5.624.026.

This goal is realized by a garment holding device having the features of claim 1.

Because the main sheet is provided with at least two elongated elevated zones on the front side of the main sheet, essentially mutually parallel arranged at or near the edges of said main sheet and parallel to said rolling direction, when the device is rolled up, a curved spacing is created in which a suit suits, or another garment. In this spacing, the garment is held without substantial forces being exerted thereto and without sharp bends. As a result, the garment is much less likely to wrinkle or crease than garments in the known garment holding devices, such as that of US 5.624.026 described above.

The elongated elevated zones preferably have a thickness of at least 4 mm, and in particular more than 9 mm, such that in a rolled up configuration, a garment storage space with a helix shaped cross section is obtained. In particular, the elevated zones are made from a somewhat resilient material, that closes the device at its sides such that no moist can enter, but is not compressed by the rolling force required for rolling up the device.

Another advantage of the device according to the invention is that it facilitates in making the rolled device that holds the garment closed for dust, water, etc. and therefore it facilitates a better protection of the garment (s) in the rolled device.

In particular, the elevated zones may comprise a moist absorbing material, strip, part or layer. These parts form the closure of the device once rolled up, and are then located at the position where the risk if incoming dirt or moist is the highest.

The main sheet is either continuously or at multiple bending lines bendable in the rolling direction. This embodiment offers a simple construction and very reduced folding of the garments, hence good anti-creasing effect.

The main sheet may for instance be made from a (reinforced) textile, but more rigid materials may be suitable, such as a plastics like PP, PE or PVC.

Another option is to use a paper or cardboard, or in particular ribbed cardboard. The elongated elevated zones may be from the same or another paper material, or for instance from a foam. This combination gives a very light result, which makes the device especially suitable for post order deliveries, or as a give away in shops.

In those cases wherein the device according to the invention, and in particular the lightweight versions such as the paper versions are to be shipped empty, but in large quantities, such as may be the case when shipping from a manufacturer of the device to a sales point, the device may be delivered in separate parts. An amount of main sheets may then be stacked, and the elevated zones may be delivered separately, and be mounted with double sided tape locally, before use. The same goes for a corus, which may for example be a card-board box with a polygonal cross section. This way, flat packages can be composed.

Yet another option is to use bamboo as a material.

In another embodiment, the main sheet has, in a direction perpendicular to the rolling direction, over at least a part of its length in the rolling direction, a rigidity sufficiently high to take up an external radial point load of 25 - 35 N on the outside of the main sheet when said main sheet is in a rolled up state, without deformation of more than 10 mm of each point on the surface area. Due to these measures, the device may be handled in normal traveling circumstances, such as occur when taking an airplane, without having to worry about the garments being pressed together and being wrinkled or creased. For instance, a suitcase of 23 kg, as is commonly used in airplane travel, may rest with a corner on the device according to the invention. These features may be realized in a main sheet of a single layer material as well as a multi-layered material of which at least a single layer is relatively rigid.

In yet another embodiment, the aforementioned rigidity is sufficiently high to take up an external radial load of 210 - 270 N equally distributed over a surface area that spans the outside length of the main sheet when said main sheet is in a rolled up state, without deformation of more than 10 mm of each point on the surface area. This allows for somewhat rougher handling of the device, e.g. by putting some other luggage on it, such as a suitcase.

In a further embodiment, a part of the main sheet has a higher rigidity than the rest of the main sheet. This may be realised by a higher density or thickness, another material, a combination or materials or an extra layer. The part of the main sheet with the higher

density is the part that forms the outer shell when the device according to the present invention is rolled up.

In another embodiment at least one of the elongated elevated zones and relief zones is provided with recesses in the direction perpendicular to the direction of rolling, for example V-shaped or rectangular shaped. The recesses may have various shapes, and sizes. In combination with sizes and shapes of the elongated elevated zones, the rolling up occurs in segments, i.e., into a prismatic rod with a number of sides .

In a further embodiment of the device, at least one of the elongated elevated zones and relief zones is inflatable. This allows for a more compact storage and transport when the device is not in use, i.e., when it holds no garments.

In yet a further embodiment, the main sheet is coupled to an essentially cylindrical corus, about which the device is rollable. The connection between the main sheet and the corus may be a hinge. The corus then may serve as a weight that prevents the device from rolling up automatically when laid flat on a floor, and it assists in rolling up the device. Its radius may be chosen such that the angle over which the main sheet and a garment are bent is limited to a desired allowed minimum. The corus may be rigid or hollow, and accessible to store objects within if desired.

Preferably, the at least one cloth attachment means is a clothes hanger, wherein the clothes hanger is flexible in the direction of rolling of the device; this allows for more compact rolling. We note that the term "clothes hanger" is to be interpreted in a wide sense, including anything attached to the main sheet that is suitable for carrying garments in or at the device. In particular, (elastic) cords or the like may be used.

In an embodiment, the device comprises a hook suitable for carrying the device in unrolled shape, wherein the hook is integrated with or attached to a clothes hanger. As such, it becomes possible to use the hook for hanging the device at a fixed location, e.g. in a hotel or at home, while meanwhile utilizing the clothes hanger - carried by the hook - for hanging clothes against the unrolled main sheet.

Another embodiment has two clothes hangers attached to the front side of the main sheet, and a folding line in the main sheet between and parallel to said two clothes hangers as well as a hook attached to the main sheet between said two clothes hangers or to a clothes hanger. With this embodiment, it becomes possible to fold the main sheet into two parts, with their backsides against each other, one clothes hanger on each main sheet front side. The hook then serves to hang the device at a cupboard, a stand, or the like. Each clothes hanger then may carry a piece of clothing. When such a device is to be transported, it may easily be straightened with the two pieces of clothing in it, and then be rolled up.

In a further embodiment, the main sheet has a covering sheet attached to it, which covering sheet is suited to cover at least part of the front side of the main sheet and to uncover the main sheet by folding away the covering sheet. Such a covering sheet is suited either separate two pieces of clothing, to further prevent them from wrinkling or creasing when they are being rolled up in the main sheet, or to cover a single piece of clothing before it is being rolled up, which also has an aesthetical function.

In a further embodiment, each of the elongated elevated zones of the main sheet has a higher elongated part and a lower elongated part, wherein each higher part faces the edge to which it is closest, and, when the covering sheet is covering the main sheet, it is positioned over the lower parts of the elongated elevated zones of the main sheet. This has as an advantage that two pieces of clothing fit in the device, each in its own compartment, meanwhile having a compact device. Relief zones may lie over the lower elongated parts when the device is in the rolled up state, for convenient guidance in rolling up.

The invention will now be clarified on the basis of a preferred embodiment, referring to the accompanying drawings and solely as an illustration of the invention and not in limitation thereof. In the drawings:

Figures la and lb show a first embodiment of the invention, respectively in a folded state for hanging, and an elongated state for packing and unpacking,

Figure 2 shows a second embodiment of the invention, similar to the first embodiment but provided with a flap,

Figure 3 shows a third embodiment of the invention, and

Figure 4 shows the cross-section A-A of part of the first embodiment,

Figure 5 shows schematically, not drawn to scale, a cross-section over a fourth embodiment of the invention, provided with a flap having rims;

Figure 6 shows a cross section of a perspective side view of the garment holding device according to the present invention, in a rolled up position;

Figure 7 shows a blank for a corus for a cardboard version of the device according to the present invention.

In Figures la and lb, a garment holding device 1 comprises a main sheet 2 of material rollable in a rolling direction R, indicated by an arrow in Figure lb. Attached to the main sheet 2 are two cloth attachment means in the shape of a clothes hanger 3 and a trouser holder 4.

The main sheet 2 is provided with two elongated elevated zones 5, 5' on the front side of the main sheet (top side in Figure lb) , mutually parallel arranged close to the edges of the main sheet 2 and parallel to the rolling direction R, and at a mutual distance of approximately 60 cm.

The main sheet 2 is continuously bendable over its entire length in the direction R. Alternatively, but not shown, it could be provided with stiff parts and a number, for example five, bending lines, each arranged perpendicular to the rolling direction R.

The main sheet 2 is provided with at least two relief zones 6, 6' on the back side of the main sheet, at locations opposing said at least two elevated zones 5, 5' on the front side of the main sheet .

In Figure 4, a part of the embodiment shown in Figure 1 is shown in cross-section. Here, the main sheet 2 is visible and the elevated zone 5 on the front side thereof, as well as the relief zone 6 at the rear side of the main sheet. The relief zone 6 is in shape complementary to that of the elevated zone 5, and has a recess 7 that cooperates with peak 8. These measures have as a result that the relief zone 6 cooperates during the rolling up with the elongated elevated zone 5 in guiding said rolling up. The same holds, mutatis mutandis, for the zones 5' and 6' . It is noted that the elevated zones 5, 5' and the

relief zones 6, 6' extend along a large part of the length of the main sheet 2, in this embodiment. They are left away only in the zone that is rolled up as last zone, and that serves are a cover of the device. It is not shown, but the main sheet 2 is (see Figure lb) at its rear side provided with stiffening material, providing it a high rigidity in a direction perpendicular to the rolling direction, in order to provide the device in its rolled up state, possibly with garments in it, with sufficient strength on its outside area to be able to withstand normal handling during transportation, such as carrying the device in busses, airports, airplanes and cars, etc, without substantially deforming and thereby wrinkling or otherwise damaging the clothes rolled up inside the device.

The clothes hanger 3 may hold suits, but of course may also carry a dress, including a ceremonial dress, or any other piece of clothing. Similarly, the trouser holder 4 may hold other things than trousers. The clothes hanger 3 is made of foam with rods inserted in it, in the lateral direction (R being the longitudinal direction) , in order to provide it with sufficient stiffness and strength and meanwhile maintaining the flexibility necessary to allow the main sheet 2 to bend and be rolled up.

Further, the clothes hanger 3 is integrated with a hook 9, by which hook 9 the device can be varied in unrolled shape; in this manner it may be hung on a cupboard or a stand (not shown) .

The clothes hanger 3 and the trouser holder 4 are both attached to the front side of the main sheet 2, and a folding line coinciding with the edge 10 in the main sheet 2 is located between and parallel to the clothes hanger 3 and the trouser holder 4. An opening (not shown) in the main sheet 2 allows the hook 9 to reach outside when the main sheet is in the rolled state; in this manner it becomes possible for a person to carry the device in its rolled state by the hook, or to hang it by the hook. Not discussed into detail, but present, are various straps and grips for securing the device in its rolled up state respectively for carrying the device in that state, either as a horizontal or vertical roll. Both positions may be beneficial, depending on the circumstances or environment. In particular a shoulder strap is mentioned (but not shown) , attached to or near the ends of the device in its rolled state, and long enough to enable a person to carry the device conveniently by putting the strap over her shoulder, while the rolled up device hangs horizontally are hip-height or approximately that height.

A tube 13 is present at the end of the main sheet 2 where rolling is started. Such a tube is convenient for rolling up with a larger radius, with as a result an even smaller risk of wrinkling of the garments. The tube, when given a larger volume, may also be convenient for holding objects, such as a tie or shoes, in it.

Figure 2 shows an embodiment almost identical to the embodiment shown in Figure 1, only differing in that it additionally comprises a covering sheet 12 attached to the main sheet 2, in the shape of a thin transparent plastic sheet. The covering sheet 12 covers, when it is folded over the main sheet 2, one part of the front side of the main sheet 2, viz. one of the two parts meant for one piece of garment, as separated by the folding line coinciding with the edge 10.

In Figure 5, in a fourth embodiment of the invention, each of the elongated elevated zones of the main sheet has a higher elongated part 13 and a lower elongated part 14, wherein each higher part faces the edge to which it is closest. The covering sheet or flap 15 has two elevated rims 16 on the side thereof facing away from the main sheet 2 and positioned on the lower parts 13 of the elongated elevated zones of the main sheet 2, when the device is rolled up. Not shown, is a hanger attached to the flap, on the same side thereof as the rims 16. In this embodiment, two pieces of clothing can be stored inside the device, in separate compartments, when the device is rolled up.

Relief zones 17 are attached to the rear side of the main sheet 2. They rest on the rims 16 when the device is in the rolled up state.

Due to the presence of push buttons (not shown) at the edges of the flap 15, the flap is detachable from the main sheet 2 and can be fitted upside down, i.e. with its rims 16 facing the main sheet, in the unrolled state of the device, in order to provide a single, larger compartment instead of two smaller ones.

In this embodiment, the flap 15 is made of stretchable material, which enhances anti-crease effect of the device.

It is noted that the rims 16 may also be omitted, while increasing the height of the relief zones 17. In this manner, the flap 15 is no longer reinforced by the rims, but this function may be taken over by e.g. push buttons by which the flap is attached to the lower elevated parts 14, in particular when stretch material is used for the flap 15.
The three illustrated embodiments may also comprise means for automatically rolling up, or stretching, the main sheet 2. These means may be integrated with the elevated zones 5, 5' and/or the relief zones 6, 6' . Such means are known per se, they are for instance applied in artificial satellites for unrolling RF-antennas and also in bracelets.

Figure 6 shows a perspective side view 20 of a cross section of the garment holding device according to the present invention, in a rolled up position. Visible are the optional corus 21 (dashed) to which the main sheet is connected by a hinge 22. In the closed positon, the elevated zones create a curved spacing 23 with a helix shaped cross section is created for holding a suit 24 or another garment, without substantial forces being exerted thereto and without sharp bends.
Variants can be made to the embodiments shown, without leaving the scope of the claims. For example, the main sheet may be made of bamboo rods arranged parallel to the axis of symmetry of the rolled product. Moreover, the elongated elevated zones and relief zones may be somewhat compressible and may have heights that vary in the rolling direction of the main sheet.

Figure 7 shows a blank 25 for a corus of a cardboard version of the present invention. The blank may be integrated with a main sheet, or attachable thereto, for instance by means of a adhesive surface 26. The corus has folding lines, that allow to form a polygonal shape from it. As a blank, the corus can easily be shipped, in particular in large quantities, as a stack. In a rolled up or folded state, the triangular extensions 27 are bent over their folding lines 28 to form a sidewall. Extensions 29 can be clamped in slits 30, to fix the corus in the folded position.

Conclusies

1. Kledingopberginrichting omvattende een hoofdvel van een materiaal dat oprolbaar is in een oprolrichting en ten minste een kledingbevestigingsmiddel dat met het hoofdvel verbonden is,
Waarbij het hoofdvel voorzien is van twee langwerpige opstaande gedeelten aan een voorzijde van het hoofdvel, die in hoofdzaak parallel zijn gesitueerd aan of nabij de randen van het hoofdvel en parallel aan de rolrichting, zodanig dat, als de inrichting is opgerold, er een gebogen ruimte gecreëerd is voor het behuizen van een pak of ander kledingstuk, zonder dat daar noemenswaardig kracht op wordt uitgeoefend en zonder scherpe vouwen.

2. Kledingopberginrichting volgens conclusie 1, waarbij het genoemde hoofdvel continu rolbaar is in de genoemde rolrichting.

3. Kledingopberginrichting volgens conclusie 1 of 2, waarbij de langwerpige opstaande gedeelten een dikte van ten minste 4 mm, en in het bijzonder meer dan 9 millimeter hebben, zodat er in een opgerolde configuratie een kledingopbergruimte met een helixvormige doorsnede wordt verkregen.

4. Kledingopberginrichting volgens één van de voorgaande conclusies, waarbij de opstaande randen gemaakt zijn van een ten minste enigszins veerkrachtig materiaal, zodat de inrichting sluit aan zijn zijkanten, en zodat er geen vocht binnen kan treden, maar dat niet ingedrukt wordt door de kracht benodigd voor het oprollen van de inrichting.

5. Kledingopberginrichting volgens een van de conclusies 1-4, waarbij het genoemde hoofdvel in een richting dwars op de rolrichting over ten minste een deel van zijn lengte een versteviging heft die hoog genoeg is om een externe radiale puntbelasting van 25 - 35 N aan de buitenzijde van het hoofdvel op te nemen zonder deformatie van meer dan 10 mm van elk punt op het oppervlak.

6. Kledingopberginrichting volgens één van de conclusies 1-4, waarbij het genoemde hoofdvel in een richting loodrecht op de rolrichting over ten minste een deel van zijn

lengte in de rolrichting, een versteviging heft die sterk genoeg is om een externe belasting van 210 - 270 N, gelijk verdeeld over het oppervlak, op te nemen, die de buitenlengte van een oppervlaktegebied overspant indien het hoofdvel zich in een opgerolde toestand bevindt, zonder vervorming van meer dan 10 mm van elk punt van het oppervlak.

7. Kledingopberginrichting volgens een der voorgaande conclusies, waarbij het hoofdvel vervaardigd is uit (versterkt) textiel, kunststof zoals PP, PE of PVC, papier, karton, in het bijzonder ribkarton, bamboe of combinaties daarvan.

8. Kledingopberginrichting volgens een der voorgaande conclusies, waarbij de verhoogde gedeelten een vochtabsorberend(e) materiaal, strip, deel of laag omvatten.

9. Kledingopberginrichting volgens conclusie 7 of 8, waarbij ten minste één van de verhoogde gedeelten voorzien is van uitsparingen in de richting loodrecht op de rolrichting, bijvoorbeeld V- vormig of rechthoekig.

10. Kledingopberginrichting volgens één van de conclusies 7-9, waarbij ten minste één van de langwerpige opstaande delen opblaasbaar is.

11. Kledingopberginrichting volgens een der voorgaande conclusies, waarbij een deel van het hoofdvel een hogere dichtheid heft dan de rest van het hoofdvel, bijvoorbeeld gerealiseerd door een hogere dichtheid of dikte, een ander materiaal, een combinatie van materialen, of een extra laag.

12. Kledingopberginrichting volgens conclusie 11, omvattende een haak, geschikt voor het dragen van de inrichting in een uitgerolde toestand, waarbij de haak geïntegreerd of verbonden is met een kledingbevestigingsmiddel.

13. Kledingopberginrichting volgens één van de voorgaande conclusies, omvattende twee kledingbevestigingsmiddelen, bevestigd aan de voorzijde van het hoofdvel, en een vouwlijn in het hoofdvel, tussen en parallel aan de twee kledingbevestigingsmiddelen, alsook een haak, bevestigd aan het hoofdvel tussen de twee kledingbevestigingsmiddelen, of aan een kledingbevestigingsmiddel.

14. Kledingopberginrichting volgens één van de voorgaande conclusies, waarbij het hoofdvel gekoppeld is aan een in hoofdzaak cilindrische kern, waarom de inrichting rolbaar is, en waarbij de verbinding tussen het hoofdvel en de kern een scharnier is.

15. Kledingopberginrichting volgens conclusie 14, waarbij elk van de opstaande gedeelten van het hoofdvel een hoger en een lager langwerpig deel heeft, en waarbij elk hoger deel gericht is naar de zijde waaraan het het meest nabij ligt, en, als een dekvel het hoofdvel bedekt, het over de lagere delen van de langwerpige verhoogde gedeelten geplaatst is van het hoofdvel.

16. Kledingopberginrichting volgens conclusie 7 en 15, waarbij de uitsparingen over de lagere delen van de langwerpige verhoogde delen liggen als de inrichting zich in een opgerolde toestand bevindt.

17. Werkwijze voor het vervoeren van een aantal kledingopberginrichtingen volgens één van de voorgaande inrichtingen, omvattende de stappen:
- Stapelen van een aantal hoofdvellen;
- Verpakken van een aantal verhoogde gedeelten;
- Separaat of gezamenlijk versturen van de hoofdvellen en verhoogde gedeelten voor samenstellen door een ontvangende partij.

18. Werkwijze volgens conclusie 17, waarbij de kledingopberginrichting een kern omvat, die verzonden wordt als een platte staal.

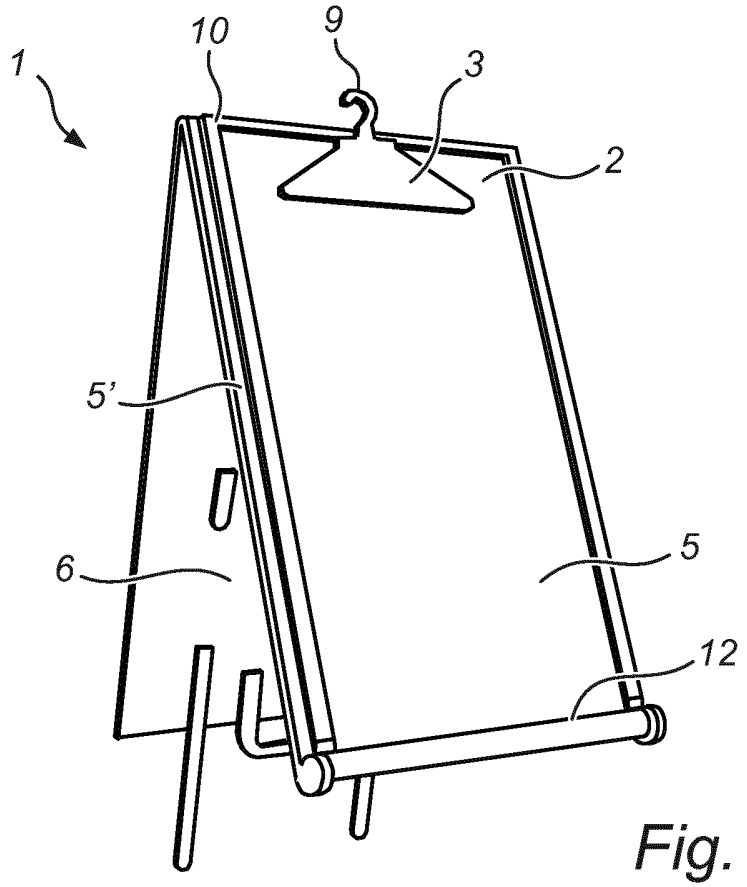


Fig. 1a

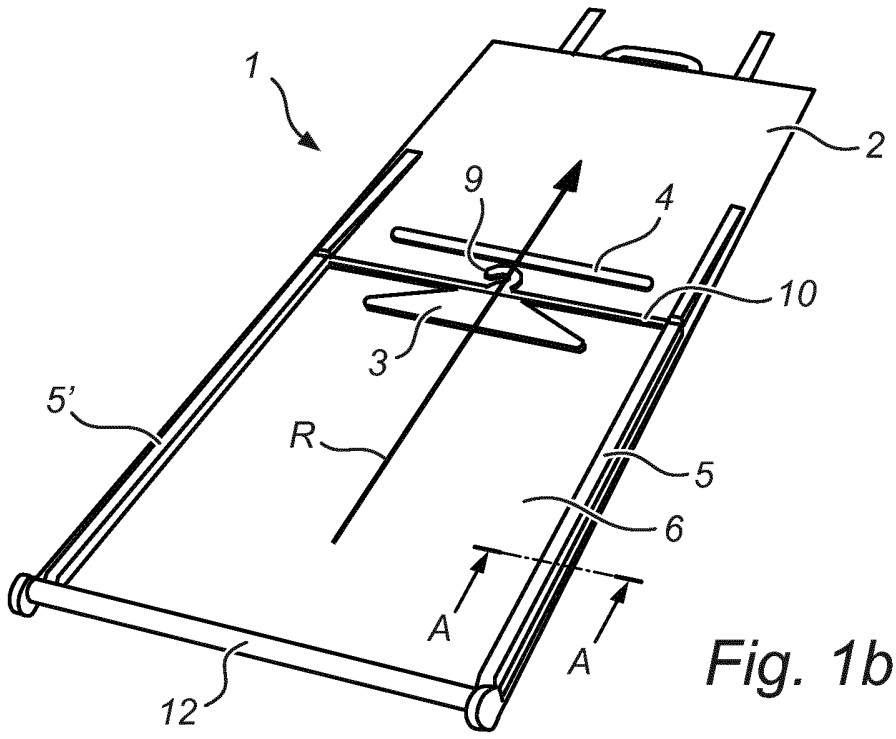


Fig. 1b

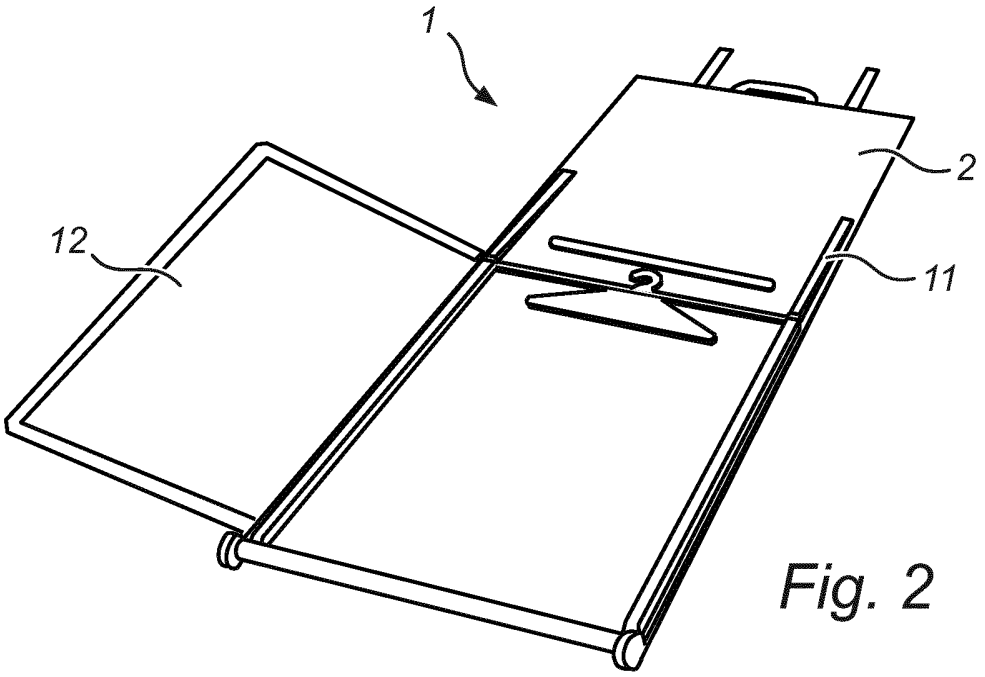


Fig. 2

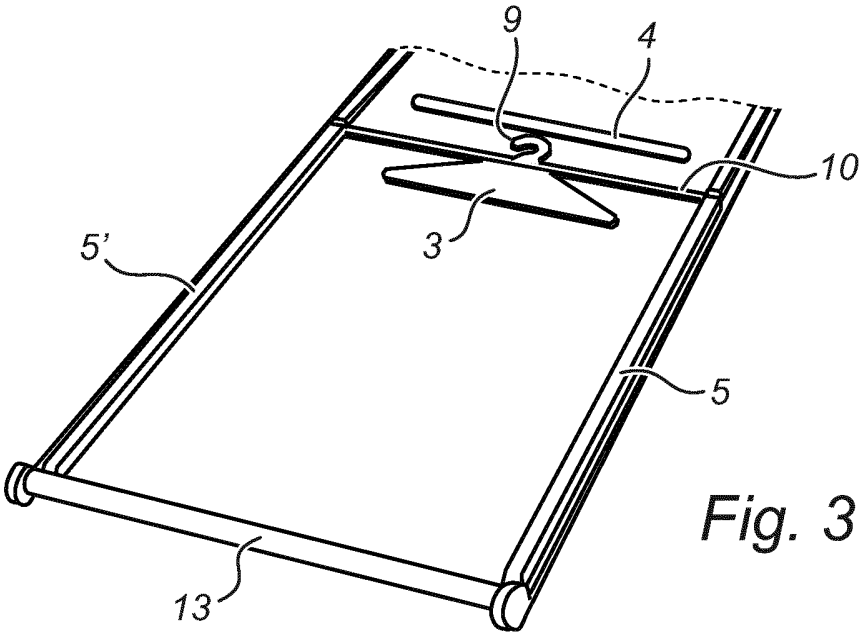


Fig. 3

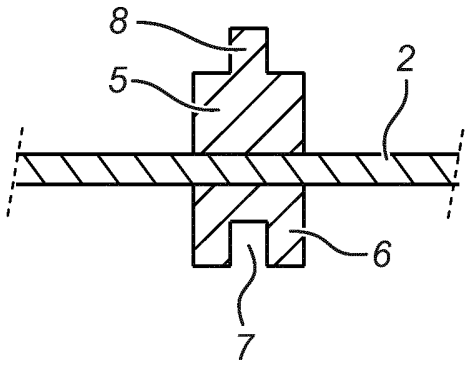


Fig. 4

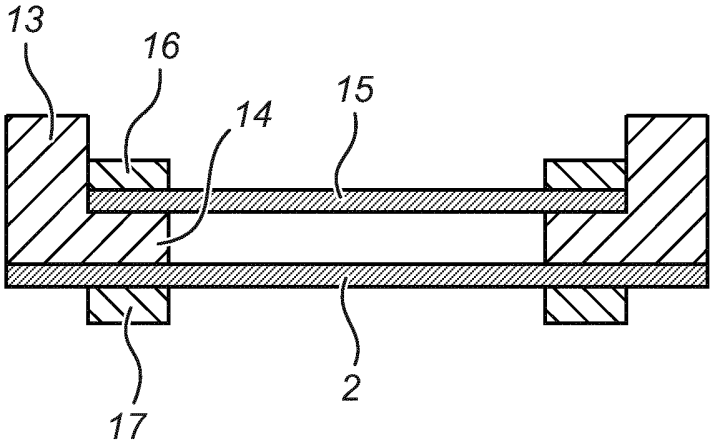


Fig. 5

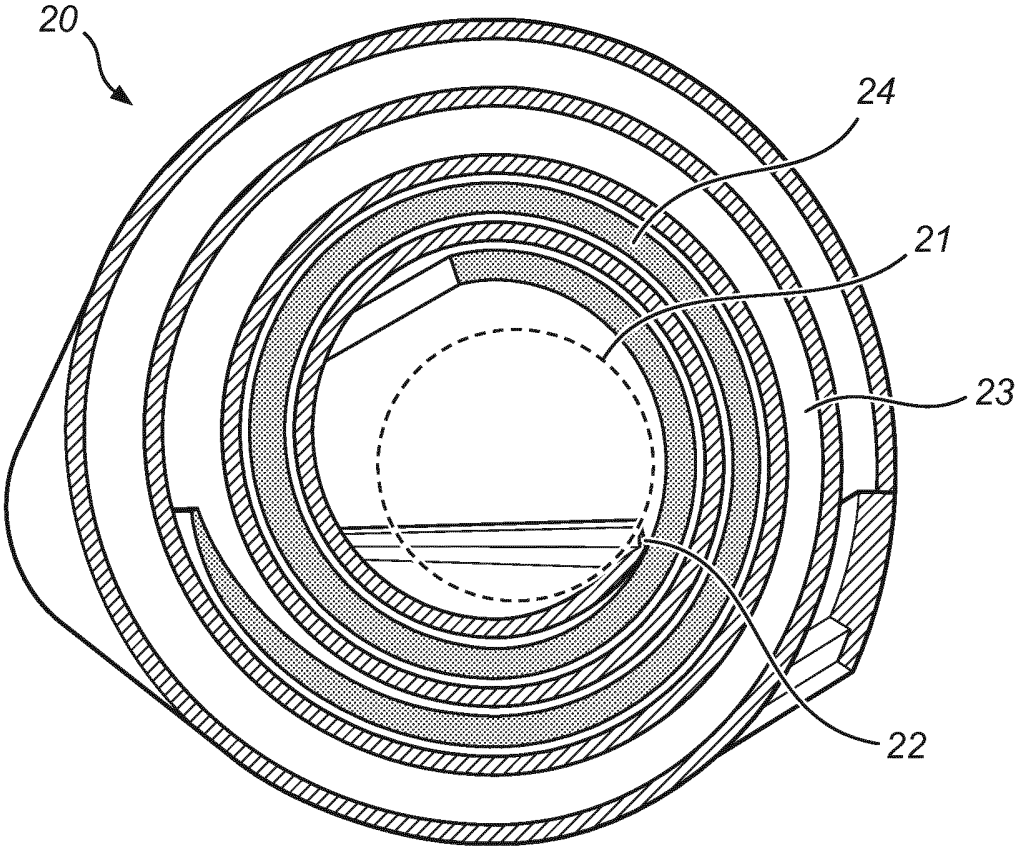


Fig. 6

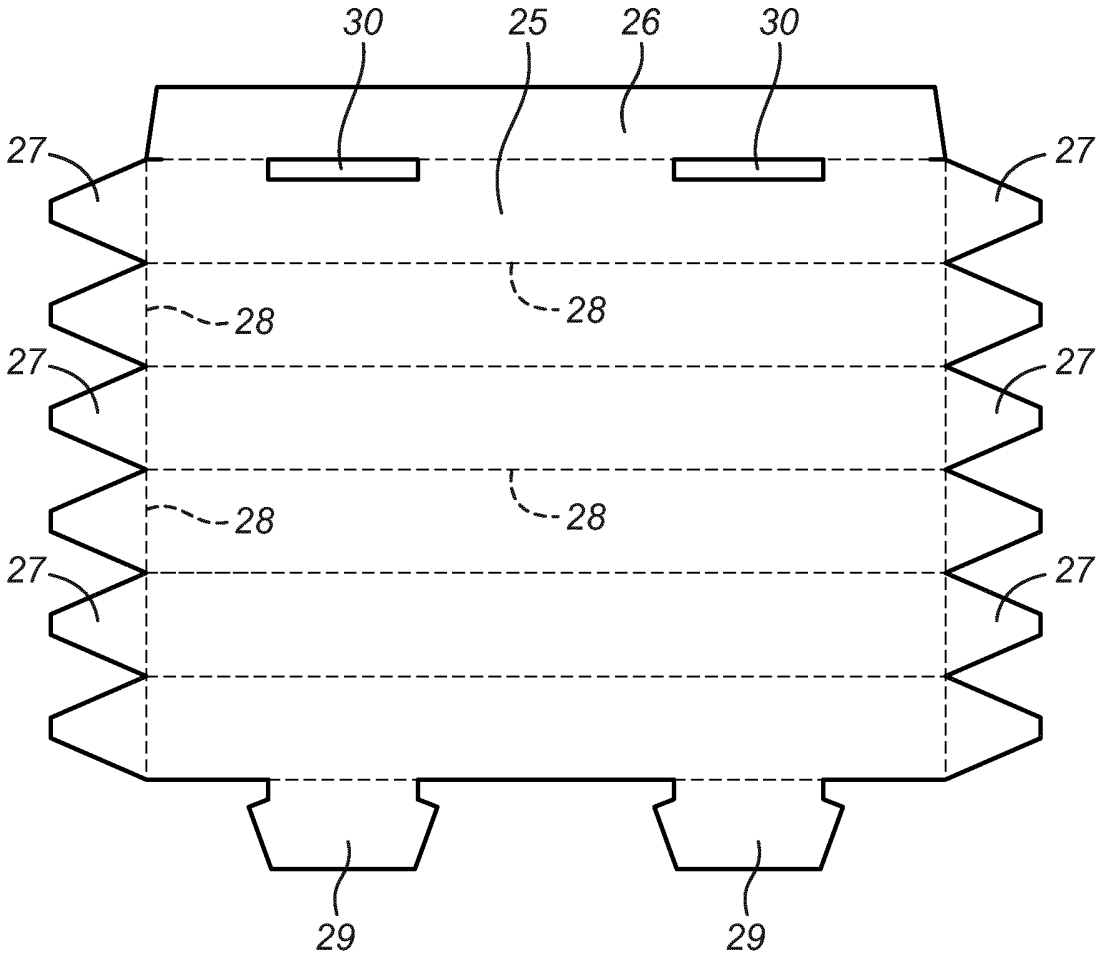


Fig. 7

SAMENWERKINGSVERDRAG (PCT)

RAPPORT BETREFFENDE NIEUWHEIDSONDERZOEK VAN INTERNATIONAAL TYPE

IDENTIFICATIE VAN DE NATIONALE AANVRAGE	KENMERK VAN DE AANVRAGER OF VAN DE GEMACHTIGDE
	1.1067.002 NL
Nederlands aanvraag nr. **2011394**	Indieningsdatum **05-09-2013**
	Ingeroepen voorrangsdatum
Aanvrager (Naam) **Makinori Lifestyle B.V.**	
Datum van het verzoek voor een onderzoek van internationaal type **19-04-2014**	Door de Instantie voor Internationaal Onderzoek aan het verzoek voor een onderzoek van internationaal type toegekend nr. **SN 61807**

I. CLASSIFICATIE VAN HET ONDERWERP (bij toepassing van verschillende classificaties, alle classificatiesymbolen opgeven)

Volgens de internationale classificatie (IPC)

A45C3/00

II. ONDERZOCHTE GEBIEDEN VAN DE TECHNIEK

Onderzochte minimumdocumentatie

Classificatiesysteem	Classificatiesymbolen
IPC	**A45C**

Onderzochte andere documentatie dan de minimum documentatie, voor zover dergelijke documenten in de onderzochte gebieden zijn opgenomen

III.	☐ **GEEN ONDERZOEK MOGELIJK VOOR BEPAALDE CONCLUSIES**	(opmerkingen op aanvullingsblad)
IV.	☐ **GEBREK AAN EENHEID VAN UITVINDING**	(opmerkingen op aanvullingsblad)

ONDERZOEKSRAPPORT BETREFFENDE HET RESULTAAT VAN HET ONDERZOEK NAAR DE STAND VAN DE TECHNIEK VAN HET INTERNATIONALE TYPE

Nummer van het verzoek om een onderzoek naar de stand van de techniek
NL 2011394

A. CLASSIFICATIE VAN HET ONDERWERP
INV. A45C3/00
ADD.

Volgens de Internationale Classificatie van octrooien (IPC) of zowel volgens de nationale classificatie als volgens de IPC.

B. ONDERZOCHTE GEBIEDEN VAN DE TECHNIEK

Onderzochte miminum documentatie (classificatie gevolgd door classificatiesymbolen)
A45C

Onderzochte andere documentatie dan de mimimum documentatie, voor dergelijke documenten, voor zover dergelijke documenten in de onderzochte gebieden zijn opgenomen

Tijdens het onderzoek geraadpleegde elektronische gegevensbestanden (naam van de gegevensbestanden en, waar uitvoerbaar, gebruikte trefwoorden)
EPO-Internal

C. VAN BELANG GEACHTE DOCUMENTEN

Categorie °	Geciteerde documenten, eventueel met aanduiding van speciaal van belang zijnde passages	Van belang voor conclusie nr.
X	US 6 499 590 B1 (GODSHAW DONALD E [US] ET AL) 31 december 2002 (2002-12-31) * het gehele document * -----	1,2,4-18
A	US 4 967 986 A (SCHILDKRAUT MICKI [US]) 6 november 1990 (1990-11-06) * samenvatting * -----	1
A	US 5 624 026 A (CHERNOFF DON [US]) 29 april 1997 (1997-04-29) * samenvatting * -----	1

☐ Verdere documenten worden vermeld in het vervolg van vak C.

☒ Leden van dezelfde octrooifamilie zijn vermeld in een bijlage

° Speciale categorieën van aangehaalde documenten

"A" niet tot de categorie X of Y behorende literatuur die de stand van de techniek beschrijft

"D" in de octrooiaanvrage vermeld

"E" eerdere octrooi(aanvrage), gepubliceerd op of na de indieningsdatum, waarin dezelfde uitvinding wordt beschreven

"L" om andere redenen vermelde literatuur

"O" niet-schriftelijke stand van de techniek

"P" tussen de voorrangsdatum en de indieningsdatum gepubliceerde literatuur

"T" na de indieningsdatum of de voorrangsdatum gepubliceerde literatuur die niet bezwarend is voor de octrooiaanvrage, maar wordt vermeld ter verheldering van de theorie of het principe dat ten grondslag ligt aan de uitvinding

"X" de conclusie wordt als niet nieuw of niet inventief beschouwd ten opzichte van deze literatuur

"Y" de conclusie wordt als niet inventief beschouwd ten opzichte van de combinatie van deze literatuur met andere geciteerde literatuur van dezelfde categorie, waarbij de combinatie voor de vakman voor de hand liggend wordt geacht

"&" lid van dezelfde octrooifamilie of overeenkomstige octrooipublicatie

Datum waarop het onderzoek naar de stand van de techniek van internationaal type werd voltooid	Verzenddatum van het rapport van het onderzoek naar de stand van de techniek van internationaal type
14 juli 2014	

Naam en adres van de instantie	De bevoegde ambtenaar
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Nicolás, Carlos

1

ONDERZOEKSRAPPORT BETREFFENDE HET RESULTAAT VAN HET ONDERZOEK NAAR DE STAND VAN DE TECHNIEK VAN HET INTERNATIONALE TYPE

Informatie over leden van dezelfde octrooifamilie

Nummer van het verzoek om een onderzoek naar de stand van de techniek
NL 2011394

In het rapport genoemd octrooigeschrift	Datum van publicatie	Overeenkomend(e) geschrift(en)	Datum van publicatie
US 6499590	B1 31-12-2002	GEEN	
US 4967986	A 06-11-1990	GEEN	
US 5624026	A 29-04-1997	GEEN	

WRITTEN OPINION

File No.	Filing date *(day/month/year)*	Priority date *(day/month/year)*	Application No.
SN61807	05.09.2013		NL2011394

International Patent Classification (IPC)
INV. A45C3/00

Applicant
Makinori Lifestyle B.V.

This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the application
- ☒ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the application

	Examiner
	Nicolás, Carlos

Application number

WRITTEN OPINION

NL2011394

Box No. I Basis of this opinion

1. This opinion has been established on the basis of the latest set of claims filed before the start of the search.

2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:

   a. type of material:

   ☐ a sequence listing

   ☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing

   b. format of material:

   ☐ on paper

   ☐ in electronic form

   c. time of filing/furnishing:

   ☐ contained in the application as filed.

   ☐ filed together with the application in electronic form.

   ☐ furnished subsequently for the purposes of search.

3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.

4. Additional comments:

Box No. V Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty	Yes:	Claims	1-18
	No:	Claims	
Inventive step	Yes:	Claims	3
	No:	Claims	1, 2, 4-18
Industrial applicability	Yes:	Claims	1-18
	No:	Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

WRITTEN OPINION

Box No. VIII Certain observations on the application

see separate sheet

Re Box V

Prior art

1. Reference is made to the following documents:

D1 US 6 499 590 B1 (GODSHAW DONALD E [US] ET AL) 31 December 2002 (2002-12-31)

Novelty & inventive step

2. Document D1 discloses (the references in parentheses applying to this document) een Kledingopberginrichting omvattende een hoofdvel van een materiaal dat oprolbaar is in een oprolrichting en ten minste een kledingbevestigingsmiddel (column 3, lines 16-28) dat met het hoofdvel verbonden is, waarbij het hoofdvel voorzien is van twee langwerpige opstaande (ribs 20) gedeelten aan een voorzijde van het hoofdvel, die in hoofdzaak parallel zijn gesitueerd aan of nabij de randen van het hoofdvel en parallel aan de rolrichting (figures 1, 2), zodanig dat, als de inrichting is opgerold, er een gebogen ruimte gecreëerd is voor het behuizen van een pak of ander kledingstuk, *zonder dat daar noemenswaardig kracht op wordt uitgeoefend* en ~~zonder scherpe vouwen~~ (see figures 3, 4).

The difference between the subject-matter of claim 1 and D1 is the feature crossed out above. Therefore the subject-matter of claim 1 is new. However, no inventive step can be attributed to the subject-matter of claim 1 because it is not clear (see point 5).

3. A similar argument applies to the subject-matters of claims 2 and 4-18, because none of them solve the clarity problems raised in point 5 (once a new allowable claim 1 id filed, the subject-matter of claims 17 and 18 will be automatically also new and inventive).

4. It seems that claim 3 fulfils the requirements of novelty and inventive step.

Re Box VIII

5. Claim 1 does not meet the requirement of clarity because:

- the claim's subject-matter is defined in terms of negative limitations (zonder... zonder...), as a result of which the matter for which protection is sought is not clearly defined: The claim attempts to define the subject-matter in terms of the result to be achieved (zonder dat daar noemenswaardig kracht op wordt uitgeoefend en zonder scherpe vouwen), which merely amounts to a statement of the underlying problem, without providing the technical features necessary for achieving this result (see claim 3).