



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/14646 (22) International Filing Date: 29 June 1999 (29.06.99) (30) Priority Data: <table border="0"> <tr> <td>PCT/US98/13449</td> <td>29 June 1998 (29.06.98)</td> <td>US</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PCT/US98/13497</td> <td>29 June 1998 (29.06.98)</td> <td>US</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PCT/US98/13521</td> <td>29 June 1998 (29.06.98)</td> <td>US</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PCT/US98/13523</td> <td>29 June 1998 (29.06.98)</td> <td>US</td> </tr> </table> (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY [US/US]; One Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (US). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): EHRNSPERGER, Bruno, Johannes [DE/DE]; Westerbachstrasse 89, D-65936 Frankfurt am Main (DE). SCHMIDT, Mattias [DE/DE]; Altkoenigweg 3, D-65510 Idstein (DE). (74) Agents: REED, T., David et al.; The Procter & Gamble Company, 5299 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45217-1087 (US).		PCT/US98/13449	29 June 1998 (29.06.98)	US	PCT/US98/13497	29 June 1998 (29.06.98)	US	PCT/US98/13521	29 June 1998 (29.06.98)	US	PCT/US98/13523	29 June 1998 (29.06.98)	US	(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AT (Utility model), AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, CZ (Utility model), DE, DE (Utility model), DK, DK (Utility model), EE, EE (Utility model), ES, FI, FI (Utility model), GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SK (Utility model), SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i> (88) Date of publication of the international search report: 23 March 2000 (23.03.00)
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(54) Title: ABSORBENT ARTICLE INSTANTANEOUSLY STORING LIQUID IN A PREDEFINED PATTERN (57) Abstract The present invention provides an absorbent article such as a diaper, a training pant, an adult incontinence article, a bed mat, or the like which is capable of rapidly transporting urine away from its acquisition zone. In particular, the absorbent article stores a fraction of the acquired liquid outside of its acquisition region which remains relatively unchanged between 20 percent and 100 percent load of the article. The present invention further provides a process for handling urine in the absorbent article which comprises a step of transporting a relatively constant fraction of the acquired liquid away from the acquisition zone of the article.														

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 99/14646

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61F13/15

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

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61F

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 practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 98 22065 A (KIMBERLY CLARK CO) 28 May 1998 (1998-05-28) claim 20; figure 9; tables ---	1, 3, 4, 6-10, 16-18
X	EP 0 399 564 A (KIMBERLY CLARK CO) 28 November 1990 (1990-11-28) claims; figures; tables ---	1, 6-9, 16-18
A	EP 0 842 650 A (PROCTER & GAMBLE) 20 May 1998 (1998-05-20) claims 1-19; table 2 ---	2, 4, 6-8
A	EP 0 631 768 A (PROCTER & GAMBLE) 4 January 1995 (1995-01-04) abstract; claims 8, 15, 16 ---	1, 2, 4, 6-8
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☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 98 22067 A (KIMBERLY CLARK CO) 28 May 1998 (1998-05-28) claims; figures; tables -----	1-4, 6-12, 14-18

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