



SUPPLEMENTARY EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application number:
EP 21 77 96 52

Classification of the application (IPC):
A41D 13/11

Technical fields searched (IPC):
A41D

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim
X A	US 6996846 B1 (KARAPETYAN ARMEN [US]) 14 February 2006 (2006-02-14) * column 6, lines 26-67; figures 1,3a *	1-3, 6, 8, 9 10-12
X	US 6374424 B1 (TREDUP THOMAS R [US]) 23 April 2002 (2002-04-23) * column 2, lines 12-33; figure 4 *	1-3, 6, 7
X	US 2012131730 A1 (SHOHAM GILAD [CA] ET AL) 31 May 2012 (2012-05-31) * paragraphs [0038], [0040], [0043], [0045]; figures 3,5,6 *	1-5

The supplementary search report has been based on the last set of claims valid and available at the start of the search.

Place of search The Hague	Date of completion of the search 18 March 2024	Examiner D'Souza, Jennifer
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CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS

X: particularly relevant if taken alone	P: intermediate document
Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category	T: theory or principle underlying the invention
A: technological background	E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date
O: non-written disclosure	D: document cited in the application
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LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-12

A protective shield comprising a transparent non-spherical dome or shell delimiting a hollow interior space for receiving facial and cranial regions of a user's head therein, said non-spherical dome or shell having a boundary edge thereof that delimits an opening of said hollow interior space through which said facial and cranial regions of said user's head are admitted into said hollow interior space, said opening having an elongated primary dimension measured in one direction thereacross and configured with sufficient length to accommodate a chin-to-crown measurement of the user's head in an inferior- superior anatomical direction, and a shorter secondary dimension measured in a cross-wise direction to said primary dimension and configured with sufficient length to accommodate a narrower width measurement of the user's head in a lateral anatomical direction.

2. claim: 13

A protective shield for shielding facial and cranial regions of a user's head, said protective shield comprising a singular unitary piece of transparent material comprising an upper cranial portion arranged to overlie a top of the user's head, at least at a frontal scalp thereof, a lower facial portion arranged to hang downwardly from the cranial portion over the facial region of the user's head, and one or more support protrusions that are integrally formed in, or attached to, said cranial portion and jut downwardly from an underside thereof relative to surrounding surface areas of said underside of the cranial portion for resting of said support protrusions against the top of the user's head so as to support said surrounding surface areas in elevated relation over the top of the user's head to enable airflow therebetween.

3. claim: 14

A one-piece adjustable length headband for support of a protective shield on a users head, said headband comprising a singular unitary strip of foam material having a length dimension in which said strip of foam material is elongated relative to width and thickness dimensions thereof that are orthogonal to both one another and to said length dimension, said strip of foam material having opposing first and second ends between which said length dimension is measured, said strip of foam material having a barbed tail region spanning a partial length of the length dimension from the first end toward the second end, and a widened end region that resides adjacent the second end and is of greater measure in the width dimension than said barbed tail region, said strip of foam material being flexibly bendable in said length dimension to bring the first and second ends toward one another to form a closed loop, said barbed tail region being barbed on opposing sides thereof, and said the widened end region having at least one receiver opening therein through which the first end is insertable to engage the barbed tail through said receiver opening, whereupon the barbed sides of the barbed tail region resist pulling of the first end back through said receiver opening, thereby securing the headband in said closed loop, which is adjustable in size by pulling more of the barbed tail onward through said receiver opening.

4. claim: 15

A two-piece adjustable length headband for support of a protective shield on a users head, said headband comprising a first strip of foam material having a first pair of opposing ends separated from one another by a length dimension of said first strip of foam material, and a second strip of foam material having a second pair of opposing ends separated from one another by a length dimension of said second strip of foam material, one of two widthwise faces of the first strip having a respective piece of hook or loop fastener thereon adjacent each of the first pair of opposing ends, and one of two widthwise faces of the second strip having a respective

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piece of loop or hook fastener thereon adjacent each of the second pair of opposing ends that is matable with one of the hook or loop fasteners on the first strip, whereby the first and second strips are connectable face-to-face in end- overlapping fashion to form a closed loop, and at least one of the pieces of fastener is elongated in the length dimension of the respective strip of foam material to enable coupling together of the two strips in varying degrees of overlap to thereby adjustably size said headband.

None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present (supplementary) European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the first mentioned in the claims, namely claims: 1-12

The supplementary search report has been based on the last set of claims valid and available at the start of the search.

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ANNEX TO SUPPLEMENTARY EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application number:
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on 18-03-2024
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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6996846	B1	14-02-2006	NONE	
US 6374424	B1	23-04-2002	CA US	2424898 A1 09-10-2004 6374424 B1 23-04-2002
US 2012131730	A1	31-05-2012	US US	2012131730 A1 31-05-2012 2015250237 A1 10-09-2015