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(54) Title: IMPROVED BARRIER PERFORMANCE OF ABSORBENT ARTICLE COMPONENTS

(57) Abstract: The present invention is directed to absorbent articles comprised of one or more components exhibiting an improved barrier to basis weight performance. The improved barrier performance of the aforementioned absorbent article components is a result of supplying a strong and durable nonwoven substrate layer followed by deposition of a nano-denier, essentially continuously filament barrier layer onto the nonwoven substrate layer thereby providing absorbent articles that exhibit enhanced barrier performance in comparison to conventional absorbent articles.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/29636

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER		
IPC(7) : A61F 13/15, 13/20 US CL : 604/370		
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) U.S. : 604/370		
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 practicable, search terms used) Please See Continuation Sheet		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,492,751 A (BUTT, SR. et al) 20 February 1996 (20.02.1996), See abstract, col. 1, lines 15 et seq.	1-3
Y	US 5,683,809 A (FREEMAN et al) 04 November 1997 (04.11.1997), See col. 1, lines 13-16, col. 6, lines 15-41.	1-3
Y	US 5,804,512 A (LICKFIELD et al) 08 September 1998 (08.09.1998), See Figure 1, col. 1, lines 13-20, col. 2, lines 14-36, col. 4, lines 223-34, col. 5, lines 1-4 and 31-35.	1-3
Y	US 6,103,647 A (SHULTZ et al) 15 August 2000 (15.08.2000), See col. 3, lines 10-23 and col. 4, lines 59-63.	1-3
A	US 2002/0035354 A1 (MIRLE et al) 21 March 2002 (21.03.2002), See paragraph 93.	1-3
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.		
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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&"	document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		
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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. (703)305-3230		Authorized officer <i>Sharon H. Greene for</i> Karin M. Reichle Telephone No. (703) 308-0858

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Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:

EAST, search terms: denier, nanometer, nano, continuous, fibers, impervious, barrier, diameter, diaper, average, micron, micrometer, absorbent