

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
31 October 2002 (31.10.2002)

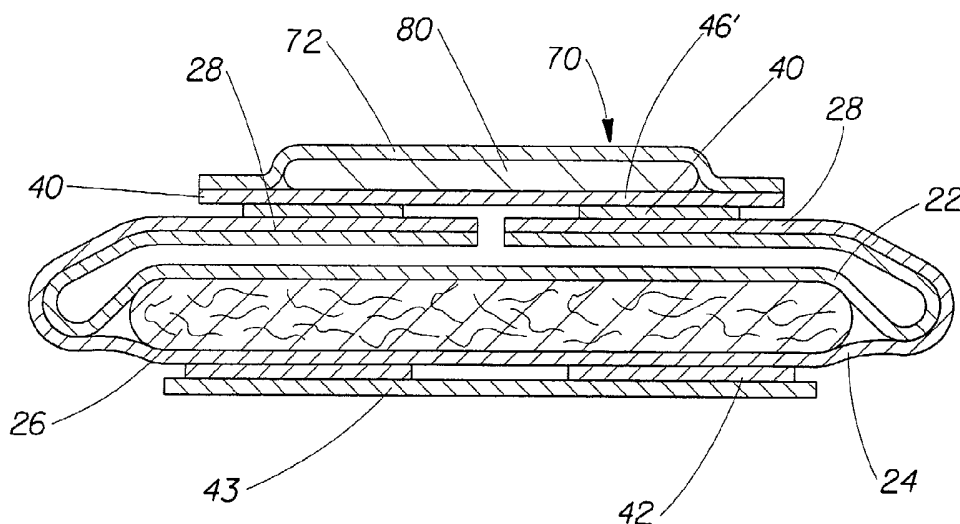
PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 02/085277 A3**

- (51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **A61F 13/551**, 13/476, 13/472, 13/84, 13/60
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/US02/12456
- (22) International Filing Date: 19 April 2002 (19.04.2002)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:  
09/839,741 20 April 2001 (20.04.2001) US
- (71) Applicant: **THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY** [US/US]; One Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (US).
- (72) Inventors: **STEGER, Christine, G.**; 8056 Second Street, West Chester, OH 45069 (US). **DARBY, Dennis, Allen**; 12145 Crown Court, Cincinnati, OH 45241 (US).
- (74) Agents: **REED, T., David** et al.; The Procter & Gamble Company, 5299 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45217-1087 (US).
- (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT (utility model), AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ (utility model), CZ, DE (utility model), DE, DK (utility model), DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE (utility model), EE, ES, FI (utility model), FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK (utility model), SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, 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, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SANITARY NAPKIN HAVING A WIPE ARTICLE ASSOCIATED THEREWITH



(57) Abstract: An absorbent article, preferably a sanitary napkin, having a body-facing side, a garment-facing side, a length, a width, and two longitudinal side margins. The sanitary napkin comprises a liquid pervious topsheet, a liquid impervious backsheet joined to said topsheet, and an absorbent core positioned between the topsheet and said backsheet. A pair of flaps are provided, each flap extending from a longitudinal side margin and each of the flaps are folded over the topsheet in a topsheet facing relationship. Means for maintaining the flaps in the topsheet facing relationship have a wipe article associated therewith. In a preferred embodiment the means for maintaining the flaps in the topsheet facing relationship comprises a release strip and the wipe article comprises a wet wipe. In a further embodiment, the absorbent article is an individually packaged sanitary napkin having a releasable wrapper affixed to the backsheet adhesive, and provided in a tri-folded package.



WO 02/085277 A3

**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, 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, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)

- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations

**Published:**

- with international search report

**(88) Date of publication of the international search report:**

3 July 2003

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 02/12456

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61F13/551 A61F13/476 A61F13/472 A61F13/84 A61F13/60

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 A61K

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)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	FR 2 778 568 A (KIM HEEBOK) 19 November 1999 (1999-11-19) the whole document ----	1,11,21
A	US 2 834 459 A (BLETZINGER JOHN C ET AL) 13 May 1958 (1958-05-13) claims; figures ----	1,11,21
A	US 5 569 230 A (BERG JR CHARLES J ET AL) 29 October 1996 (1996-10-29) cited in the application claims; figures ----	1,11,21
A	WO 98 53782 A (HASEGAWA MAKI ;PROCTER & GAMBLE (US)) 3 December 1998 (1998-12-03) figures -----	1,11,21

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

## ° Special categories of cited documents :

\*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

\*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

\*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

\*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

\*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

\*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

\*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

\*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

\*&amp;\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

25 February 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

06/03/2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Seabra, L

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**  
Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 02/12456

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
FR 2778568	A	19-11-1999	FR 2778568 A1	19-11-1999
US 2834459	A	13-05-1958	NONE	
US 5569230	A	29-10-1996	AT 168261 T	15-08-1998
			AU 679681 B2	10-07-1997
			AU 4291093 A	29-11-1993
			BR 9306312 A	30-06-1998
			CA 2118214 A1	11-11-1993
			CN 1082870 A	02-03-1994
			DE 69319726 D1	20-08-1998
			DE 69319726 T2	21-01-1999
			EG 19895 A	30-01-1997
			EP 0637950 A1	15-02-1995
			ES 2118960 T3	01-10-1998
			FI 945062 A	27-10-1994
			HK 1012902 A1	23-06-2000
			JP 7506034 T	06-07-1995
			KR 271177 B1	01-12-2000
			MX 9302496 A1	29-07-1994
			NO 944108 A	28-10-1994
			SG 54184 A1	16-11-1998
			TR 27814 A	29-08-1995
			WO 9321878 A1	11-11-1993
			US 5460622 A	24-10-1995
			US 5486167 A	23-01-1996
			US 5681300 A	28-10-1997
			AT 148335 T	15-02-1997
			AU 671429 B2	29-08-1996
			AU 3127593 A	15-06-1993
			BR 9206764 A	24-10-1995
			CA 2122241 A1	07-05-1993
			DE 69217242 D1	13-03-1997
			DK 612234 T3	01-04-1997
			EP 0612234 A1	31-08-1994
			ES 2097371 T3	01-04-1997
			FI 942243 A	13-05-1994
			GR 3022507 T3	31-05-1997
			HK 1006533 A1	05-03-1999
			JP 7500997 T	02-02-1995
			MX 9206594 A1	31-05-1994
			NO 941767 A	06-06-1994
			NZ 245118 A	27-02-1996
			PT 8642 U	30-09-1993
			PT 101796 A , B	30-08-1996
			WO 9309743 A1	27-05-1993
			US 5484636 A	16-01-1996
			AT 113195 T	15-11-1994
			AU 661459 B2	27-07-1995
			AU 7907491 A	31-12-1991
			BR 9106528 A	25-05-1993
			CA 2082926 A1	06-12-1991
			CN 1059695 A , B	25-03-1992
WO 9853782	A	03-12-1998	WO 9853782 A1	03-12-1998
			AU 3371997 A	30-12-1998
			BR 9714850 A	01-08-2000
			EP 0984756 A1	15-03-2000

### Information on patent family members

PCT/US 02/12456

Patent document  
cited in search report

Publication  
date

Patent family member(s)

Publication  
date

WO 9853782

A

JP

2000502943 T

14-03-2000