

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
13 March 2008 (13.03.2008)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2008/029331 A3

(51) International Patent Classification:
A61F 13/495 (2006.01) A61F 13/512 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/IB2007/053507

(22) International Filing Date: 30 August 2007 (30.08.2007)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
06120098.6 5 September 2006 (05.09.2006) EP

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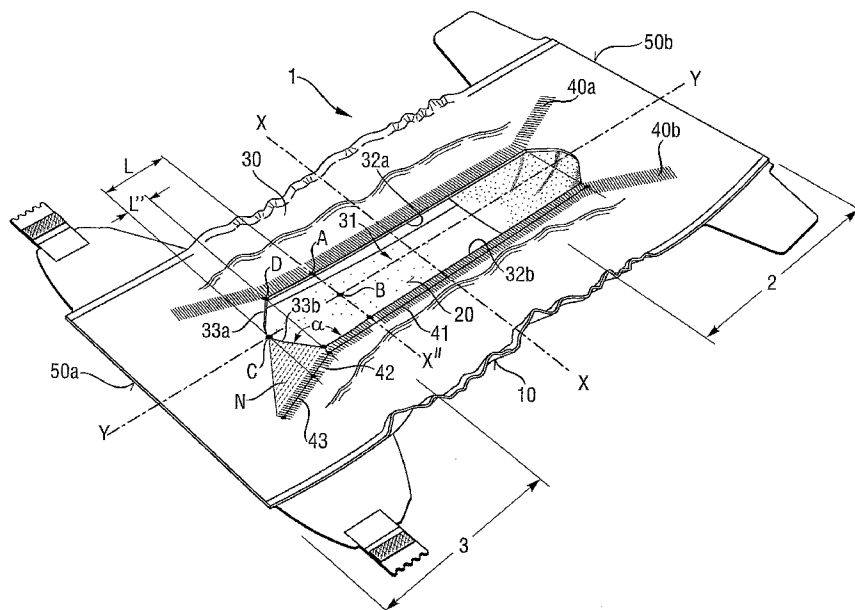
(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:
— with international search report

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: ABSORBENT ARTICLES WITH ELASTICATED TOPSHEET WITH REDUCED LEAKAGE



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to an absorbent article that has a topsheet (30) with elastic components (40) and one or more openings (31) with longitudinal side edges (32) and a connecting edge (33 a, b) in the back region (3), whereby the angel between a longitudinal side edge (32) and connecting edge (33) (angle α) is from 80° to 105°, and preferably whereby the ratio of the length L to L", as defined herein, is 0.55 or less, to reduce the risk of the presence of transverse wrinkles and subsequent leakage.

WO 2008/029331 A3



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

15 May 2008

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/IB2007/053507

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. A61F13/495 A61F13/512

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)

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)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 626 160 A1 (JAPAN ABSORBENT TECH INST [JP]) 30 November 1994 (1994-11-30) claim 1; figure 2	1-15
X	EP 0 631 767 A (BREGER GIBSON LTD [GB]) 4 January 1995 (1995-01-04) claims 1-3; figure 1	1-15
A	EP 1 417 947 A1 (PROCTER & GAMBLE [US]) 12 May 2004 (2004-05-12) cited in the application	4, 7-9, 13-15



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

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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.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

13 February 2008

Date of mailing of the international search report

26/02/2008

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/IB2007/053507

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