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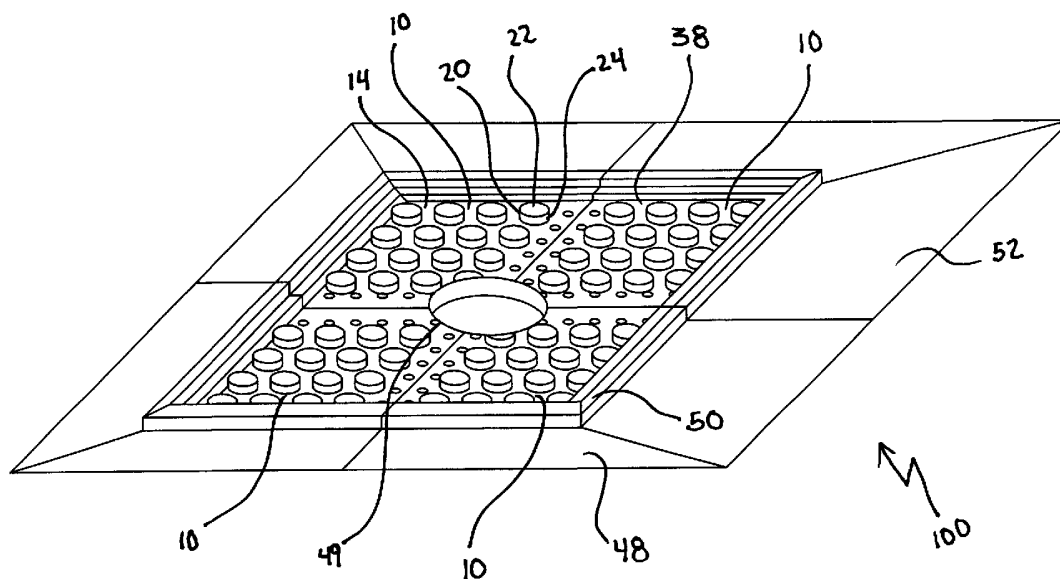
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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

— *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,
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DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT,
RO, SE, SI, SK, 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*

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SAFETY MAT



(57) Abstract: A safety mat (10) includes a polygonal planar body (12) having an upper liquid collecting surface (14), a bottom surface, and several peripheral edges. A plurality of closely spaced truncated projections (20) of uniform height are positioned on the liquid collecting surface (14). The truncated projections (20) form a high traction travel surface (22) that is raised above any accumulated liquids on the liquid collecting surface (14). A safety mat assembly (100) can be made in modular fashion by joining several of the safety mats (10) and enclosing them with a liquid retaining border (48).



- *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only*
- *as to non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty (Rule 4.17(v)) for all designations*

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- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

- *with a declaration as to non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty*

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.

TITLE OF THE INVENTION:

Safety Mat

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

5 The present invention relates to a safety mat and, in particular, a safety mat intended for use in work environments in which spilled liquids present a safety hazard by making footing treacherous.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

10 There are various work environments in which the surface upon which workers must walk is exposed to liquids, which make footing treacherous. For example, notwithstanding precautions which may be taken, some oil unavoidably spills from drilling pipe onto the floor of an oil drilling rig. Workers who walk on the drilling rig floor during the course of
15 performing their duties, must risk slipping on one of these oil spills.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

 What is required is a safety mat that can reduce slip and fall accidents in work environments prone to liquid spills.
20

 According to one aspect of the present invention there is provided a safety mat which includes a polygonal planar body having an upper liquid collecting surface, a bottom surface, and several peripheral edges. A plurality of closely spaced truncated projections of uniform height are
25 positioned on the liquid collecting surface. The truncated projections form a high traction travel surface that is raised above any accumulated liquids on the liquid collecting surface.

 The safety mat, as described above, has a travel surface that is
30 raised above the liquid collecting surface on which liquids accumulate. Beneficial results have been obtained when the truncated projections are disks, however, other configurations of truncated projections may be used. Beneficial results have been obtained by fabricating the mats from polymer plastic; however, other materials could be used in fabricating the
35 mats. The safety mat, as described above, provides an "anti-slip" travel surface free from liquids that helps prevent slip and fall injuries. It also provides a cushion surface which helps lessen worker fatigue.

 Although beneficial results may be obtained through the use of the
40 safety mat, as described above, every work area has areas of high traffic. The truncated projections can be expected to wear more rapidly than those areas of high traffic. Even more beneficial results may, therefore, be obtained when the truncated projections are detachable from the liquid collecting surface. This enables truncated projections to be
45 periodically replaced in high traffic areas without replacing the entire

body of the safety mat. It also enables truncated projections having different properties and wear characteristics to be positioned in different regions of the safety mat. There are various ways in which the truncated projections can be made detachable. Beneficial results have
5 been obtained when the liquid collecting surface has a plurality of spaced female couplings and each of the truncated projections has a male coupling which is adapted to engage one of the female couplings. It is preferred that the female coupling have internal threads and the male coupling have external threads. The male coupling and the female couplings can then be
10 joined in mating threaded engagement.

Although beneficial results may be obtained through the use of the safety mat, as described above, many of such safety mats are normally required in order to cover a work area. Even more beneficial results may,
15 therefore be obtained when an engagement profile is positioned along at least two of the peripheral edges of the body to enable the body is connected to another body. One type of engagement profile is a groove in the bottom surface of the body along one of the at least two peripheral edges with associated elongate edge member positioned between the groove
20 and the one of the at least two peripheral edges. It is preferred that one of male couplings or female couplings are positioned at intervals along the groove.

According to another aspect of the present invention there is
25 provided a safety mat assembly which includes several polygonal planar bodies each having an upper liquid collecting surface, a bottom surface and several peripheral edges. A plurality of closely spaced truncated projections of uniform height are positioned on the liquid collecting surface. The truncated projections form a high traction travel surface
30 that is raised above any accumulated liquids on the liquid collecting surface. Engagement profiles are provided along each of the peripheral edges of the planar bodies. Elongate connective members are provided which extend a length of the peripheral edges of the planar bodies and engage some of the engagement profiles of abutting planar bodies to form a
35 composite surface of several planar bodies. Liquid retaining border members are provided engage some of the engagement profiles of the planar bodies to form a border along a periphery of the composite surface.

The safety mat assembly, as described above, uses connective members
40 to join the planar bodies to form a composite surface which covers virtually any size of work area. It is preferred that the connective members form a liquid tight seal, so that liquids are unable to leak through the composite surface to harm the environment. The liquid containing border members to prevent liquids from leaking from the
45 periphery of the composite surface.

Beneficial results have been obtained when the engagement profiles are grooves along each of the peripheral edges with associated elongate edge members positioned between the grooves and the peripheral edges and the connective members have an elongate first tongue, an elongate second tongue extending in parallel spaced relation to the first tongue, and a channel positioned between the first tongue and the second tongue. The first tongue is adapted to engage a first groove in a first planar body of the several planar bodies and the second tongue being adapted to engage a second groove in a second planar body of the several planar bodies. The channel is adapted to receive a first edge member from the first planar body and a second edge member from the second planar body, thereby securing the first planar body to the second planar body in a secure and liquid tight manner.

In order to prevent inadvertent separation of the connective member from the first planar body and the second planar body, it is preferred that female receptacles be positioned at intervals along each of the grooves and that the connective members have male members spaced at intervals along each of the first tongue and the second tongue. The male members are adapted to engage the female receptacles to prevent inadvertent separation. It is preferred that the male members have mushroom locking heads to prevent them from being accidentally withdrawn from the female receptacles.

It is preferred that the border members each have channels which are adapted to receive the engagement profiles of the planar bodies in sliding fit engagement. The functionality of the border members can be further improved when by providing an outwardly extending transition ramp, thereby providing a transition from an underlying surface onto the composite surface of planar bodies. The functionality of the border members can be even further improved by providing an upstanding liquid retaining ridge. It is preferred that the composite surface has at least one drainage opening that permits liquids to drain from the liquid collecting surface into a collection container where the liquids may be disposed of in an environmentally acceptable fashion.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

These and other features of the invention will become more apparent from the following description in which reference is made to the appended drawings, the drawings are for the purpose of illustration only and are not intended to in any way limit the scope of the invention to the particular embodiment or embodiments shown, wherein:

FIGURE 1 is an perspective view of a modular safety mat assembly constructed in accordance with the teachings of the present invention.

FIGURE 2 is a side elevation view, in section, of the modular safety mat assembly illustrated in **FIGURE 1**.

FIGURE 3 is an exploded perspective view of the modular safety mat assembly illustrated in **FIGURE 1**.

5 **FIGURE 4** is an exploded perspective view of a modular safety mat component of the modular safety mat assembly illustrated in **FIGURE 1**.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

10 The preferred embodiment, a safety mat generally identified by reference numeral 10, and a safety mat assembly generally identified by reference numeral 100 made by connecting several of safety mats 10 will now be described with reference to **FIGURES 1** through **4**.

Structure and Relationship of Parts:

15 Referring to **FIGURE 4**, there is provided a safety mat 10, which includes a rectangular polymer plastic planar body 12 with an upper liquid collecting surface 14, a bottom surface 16, and four peripheral edges 18.

20 A plurality of closely spaced truncated projections 20 of uniform height are positioned on liquid collecting surface 14. Truncated projections 20 form a high traction travel surface 22 that is raised above any accumulated liquids on liquid collecting surface 14. In the illustrated embodiment, truncated projections 20 are disks 24 with different forms of traction profiles 25, however it will be appreciated that truncated projections 20 could be formed into other configurations and still function.

25 Liquid collecting surface 14 has a plurality of spaced female couplings 27 with internal threads 29. Each of truncated projections 20 has a male coupling 31 with external threads 33 which are adapted to engage internal threads 29 of one of female couplings 27. Truncated projections 20 are detachably secured to liquid collecting surface 14 by threaded engagement
30 between male couplings 31 and female couplings 27.

35 An engagement profile 26 is positioned along each of peripheral edges 18 of planar body 12 whereby planar body 12 is connected to a second planar body 28. Engagement profile 26 is in the form of a groove 30 in bottom surface 16 along each of peripheral edges 18 with an associated elongate edge member 32 positioned between groove 30 and peripheral edges 18. Female receptacles 34 are positioned at intervals along groove 30.

40 Referring to **FIGURE 1**, there is illustrated safety mat assembly 100. Referring to **FIGURES 2** and **3**, safety mat assembly 100 is made up of several safety mats 10 connected with an elongate connective member 36 and enclosed by a border member 48. In order to differentiate between safety mats 10 one will be referred to as first rectangular polymer plastic

planar body 12 and the other will be referred to as second rectangular body 28. Second planar body 28 is identical to first planar body 12, as described above.

5 Referring to **FIGURE 3**, elongate connective member 36 extends a length of one of peripheral edges 18 of first planar body 12 and second planar body 28. Referring to **FIGURE 2**, elongate connective member 36 engages engagement profiles 26 of abutting first planar body 12 and second planar body 28, thereby forming a composite surface 38 of first body 12
10 and second body 28. Referring to **FIGURE 3**, connective member 36 has an elongate first tongue 40 and an elongate second tongue 42 extending in parallel spaced relation to first tongue 40, and a channel 44 positioned between first tongue 40 and second tongue 42. Referring to **FIGURE 2**, first tongue 40 is adapted to engage groove 30 in first planar body 12
15 while second tongue 42 is adapted to engage groove 30 in second planar body 28. Referring to **FIGURE 2**, channel 44 is adapted to receive edge member 32 from first planar body 12 and edge member 32 from second planar body 28, thereby securing first planar body 12 to second planar body 28 in a secure and liquid tight manner.

20 Referring to **FIGURE 3**, connective member 36 has male members 46 spaced at intervals along each of first tongue 40 and second tongue 42. Referring to **FIGURE 2**, male members 46 are adapted to engage female receptacles 34, thereby preventing inadvertent separation of connective member 36 from first planar body 12 and second planar body 28. Male members 46 have mushroom shaped locking heads 47 which lock male member 46 into female receptacles 34.

Referring to **FIGURE 2**, a liquid retaining border member 48 engages
30 one of engagement profiles 26 of first body 12 to form a border along a periphery of composite surface 38. Border member 48 has a channel 50 which is adapted to receive engagement profiles 26 of first planar body 12 and second planar body 28 in sliding fit engagement. Border member 48 has an outwardly extending transition ramp 52, thereby providing a transition
35 from an underlying surface 54 onto composite surface 38 formed from first planar body 12 and second planar body 28. Border member 48 also has an upstanding liquid retaining ridge 56.

Referring to **FIGURE 1**, it will be appreciated that any number of
40 safety mats 10 can be joined to provide a composite surface 38 of any size desired with border members 48 secured completely around the periphery of composite surface 38 to contain liquids. A drainage opening 49 is provided in composite surface to drain liquids. These liquids are then captured in an environmentally safe manner. On an oil drilling rig drainage opening

49 will generally be centrally positioned, corresponding to the positioning of the rotary table.

Operation:

5 The use and operation of safety mat assembly 100 will now be described with reference to **FIGURES 1** through **4**. Referring to **FIGURE 1**, a plurality of safety mats 10 are joined to form safety mat assembly 100. Referring to **FIGURE 2**, as is illustrated using first planar body 12 and second planar body 28 and described above, safety mats are secured side by side using elongate connective member 36. Connective member 36 forms a liquid tight seal, so that liquids are unable to leak through composite surface 38 to harm the environment. To secure first planar body 12 to second planar body 28, first tongue 40 of connective member 36 is engaged with groove 30 on first planar body 12 while second tongue 42 of connective member 36 is engaged with groove 30 on second planar body 28. Male members 46 on first tongue 40 and second tongue 42 are engaged with female receptacles 34 in grooves 30 in first planar body 12 and second planar body 28 to prevent inadvertent separation of connective member 36 from first planar body 12 and second planar body 28. Separation is prevented by mushroom shaped locking head 47. Additional safety mats 10 can be joined together to make composite surface 38 of mat assembly 100 in any desired size or configuration.

Referring to **FIGURE 1**, once the configuration of composite surface 38 is established, liquid retaining border members 48 are positioned around the periphery of the surface. Referring to **FIGURE 2**, border member 48 are engaged with one of engagement profiles 26 of first body 12 to form a border along a periphery of the composite surface 38. Border members 48 serve to prevent liquids from leaking along the periphery of composite surface 38. Transition ramp 52 provides a transition from an underlying surface 54 onto composite surface 38. A drainage conduit 49 to a storage container (not shown) may be provided to drain liquids from composite surface 38.

35 Referring to **FIGURE 1**, high traction travel surface 22 of first planar body 12 and second planar body 28 is raised above any accumulated liquids on liquid collecting surface 14, so that workers can safely stand or walk on high traction travel surface 22, notwithstanding the inevitable presence of liquids. Truncated projections 20 both raise the worker above any liquids, but also provide some cushioning to relieve fatigue.

Referring to **FIGURE 4**, truncated projections 20 in areas of heavy travel on composite surface 38 will become worn. When that occurs, those

truncated projections 20 that are worn can be replaced. This is done by merely detaching truncated projections 20 from liquid collecting surface 14, by unthreading male couplings 31 of truncated projections 20 from female couplings 27 on liquid collecting surface 14. The ability to
5 replace worn areas of composite surface 38 will result in considerable savings over time to the user.

In this patent document, the word "comprising" is used in its non-limiting sense to mean that items following the word are included, but
10 items not specifically mentioned are not excluded. A reference to an element by the indefinite article "a" does not exclude the possibility that more than one of the element is present, unless the context clearly requires that there be one and only one of the elements.

15 It will be apparent to one skilled in the art that modifications may be made to the illustrated embodiment without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as hereinafter defined in the Claims.

THE EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:

- 5 1. A safety mat, comprising:
a polygonal planar body having an upper liquid collecting surface, a
bottom surface, and several peripheral edges;
a plurality of closely spaced truncated projections of uniform
height positioned on the liquid collecting surface, the truncated
10 projections forming a high traction travel surface that is raised above
any accumulated liquids on the liquid collecting surface.
2. The safety mat as defined in Claim 1, wherein the truncated
projections are disks.
- 15 3. The safety mat as defined in Claim 1, wherein the truncated
projections are detachable from the liquid collecting surface.
4. The safety mat as defined in Claim 3, wherein the liquid collecting
20 surface has a plurality of spaced female couplings and each of the
truncated projections has a male coupling which is adapted to engage one
of the female couplings.
5. The safety mat as defined in Claim 4, wherein the female coupling has
25 internal threads and the male coupling as external threads, the male
coupling and the female couplings being joined in mating threaded
engagement.
6. The safety mat as defined in Claim 1, wherein an engagement profile is
30 positioned along at least two of the peripheral edges of body whereby the
body is connected to another body.
7. The safety mat as defined in Claim 6, wherein each engagement profile
is a groove in the bottom surface of the body along one of the at least
35 two peripheral edges with associated elongate edge member positioned
between the groove and the one of the at least two peripheral edges.
8. The safety mat as defined in Claim 7, wherein one of male couplings or
female couplings are positioned at intervals along the groove.
- 40 9. The safety mat as defined in Claim 1, wherein the body is made from
polymer plastic.

10. A safety mat, comprising:

a rectangular polymer plastic planar body having a liquid collecting surface, a bottom surface, and four peripheral edges;

5 a plurality of closely spaced truncated projections of uniform height being positioned on the liquid collecting surface, the truncated projections forming a high traction travel surface that is raised above any accumulated liquids on the liquid collecting surface;

10 an engagement profile positioned along each of the peripheral edges of body whereby the body is connected to another body, the engagement profile being in the form of a groove in the bottom surface along each of the peripheral edges with associated elongate edge member positioned between the groove and the peripheral edges, female couplings being positioned at intervals along the groove.

15 11. The safety mat as defined in Claim 10, wherein the liquid collecting surface has a plurality of spaced female couplings with internal threads and each of the truncated projections has a male coupling with external threads which are adapted to engage the internal threads of one of the female couplings, thereby detachably securing the truncated projections to the liquid collecting surface.

20 12. The safety mat as defined in Claim 11, wherein the truncated projections are disks.

25

13. A safety mat assembly, comprising:

several polygonal planar bodies, each of the planar bodies having an upper liquid collecting surface, a bottom surface and several peripheral edges;

a plurality of closely spaced truncated projections of uniform height on the liquid collecting surface, the truncated projections forming a high traction travel surface that is raised above any accumulated liquids on the liquid collecting surface;

engagement profiles positioned along each of the peripheral edges of the planar bodies;

elongate connective members extending a length of the peripheral edges of the planar bodies and engaging some of the engagement profiles of abutting planar bodies, thereby forming a composite surface of several planar bodies; and

liquid retaining border members engaging some of the engagement profiles of the planar bodies to form a border along a periphery of the composite surface.

14. The safety mat assembly as defined in Claim 13, wherein the engagement profiles are grooves along each of the peripheral edges with associated elongate edge members positioned between the grooves and the peripheral edges;

the connective members having an elongate first tongue and an elongate second tongue extending in parallel spaced relation to the first tongue, and a channel positioned between the first tongue and the second tongue, the first tongue being adapted to engage a first groove in a first planar body of the several planar bodies and the second tongue being adapted to engage a second groove in a second planar body of the several planar bodies, and the channel being adapted to receive a first edge member from the first planar body and a second edge member from the second planar body, thereby securing the first planar body to the second planar body in a secure and liquid tight manner.

15. The safety mat assembly as defined in Claim 14, wherein one of male couplings or female couplings are positioned at intervals along each of the grooves and the other of male couplings or female couplings are positioned at intervals along each of the first tongue and the second tongue of the connective members.

16. The safety mat assembly assembly as defined in Claim 15, wherein the female couplings are positioned along each of the grooves and male couplings are positioned on the connective members, the male couplings being adapted to engage the female couplings, thereby preventing inadvertent separation of the connective members from the first planar

body and the second planar body.

17. The safety mat assembly as defined in Claim 16, wherein the male couplings have mushroom locking heads to maintain a locking engagement
5 with the female couplings.

18. the connective members have male members spaced at intervals along each of the first tongue and the second tongue,

19. The safety mat assembly as defined in Claim 13, wherein the
10 engagement profiles of the several planar bodies are grooves along each of the peripheral edges with associated elongate edge members positioned between the grooves and the peripheral edges; and

the border members each having channels which are adapted to receive the engagement profiles of the planar bodies in sliding fit engagement.

15

20. The safety mat assembly as defined in Claim 19, wherein the border members have an outwardly extending transition ramp, thereby providing a transition from an underlying surface onto the composite surface of the planar bodies.

20

21. The safety mat assembly as defined in Claim 19, wherein the border members have an upstanding liquid retaining ridge.

22. A safety mat assembly, comprising:

several rectangular polymer plastic planar bodies, each of the planar bodies having an upper liquid collecting surface, a bottom surface and four peripheral edges;

a plurality of closely spaced truncated projections of uniform height on the liquid collecting surface, the truncated projections forming a high traction travel surface that is raised above any accumulated liquids on the liquid collecting surface;

engagement profiles positioned along each of the peripheral edges of the planar bodies, the engagement profiles being grooves along each of the peripheral edges with associated elongate edge members positioned between the grooves and the peripheral edges, female receptacles being positioned at intervals along each of the grooves;

elongate connective members extending a length of the peripheral edges of the planar bodies and engaging some of the engagement profiles of abutting planar bodies, thereby forming a composite surface of several planar bodies, the connective members having an elongate first tongue and an elongate second tongue extending in parallel spaced relation to the first tongue, and a channel positioned between the first tongue and the second tongue, the first tongue being adapted to engage a first groove in a first planar body of the several planar bodies and the second tongue being adapted to engage a second groove in a second planar body of the several planar bodies, and the channel being adapted to receive a first edge member from the first planar body and a second edge member from the second planar body, thereby securing the first planar body to the second planar body in a secure and liquid tight manner, the connective members having male members spaced at intervals along each of the first tongue and the second tongue, the male members being adapted to engage the female receptacles, each of the male members having mushroom locking heads thereby preventing inadvertent separation of the connective member from the first planar body and the second planar body; and

liquid retaining border members engaging some of the engagement profiles of the planar bodies to form a border along a periphery of the composite surface, the border members each having channels which are adapted to receive the engagement profiles of the planar bodies in sliding fit engagement.

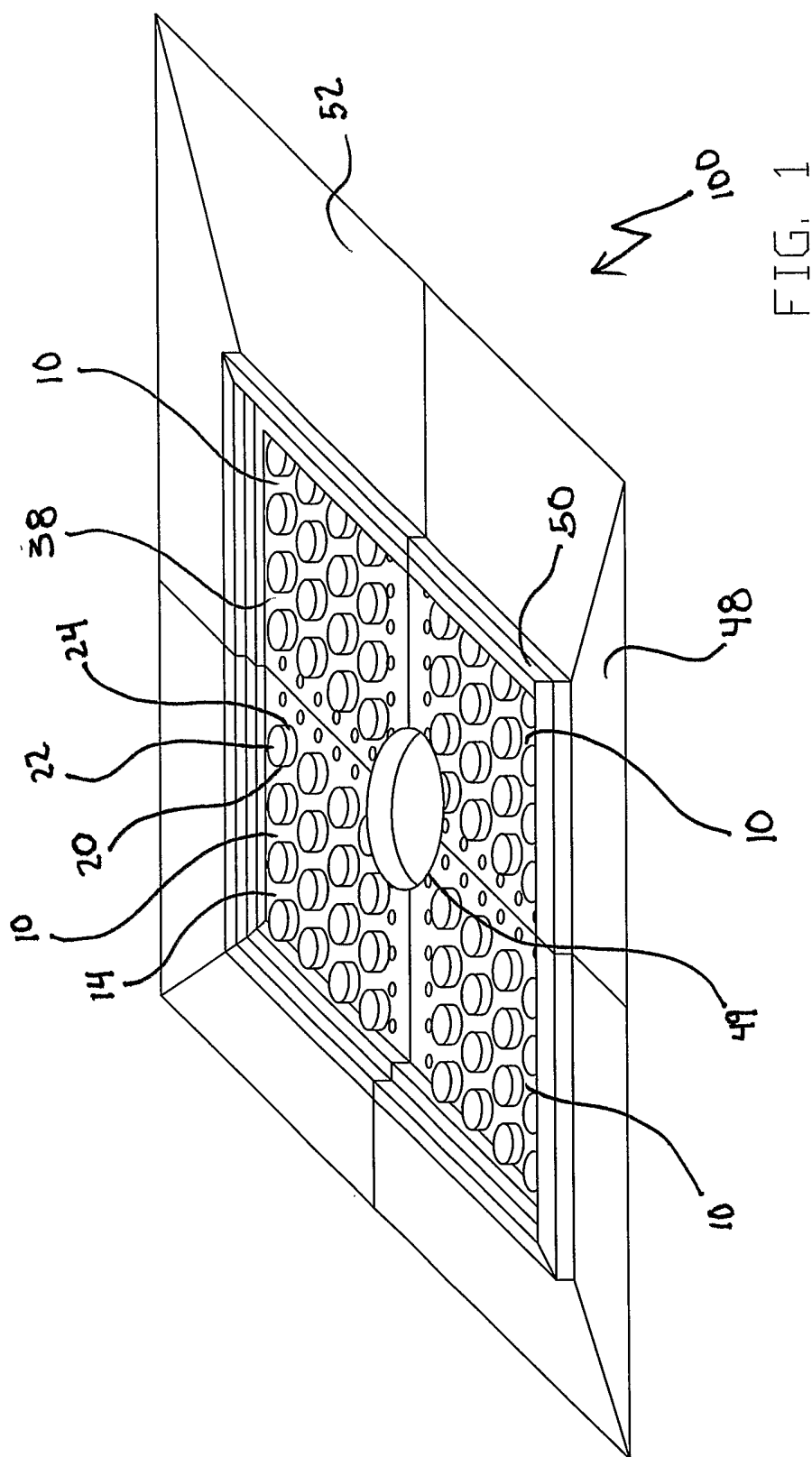
23. The safety mat assembly as defined in Claim 22, wherein the border members have an outwardly extending transition ramp, thereby providing a transition from an underlying surface onto the composite surface of planar bodies.

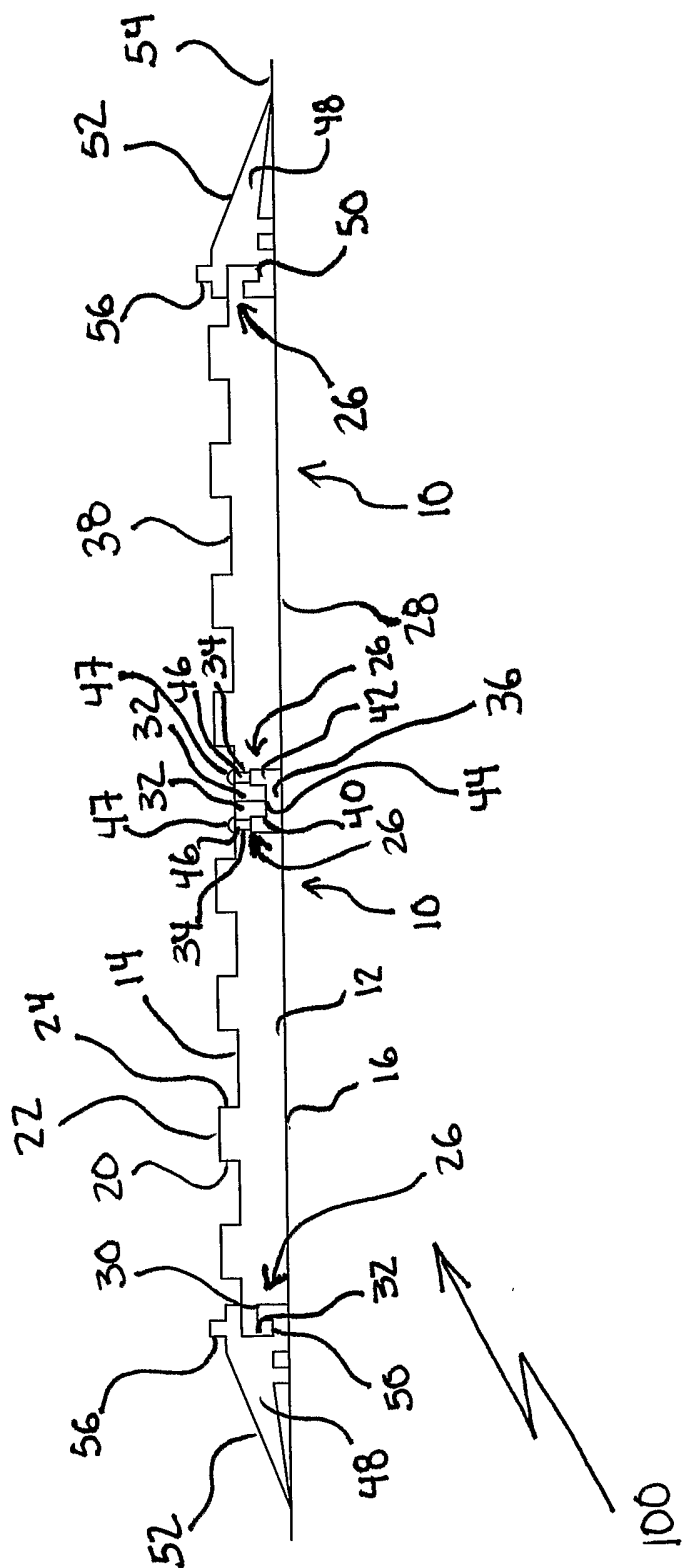
24. The safety mat assembly as defined in Claim 22, wherein the border members have an upstanding liquid retaining ridge.

25. The safety mat assembly as defined in Claim 22, wherein the liquid collecting surface has a plurality of spaced female couplings with internal threads and each of the truncated projections has a male coupling
5 with external threads which are adapted to engage the internal threads of one of the female couplings, thereby detachably securing the truncated projections to the liquid collecting surface.

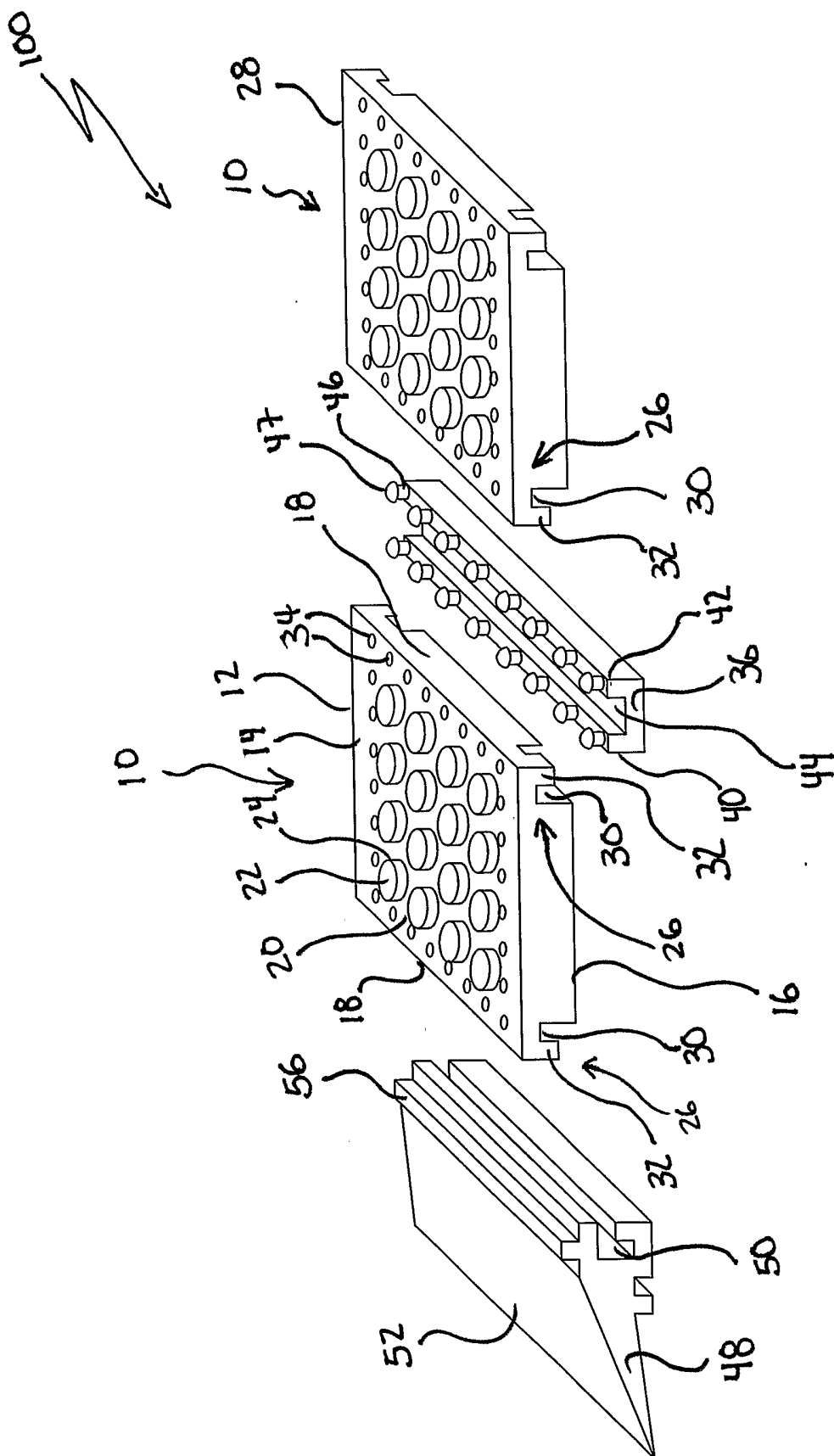
26. The safety mat assembly as defined in Claim 22, wherein the truncated
10 projections are disks.

27. The safety mat assembly as defined in Claim 22, wherein the composite surface has at least one drainage opening.





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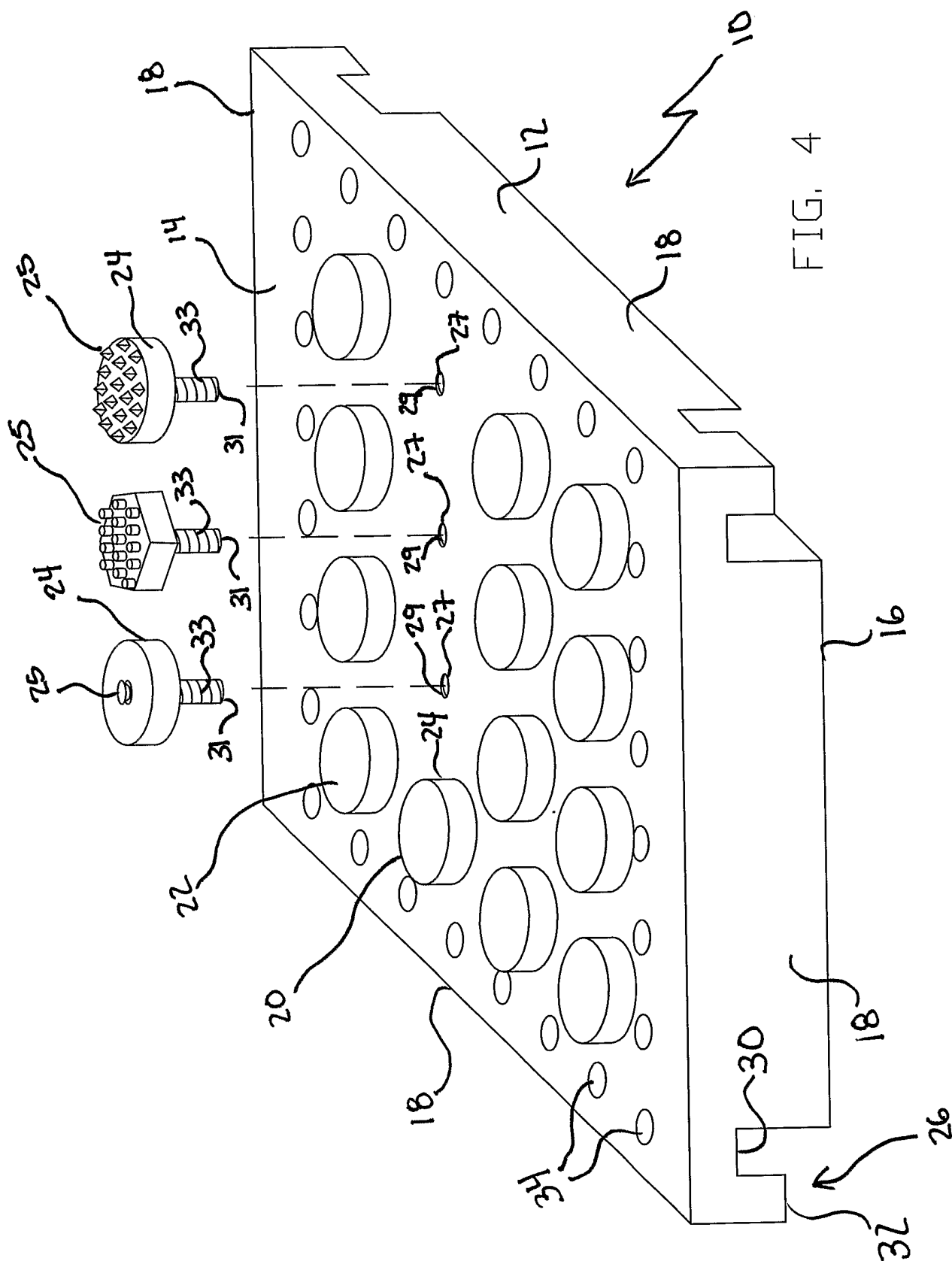


FIG. 4

VIII-5-1	Declaration: Non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty Declaration as to non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty (Rules 4.17(v) and 51bis.1(a)(v)): Name:	in relation to this international application HOLTBY, Quinn declares that the subject matter claimed in this international application was disclosed as follows:
VIII-5-1	Kind of disclosure:	publication
(i) VIII-5-1	Date of disclosure:	17 December 2002 (17.12.2002)
(ii) VIII-5-1	Title of disclosure:	ANTI-SLIP SAFETY MAT
(iii) VIII-5-1	Place of disclosure:	Edmonton Alberta Canada
(iv) VIII-5-1	This declaration is made for the purposes of:	all designations
(v)		

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/CA 03/00911

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 A47L23/26 A47G27/02

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 A47L A47G A61H E04F A01K

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 A	FR 2 748 506 A (USINES GABRIEL WATTELEZ SA) 14 November 1997 (1997-11-14) page 4, line 8 - line 32; figures	1-5, 9, 13 10-12, 22, 23, 25, 26
X A	GB 1 265 625 A (MARTINI) 1 March 1972 (1972-03-01) figures	1, 6-10 13-16, 22, 27
X Y A	EP 0 117 707 A (MORRISON) 5 September 1984 (1984-09-05) claim 7; figures	1, 6, 9 7 10, 13, 19, 20, 22, 23, 27
	--- -/-	

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

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents:

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

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Date of mailing of the international search report

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Name and mailing address of the ISA

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/CA 03/00911

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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