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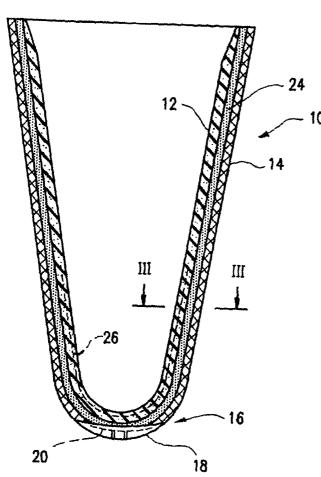
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(54) Title: COMPOSITE ELASTIC MATERIAL



(57) Abstract: A composite elastic material useful for prosthetic applications is constituted of at least one cured silicone elastomer layer (12) containing silicone oil and hollow microspheres (28) dispersed throughout the elastomer layer (12). An elasticized fabric layer (14) may be intimately bonded to one side of the silicone elastomer layer (12) and the composite elastic material may be incorporated in various prosthetic appliances, including suction liners and sealing sleeves. When used in a suction liner, the composite elastic material may be molded to provide a thicker anterior wall (50) and a thinner posterior wall (54) with a smooth transition between the anterior and posterior walls. The composite elastic material covered with an elasticized fabric may be used as a sealing sleeve between a prosthetic device and a residual limb. The composite elastic material may contain one or more skin treating agents blended into the silicone elastomer.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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US CL : 623/36; 428/447, 300.7			
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)			
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U.S. : 623/36, 37, 34, 32, 33, 33; 426/447, 300.7, 30.7, 20.2, 233.1, 237.4, 402, 400, 407			
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)			
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where ap	opropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 3,634,136 A (LA HABRA et al) 11 abstract, columns 2-7.	l January 1972 (11.01.1972),	1-34
A	US 4,923,474 A (KLASSON et al) abstract.	8 May 1990 (08.05.1990),	1-34
Y	US 5,507,834 A (LAGHI) 16 April 1996 (16.04.1996), abstract, columns 2-6.		1-34
Y	US 5,830,237 A (KANIA) 03 Novabstract, columns 3-11.	1-34	
A	US 5,571,208 A (CASPERS) 05 November 1996 (05.11.1996), abstract.		
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.			
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	date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention to be of particular relevance		
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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other		"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 particular in the cast of the contents.	
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