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[Continued on next page]

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(54) Title: INSERT FOR EXPANDING AN ARTICLE OF CLOTHING

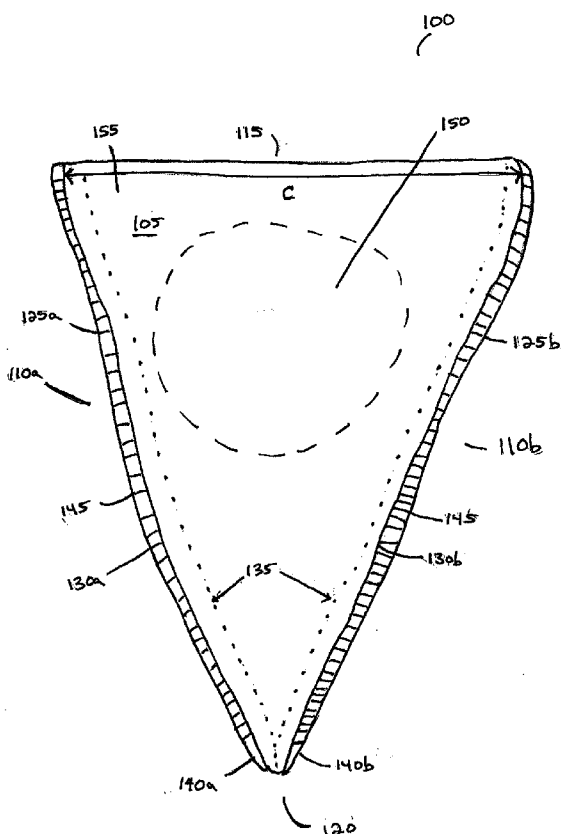


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: Systems and methods associated with an insert (100) for expanding an article of clothing, including an article of footwear, are described. Articles of clothing incorporating such inserts are also described. The insert includes a body portion (105) defining a first edge (110a), a second edge (110b), and a perimeter. Fasteners (125a, 125b) are disposed along the first and second edges. The fasteners couple to fastening structures of the article of clothing, and the perimeter of the body increases a size or circumference of the article of the clothing. The material for the insert, fasteners, fastening structures, or portions thereof can be selected to be decorative or to match, complement, correspond to, or coordinate with articles of clothing and/or accessories.



NO, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG,
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. A43B3/26 A43B23/02 A41D15/00

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)

A43B A41D

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

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	DE 196 24 553 A1 (SCHABSKY ATLAS SCHUHFAB [DE]) 2 January 1998 (1998-01-02) column 3 - column 4; figures -----	1,22-24
X	DE 102 40 785 B4 (HAIMERL EWALD [DE]) 16 September 2004 (2004-09-16) figures -----	1,22-24
X	EP 1 749 454 A (C & J CLARK INTERNAT LTD [GB]) 7 February 2007 (2007-02-07) paragraph [0015] - paragraph [0022]; figures 1,4,7,8 -----	1,22-24
X	DE 203 12 365 U1 (ZESSLER SILKE [DE]) 18 December 2003 (2003-12-18) figures 1,3 -----	1,22-24
Y	----- -/--	6,19

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

☒ See patent family 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
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Date of the actual completion of the international search

13 October 2008

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C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	FR 2 593 356 A (PREIXENS CATHERINE [FR]) 31 July 1987 (1987-07-31) page 1, lines 13-24 page 2, lines 20-31; figure -----	6,19
X	US 2006/185065 A1 (ALLEN BRADLEY [US]) 24 August 2006 (2006-08-24) -----	23
A	paragraph [0011]; figures 14-23 -----	1,22,24
X	CA 2 104 496 A1 (RONALD GLEN [CA]) 21 February 1995 (1995-02-21) -----	23
A	figures 5a,2,3 -----	1,22,24

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2008/070326

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers allsearchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search reportcovers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

see annex

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-25

Independent claims 1 and 23 relate to an insert for increasing a size of the circumference of an article of clothing. With these features the size of an article of clothing can be adapted to the size of a particular user. Independent claims 22 and 24 relate respectively to an article of footwear comprising such an insert, and to a method of manufacturing this insert.

2. claims: 26-27

Independent claim 26 relates to a device comprising two openings, two pivots and a pull structure, which is capable of facilitating the closure of zipper structures.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/US2008/070326

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
DE 19624553	A1	02-01-1998	NONE
DE 10240785	B4	16-09-2004	DE 10240785 A1 06-05-2004
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