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(54) **Male undergarment with protective pouch**

(57) A male undergarment that comprises a body encircling member, including a front piece and a rear piece; an elastic waist band attached to the encircling member; a scrotum receiving section formed by a portion of the front piece and by an adjacent inwardly positioned piece of fabric and a pouch, adapted to retain the scrotum therein and defined by the scrotum receiving section and by

a separate border element. The pouch is produced in such a way that the border element is attached to the scrotum receiving section. The border element is configured to contact the groin when the undergarment is worn, so as to reduce friction between the scrotum and groin.

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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 05 29 2628

| DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                               |                                                   |                                            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Category                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages                                                                 | Relevant to claim                                 | CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)    |
| X                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | US 5 029 345 A (ANGHELUTA ET AL)<br>9 July 1991 (1991-07-09)<br><br>* column 2, line 15 - column 6, line 68;<br>figures 1-6 *<br>-----        | 1-6,9,<br>12,15,<br>18,<br>20-22,<br>25,27        | INV.<br>A41B9/02                           |
| X                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | US 3 499 442 A (WILLIAM A. STEINMETZ)<br>10 March 1970 (1970-03-10)<br><br>* column 2, line 30 - column 3, line 20;<br>figures 1-3 *<br>----- | 1,4-6,9,<br>12,13,<br>15,18,<br>20,21             |                                            |
| A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | CH 305 697 A (KAELIN,KASPAR,DR)<br>15 March 1955 (1955-03-15)<br>* page 1, line 15 - page 2, line 74;<br>figures 1-4 *<br>-----               | 1-27                                              |                                            |
| A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | US 2 459 043 A (OWENBY PAUL ET AL)<br>11 January 1949 (1949-01-11)<br>* column 2, line 21 - column 4, line 8;<br>figures 1-6 *<br>-----       | 1-27                                              | TECHNICAL FIELDS<br>SEARCHED (IPC)<br>A41B |
| A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | GB 960 367 A (ROBERT SHAW & COMPANY<br>LIMITED) 10 June 1964 (1964-06-10)<br>* page 1, line 70 - page 2, line 19;<br>figures 1,2 *<br>-----   | 1-27                                              |                                            |
| <del>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</del>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                               |                                                   |                                            |
| Place of search<br>Munich                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                               | Date of completion of the search<br>15 March 2006 | Examiner<br>Herry-Martin, D                |
| CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS<br>X : particularly relevant if taken alone<br>Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category<br>A : technological background<br>O : non-written disclosure<br>P : intermediate document<br>T : theory or principle underlying the invention<br>E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date<br>D : document cited in the application<br>L : document cited for other reasons<br>& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document |                                                                                                                                               |                                                   |                                            |

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EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

**CLAIMS INCURRING FEES**

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION**

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- ☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☒ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:

1-27



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**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION  
SHEET B**

Application Number  
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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-27

Male undergarment comprising a pouch and at least one border  
element

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2. claims: 28-30

Male undergarment wherein each friction reducing region is  
made from perforated functional fabric

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 05 29 2628

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.  
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
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15-03-2006

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|-------------------------------------------|---|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
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