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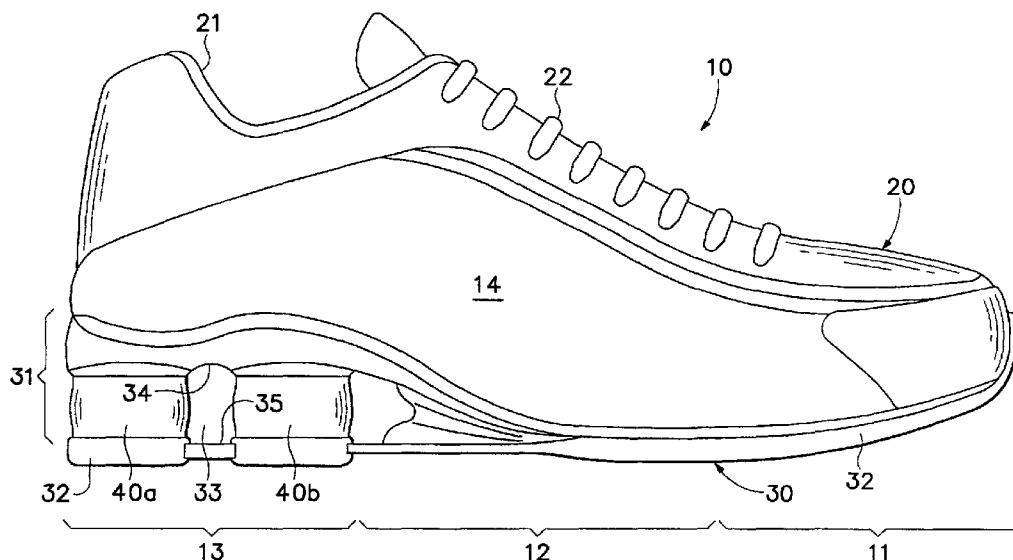
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: ARTICLE OF FOOTWEAR WITH A SOLE STRUCTURE HAVING FLUID-FILLED SUPPORT ELEMENTS



(57) Abstract: An article of footwear (10) is disclosed that includes an upper (20) and a sole structure (30) secured to the upper. The sole structure incorporates a support element (40a, 40b) that includes a fluid-filled chamber (50), a first insert (61), and a second insert (62). The chamber defines a first surface (51), an opposite second surface (52), and a sidewall (53) extending between the first surface and the second surface. The first insert is secured to the first surface and at least partially recessed into the polymer material of the chamber, and the second insert is secured to the second surface. In addition, the chamber may be pressurized to deform the first insert or the second insert.

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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*

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. A43B13/18 A43B13/20 B29D31/518

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)

B29D A43B

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 A	WO 01/70063 A (NIKE INC [US]; NIKE INTERNATIONAL LTD [US]) 27 September 2001 (2001-09-27) page 4 - page 11; figures	1,2, 6-10,12, 30,40,64 22,47
X A	US 2005/028403 A1 (SWIGART JOHN F [US] ET AL) 10 February 2005 (2005-02-10) page 46 - page 62; figures	1,2,5, 8-12,30, 40,64 22,47
X A	WO 99/22160 A (RETAMA TECH CORP [US]) 6 May 1999 (1999-05-06) page 15 - page 19; figures 7-10,16	1,30,40, 47,64 12,22
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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
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *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
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- * & * document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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Date of mailing of the international search report

13/05/2008

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International application No

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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.
X	US 5 224 278 A (JEON PIL D [KR]) 6 July 1993 (1993-07-06)	1,2,5, 7-9,11, 64
A	column 4, line 3; figures	12,22, 30,40,47
A	----- US 5 343 639 A (KILGORE BRUCE J [US] ET AL) 6 September 1994 (1994-09-06)	1,12,22, 30,40, 47,64
A	column 2, lines 15-21; figures ----- WO 01/70061 A (NIKE INC [US]; NIKE INTERNATIONAL LTD [US]) 27 September 2001 (2001-09-27) claim 1; figures -----	1,12,22, 30,40, 47,64

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2006/038052

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.

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

1. claims: 1-52, 64-71

Independent claims 1, 12, 22, 30, 40, 47 and 64 relate to the incorporation of inserts on the surface of fluid-filled, pressurized chambers.

Such inserts, in particular, limit the distension in the surfaces of the chamber and provide areas that may join more easily with surfaces of the sole.

No optical property is mentioned.

2. claims: 53-63, 72-76

Independent claims 53, 60 and 72 relate to attachment members and fluid-filled chambers having similar optical properties, such as color or transparency.

No insert is mentioned

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/US2006/038052

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