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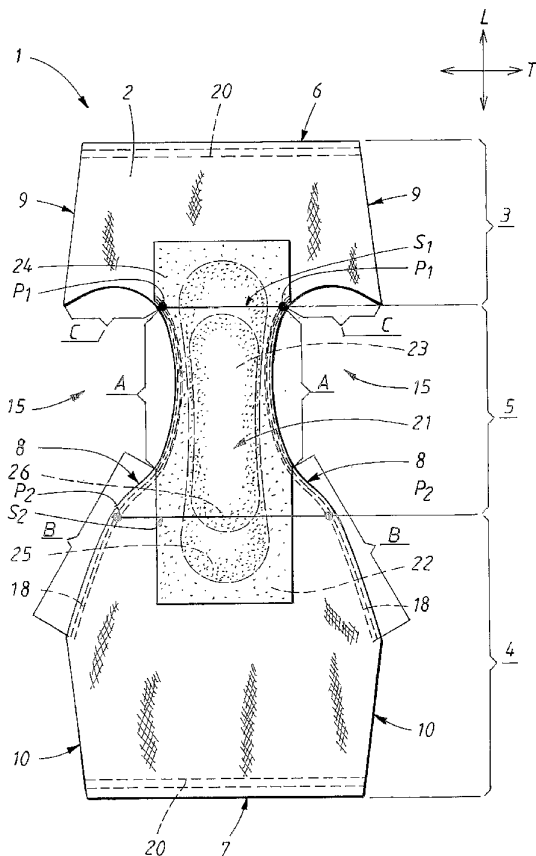
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(54) Title: PANT-SHAPED GARMENT WITH IMPROVED FIT



(57) **Abstract:** A pant shaped garment comprising an outer panty (2) having a length direction (L) and a transverse direction (T) and which exhibits a rear portion (4) intended to be arranged over the buttocks of a user during use, a front portion (3) intended to be arranged over the belly of a user during use, a crotch portion (5) intended to be arranged in the user's crotch during use and, further, a waist opening (14) with a waist edge (13) extending in the transverse direction (T) and two leg openings (16) each being bordered by a leg edge (15) having a front part of the leg edge (15) being located generally on the front portion (3) and a rear part of the leg edge being located generally on the rear portion (4) and on the crotch portion (5). The rear portion (4) and the front portion (3) and the rear portion (4) of the outer panty (2) consist substantially of an elastically extensible material and in that the rear part of each leg edge (15) is curve-shaped and exhibits a concave curved segment (A) located mainly on the rear portion (4).

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PANT-SHAPED GARMENT WITH IMPROVED FIT.

TECHNICAL FIELD

The invention pertains to a pant shaped garment in the form of a pant diaper,
5 a sanitary panty or an underpant comprising an outer panty having a length
direction and a transverse direction and which exhibits a rear portion
intended to be arranged over the buttocks of a user during use, a front
portion intended to be arranged over the belly of a user during use, a crotch
portion intended to be arranged in the user's crotch during use and, further, a
10 waist opening with a waist edge extending in the transverse direction and two
leg openings each being bordered by a leg edge having a front part of the leg
edge being located generally on the front portion and a rear part of the leg
edge being located generally on the rear portion and on the crotch portion
and wherein the rear portion and the front portion are mutually connected in
15 two side joins which run in the length direction from the waist opening to each
leg opening.

BACKGROUND ART

It has become increasingly more common to manufacture incontinence
20 protectors in the form of pant diapers. Such pant diapers consist of an outer
panty having an integral absorbent inner part. Alternatively, an outer panty
can be used together with a separate incontinence shield which is
temporarily attached inside the outer panty and which, thus, can be changed
for a new incontinence shield while retaining the same outer panty. Both
25 kinds of incontinence protectors are manufactured for infants as well as for
incontinent adult persons. It also occurs that sanitary panties are provided for
use in connection with menstruation. Such sanitary panties are also available
with or without an integrated absorbent portion.

30 The pants concerned here are of the disposable kind, implying that the pant
is intended to be discarded after use and not washed or otherwise restored
for use. This means that the materials and production methods which are

available are those which are cost efficient and which do not result in articles having exceedingly high price.

5 Particularly when the panty is intended for use by adult users, it is important that the panty as much as possible imitates a conventional textile underpant. Accordingly, the panty should be flexible, discreet and conformable and give a "textile" and tailored impression.

10 However, a special requirement for pant diapers and underpants intended for use in connection with incontinence and menstruation is that they must have a good fit and conform tightly to the waist and thighs of the user so that leakage of body fluids is prevented. In order to achieve such sealing, pant diapers, sanitary panties and underpants are provided with elastic elements in the form of bands or threads that are arranged around the waist opening and around the leg openings. However, a problem is that there exists a risk of chafing and unpleasant pressure from tightly fitting elastic elements and wrinkled leg edges. In order to avoid the formation of gaps between the elastic elements and the body of the user and to prevent the leg edges from sliding up over the buttocks of the user, the elastic elements are often arranged with more pre-stretching than would have been necessary if the panty had a better fit.

25 Consequently, there still remains a need for a well-fitting and comfortable article in the form of a pant diaper, a sanitary panty or an underpant that affords good protection against leakage of body fluids out at the leg openings.

DISCLOSURE OF INVENTION

30 In accordance with the invention a garment of the kind mentioned in the introduction has been provided, which garment substantially removes the problems related to previously known such garments.

The garment in accordance with the invention is primarily distinguished by the front portion and the rear portion of the outer panty substantially consisting of an elastically extensible material and by the rear part of each leg edge being curve-shaped and exhibiting a concave curved segment
5 located mainly on the rear portion.

A panty having a leg cut in accordance with the invention has a very good fit and provides good shaping of the panty around the legs of the user. The panty conforms particularly well to the rear side of the thighs beneath the
10 buttocks of the user and will not slide up on the user's buttocks.

The rear part of the leg edge may advantageously have an S-shaped curvature. In such an instance, the leg edge has a slight S-shape. Alternatively, the part of the convexly curved part of the leg edge which is
15 located rearmost can be generally straight.

In accordance with one embodiment of the invention the front part of the leg edge is also curved and exhibits a concave curved shape. Such a concave curve shape conforms to the curvature on the front of the user's thighs and
20 contributes to giving the panty a good fit.

The crotch portion of the outer panty may consist of a substantially non-elastic material which is joined to the elastic front portion in a front join and to the elastic rear portion in a rear join, wherein both joins are arranged in the
25 transverse direction of the outer panty. By arranging a non-stretchable, non-elastic material in the crotch portion a better support for attaching an absorbent unit in the crotch portion is obtained. Absorbent bodies are usually non-elastic and tend to break if they are exposed to stretching. It can therefore be desirable to minimise the stretching forces that such bodies are
30 exposed to. Moreover, a non-elastic material is in general cheaper than elastic materials, implying that a non-elastic crotch portion involves cost savings that are particularly advantageous for disposable articles.

In order that the non-stretchable crotch portion to as small a degree as possible will affect the ability of the outer panty to adapt its shape to the body of a user, the join between the non-elastic material in the crotch portion and the elastic material in the rear portion should be located at a level with or in front of the curve maximum of the convexly curved part of the leg edge. The expression curve maximum denotes the point on the rear part of the leg edge where the convex curvature is greatest.

10 In a corresponding manner, the join between the non-elastic material in the crotch portion and the elastic material in the front portion should be located at a level with the point on the front part of the leg edge which is located furthest from the waist edge. This point is in general located on a transverse line dividing the front portion from the crotch portion and will be placed in the
15 groin of the user when the pant diaper or diaper pant is put on.

A particularly suitable material for the front portion and the rear portion of the outer panty consists of an elastic and breathable laminate comprising two nonwoven layers and an elastic, perforated plastic film arranged between the
20 nonwoven layers.

When the panty is a pant diaper or is intended for catamenial protection, it comprises an absorbent unit, wherein the absorbent unit comprises an absorption core enclosed between a liquid permeable inner layer and a
25 liquid impermeable barrier layer, and is arranged at least in the crotch portion of the outer panty.

In accordance with an embodiment of the invention, elastic elements are arranged along the rear part of the leg edge. Thus, an elongated elastic
30 element is arranged with pre-stretching along preferably all of the rear part of the leg edge of each leg opening. By choosing a material for the front portion which is elastically extensible but which has a lower resistance to stretching

than the elongated elastic elements, the elastic elements will constrict the rear portion of the leg edge and thereby stretch the elastic material along the front part of the leg edge. Thereby, the side joins will exhibit a curvature in a direction towards the rear portion and having a degree of curvature which
5 increases in a direction from the waist opening towards the leg opening.

By means of the combination of an elastically stretchable material in the front portion and an elastic element arranged in a pre-stretched state along the rear leg edges of the leg openings, several advantages are obtained. Thus,
10 the rear elastic element constricts the rear leg edge and also exerts a pulling force on the material in the front portion. The force is directed generally in the continuation of the rear elastic element, whereby the main stretching takes place in the front leg edge of each leg opening with the stretching gradually diminishing in a direction towards the waist edge. This implies that the side
15 joins of the pant diaper or the underpant are pulled rearwards on the garment and take the form of a hook or a J. This shaping contributes to enhance the effect of the leg cut out and to improve the fit over the buttocks of the user. In addition, the curving of the side joins is favourable because the side joins will thereby during use be arranged behind the hip bone of the user, so that the
20 risk of chafing and pressure on the hip bone is eliminated. Moreover, the pant diaper or the underpant acquires an extraordinarily good fit, closely conforming to the user's body shape. It is further an advantage to be able to exclude the use of an elastic element along the front leg edge of the leg openings. This affords a softer and more comfortable leg edge with minimal
25 risk of chafing and uncomfortable pressure and brings about production advantages since it saves material and one production step.

Despite the absence of an elastic element along the front leg edges, the panty has a very good fit and provides adequate gasketing around the legs of
30 the user. This is due to the elastic elements along the rear leg edges stretching and activating the elastic material in the front portion, whereby an elastically constricting force arises also in the front leg edges when the pant

diaper or underpant is being worn. Since all of the front portion is elastically stretchable and the degree of stretching caused by the rear elastic element diminishes in a direction towards the waist edge, the elastic seal along the front edges of the leg openings becomes soft and comfortable without wrinkles or other irregularities. A conventional elastic element in the form of a thread or a band which is arranged along the front leg edge exerts a very localised pressure and will, in addition, wrinkle the material in the panty in a way which may give rise to chafing creases.

10 A further advantage with arranging elastic elements along the rear leg edges is that the rear elastic elements in an elegant manner pass over to the side joins, giving an attractive and tailored impression. Particularly for adult users of incontinence protectors, it is not an unimportant aspect that the incontinence protectors as much as possible imitate ordinary underwear and that the impression of a "diaper" is toned down.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

In the following, the invention will be described more closely with reference to the figures which are shown in the appended drawings:

20

Fig. 1 a planar view of a pant diaper in accordance with the invention, seen from the side facing the user during use;

25 Fig. 2

a frontal view of the pant diaper in Fig. 1, as it appears in an assembled state; and

30 Fig. 3

a side view of the pant diaper in Fig. 1, as it appears during use.

DESCRIPTION OF EMBODIMENTS

For the sake of clarity, the pant diaper 1 in Fig. 1 is shown in a not fully assembled, planar extended state. The pant diaper 1 has an elongated shape with a length direction L and a transverse direction T. In Fig. 2, the pant diaper 1 is shown as it appears in an assembled state and without being exposed to stretching forces. The pant diaper comprises an outer party 2 which can be divided into a front portion 3, which during use is intended to be facing to the front of the user and to be arranged over the stomach of the user, a rear portion 4 which during use is intended to be facing rearwards on the user and to be arranged over the buttocks of the user and a crotch portion 5 located between the front portion 3 and the rear portion 4 and which is intended to be placed in the user's crotch during use.

In the extended state shown in Fig. 1, the pant diaper 1 has a straight front end edge or front edge 6, a straight rear end edge or back edge 7 and two side edges 8 which each exhibit a front and a rear straight side segment 9,10, and a curved leg segment 15 located between the straight side segments 9,10. In the shown embodiment, the curved leg segments or leg edges 15 have essentially the shape of a fishing hook with the hook part turned towards the front portion 3 of the pant diaper. The shape of the curved leg edges 15 is crucial to the fit of the pant diaper. Thus, it is particularly essential that the rear part of each leg edge 15 be designed in a correct manner. As appears from Fig. 1, the rear part of the leg edge 15 of the pant diaper 1 has a concavely curved segment A, which is located in the crotch portion 5 of the pant diaper and a segment B which extends over the rear portion 4 and a little way in towards the crotch portion 5 and which exhibits a convex curvature. In the shown example, the rearmost part of the segment B is substantially straight. However, it is alternatively possible to design this part with a slight concave curvature so that the entire segment B is slightly S-shaped. By shaping the leg edge in accordance with the invention, the assembled pant diaper is given an exceptionally good fit that brings about a particularly good seal beneath the buttocks of the user.

Further, the leg edge 15 has a front segment C which is concavely curved in order to provide a better fit on the front side of the user's thighs.

In an assembled state as shown in Fig. 2, the front side segment 9 of each side edge 8 is joined to the corresponding rear side segment in a side join 12. Thereby, the front edge 6 and the back edge 7 form a waist edge 13 which surrounds a waist opening 14 and the curved leg edges 15 of the side edges 8 surround leg openings 16.

10 The side joins 12 are suitably made in a way to resist the pulling forces which arise when putting on and using the pant diaper but so that they can be torn apart when removing the used absorbent panty. An openable side join 12 does not have a greater cohesive ability than to allow the join to break at a lower force than that which is required to tear the surrounding material in the
15 absorbent panty. The side joins 12 can, for instance, be made by welding or by adhesive.

The front portion 3 and the rear portion 4 of the outer panty 2 are formed from an elastically stretchable material. Suitable elastic materials are different
20 types of elastic nonwoven materials. An elastic nonwoven material which is suitable for use in an absorbent panty in accordance with the invention should be able to be elastically stretched at least 80% and preferably at least 100% in the transverse direction of the panty in order to provide sufficient elastic seal around the edges 15 of the leg openings 16 on the front portion
25 3. It is further advantageous if the elastic nonwoven material can be elastically stretched also in the length direction of the absorbent panty, i.e. in a direction perpendicular to the transverse direction.

The elastic sheet material in the outer panty 2 can consist of a laminate of
30 two or more layers. In the example shown in Fig. 1, the front portion 3 and the rear portion 4 consist of elastic material while the crotch portion 5 consists of an essentially non-elastic material. Naturally, it is possible to

manufacture the entire outer panty from elastic material. A material which is suitable for the purpose is a three-layer laminate with a nonwoven layer on each side of an apertured elastic film. Such a laminate provides an elastic and breathable outer panty. It is also possible to use other preferably
5 breathable elastic materials. For instance, what is known as SMS-materials can be used. An SMS-material is a nonwoven laminate with a layer of spunbond nonwoven on each side of a meltblown nonwoven layer.

The crotch portion 5 of the outer panty 2 consists of an essentially non-elastic
10 material which is joined to the elastic front portion 3 in a front join S_1 and to the elastic rear portion 4 in a rear join S_2 , wherein the two joins S_1 , S_2 are arranged in the transverse direction T of the outer panty 2.

In order that the non-elastic crotch portion 5 should have as little as possible
15 negative effect on the ability of the outer panty to adapt its shape to the body of a user, the join S_2 between the non-elastic material in the crotch portion 5 and the elastic material in the rear portion 4 is located at a level with the curve maximum P_2 on the convexly curved segment B of the leg edge. The expression curve maximum P_2 denotes the point on the rear part of the leg
20 edge 15 where the convex curvature is greatest. Accordingly, the rear join S_2 runs in the transverse direction T between the curve maxima P_2 on each convexly curved segment B of the leg edges 15.

In a corresponding way, the join S_1 between the non-elastic material in the
25 crotch portion 5 and the elastic material in the front portion 3 is located at a level with the point P_1 on the front segment C of the leg edge 15 which is located farthest from the waist edge. In general, this point is positioned on a transverse line dividing the front portion 3 from the crotch portion 5 and will be located in the groin of the user when the pant diaper 1 is worn.

30 Elastic elements are arranged as leg elastic 18 around the leg openings 16 and as waist elastic 20 around the waist opening 14. When the outer panty 2

is formed from a laminate of two or more layers, the elastic elements 18,20 are suitably attached between two such layers. The elastic elements 18 around the leg openings are only arranged on the crotch portion 5 and the rear portion 4, while the segment C of the leg edges 15 which extends over
5 the front portion 3 is free from special elastic elements. There are more elastic elements 18 along the concavely curved segment A of the leg edge 15 than along the convexly curved segment B. Thereby, the constricting force is greater in the crotch portion 5 of the pant diaper. Such differentiated elastic can, of course, be accomplished by varying the tension in one and the same
10 elastic element. However, it is not necessary for the invention that elastic with different constricting ability be arranged along the leg edges 15.

Since the outer panty 2 comprises elastic material, it is not necessary to provide the waist opening 14 with special elastic elements 20, the elasticity in
15 the outer panty 2 for many applications being sufficient for the diaper pant 2 to stay securely and comfortably in place and to fit tightly around the waist of the user.

The elastic elements in the leg elastic 18 and the waist elastic 20 can be in
20 the form of elastic threads, bands or similar. If elastic threads or bands are used, two or more of these are often applied parallel with each other. The material can be rubber, elastic foam, etc.

A core package 21 is attached inside the elastically stretchable outer panty 2
25 for instance by means of adhesive or by welding. The core package 21 can be attached to the outer panty 2 over the entire common surface or only over parts thereof. However, the core package 21 should be sufficiently well anchored inside the outer panty 2 to avoid it coming away or being moved from its proper position during use.

30

The core package 21 comprises a liquid barrier layer 22, an absorbent core 23 and a liquid permeable inner layer 24. The core package 21 is attached

with the liquid barrier layer 22 against the outer panty 2. Fig. 1 shows an absorbent core 23 consisting of two superposed absorbent layers 25,26 wherein the lower absorbent layer 25, which is located closest to the liquid barrier layer 22, is somewhat larger than the upper absorbent layer 26, which is located closest to the inner layer 24. In the shown example, the core package 21 has an angular hour-glass shape in the plane, the planar shape of the core package being defined by the shape of the liquid barrier layer 22 and the liquid permeable inner layer 24 which together enclose the absorbent core 23. Naturally, it is possible to use core packages 21 having a different planar shape. The liquid barrier layer 22 and the inner layer 24 may, for instance, have a more rounded hour-glass shape, a rectangular shape, a trapezoid shape, an oval shape, etc. Further, the core package 21 does not need to have the size shown in the Fig. Larger as well as smaller absorbent cores 23 can be used depending on the absorbent capacity desired in the pant diaper. Further, it is not necessary to arrange an absorbent core 23 in a special core package. Instead, the liquid barrier layer 22 and the liquid permeable inner layer 24 may be integrated parts of the outer panty 2.

Since the material in the crotch portion 5 of the outer panty 2 is non-stretchable and non-elastic, a better support is obtained for attaching the core package 21 in the crotch portion. Absorbent cores usually consist of non-elastic materials having fairly low coherency and tend to break if they are exposed to stretching. It may thus be desirable to minimise the stretching forces to which such cores are exposed.

The liquid permeable inner layer 24 can consist of any material known for the purpose such as layers of nonwoven material, perforated plastic film, netting, tow (parallel fibres), or similar. The inner layer 24 may, of course, also consist of a laminate of two or more layers of the same or different materials.

The liquid barrier layer 22 can consist of a liquid impermeable plastic film, a hydrophobic nonwoven layer or a nonwoven layer which has been treated to

have liquid barrier properties, or any other flexible material layer which has the ability to resist liquid penetration. However, it may be an advantage if the liquid barrier layer 22 exhibits a certain breathability, i.e. allows passage of water vapour through the layer 22.

5

The absorbent core 23 can be formed from absorbent materials such as cellulose fluff pulp, tissue, absorbent foam, etc. It is also common that the absorbent core 23 comprises superabsorbents, i.e. polymeric materials which can absorb body fluids corresponding to several times their own weight while forming an aqueous gel. Such superabsorbents usually exist in the form of particles, but fibres, flakes, granules and film are also found. In addition, the absorbent core 23 may comprise non-absorbent components such as stiffening elements, shaping elements, binders, etc. Different kinds of fluid receiving and fluid distributing structures such as fibrous wadding, open-cell foam, wicking layers or similar may also be included in the core package 21.

The different components which are included in the core package 21 may be connected to each other in a conventional manner, for instance by gluing or welding with heat or ultrasonically. Evidently, the core package 21 may comprise further components apart from those which have been described here, for instance the core package may comprise liquid transport layers, elastic elements, shape stabilising elements, shaping elements, or the like. Even if the absorbent core has been shown having two absorbent layers 25, 26, alternative arrangements can be used. For instance, for some applications it may be sufficient with a single absorbent layer while other applications may require more than two absorbent layers. Thus, the design of the absorbent core can be adapted to the amount of liquid that the absorbent core is expected to absorb. Similarly, the kind of body fluids that are to be absorbed and the manner in which the body fluids are delivered to the absorbent core are naturally of importance for the size and properties of the absorbent core.

As has previously been mentioned, Fig. 2 shows how the pant diaper appears before it is put on. All elastic elements and components are substantially non-stretched. Since the leg elastic 18 and the waist elastic 20 are attached to the outer panty 2 in a stretched state, they contract the material in the outer panty 2 when the stretching ceases. This means that, before it is put on, the pant diaper 1 has a somewhat wrinkled waist edge 13 and leg edges 15 that are wrinkled in the crotch portion 5 and in the rear portion 4.

In Fig. 3 the pant diaper 1 is shown while being worn by a user. Due to the tension in the leg elastic 18 along the leg edge 15 on the crotch portion 5 and the rear portion 4 being greater than the resistance to stretching in the elastic material of the outer panty 2 on the front portion 3, the part of the side join 12 which is located closest to the leg opening 16 is pulled rearwards on the pant diaper 1. Thereby, the side join 12 is given a curved shape with a curve radius which increases in a direction from the waist edge 13 towards the leg edge 15. The curving of the side join 12 results in the side join 12 being placed behind the hip bone 30 of the user when the pant diaper is put on. This is a major advantage since the risk of chafing and unpleasant pressure from the side join 12 is thereby eliminated. Furthermore, an overlap between the side join 12 and any side seams on a garment which is worn over the pant diaper 1 is avoided.

The absence of a particular elastic element along the leg edge 15 on the front portion 3 is advantageous from several aspects. Above all, it gives the pant diaper an exceptionally good fit with a smooth and comfortable seal around the front part of the user's thighs. The risk of chafing on the fronts and insides of the thighs is completely eliminated and the pant diaper can be discreetly worn under normal clothing.

30

The invention should not be regarded as being limited by the described embodiment. Accordingly, within the scope of the invention, it is possible to

design the absorbent portion of the pant diaper in a different manner from that which has been described. The shape and size of the absorbent core, as well as the shape and size of the liquid barrier layer and the inner layer can, of course, be varied. It is also possible to completely exclude the liquid barrier layer. In such a case, it is generally suitable that the material in the pant diaper, at least within the area of the absorbent core, can resist liquid penetration.

Moreover, the leg elastics may be arranged only along, for instance, the part of the leg edge that extends over the rear portion or along the leg edge on the rear portion and a part of the crotch portion.

Comprises/comprising and grammatical variations thereof when used in this specification are to be taken to specify the presence of stated features, integers, steps or components or groups thereof, but do not preclude the presence or addition of one or more other features, integers, steps, components or groups thereof.

THE CLAIMS DEFINING THE INVENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- 2004218541 08 Aug 2006
- 5 1. A pant shaped garment having a length direction and a transverse direction, the garment comprising a rear portion intended to be arranged over the buttocks of a user during use, a front portion intended to be arranged over the belly of a user during use, a crotch portion intended to be arranged in the user's crotch during use and, a waist opening with a waist edge extending in the transverse direction and two leg openings each being bordered by a leg edge having at least a front part of the leg edge being located generally on the front portion and a rear part of the leg edge being located generally on the rear portion and wherein the rear portion and the front portion are mutually connected in two side joins which run in the length direction from the waist opening to each leg opening, wherein the front portion and the rear portion of the garment are each comprised of an elastically extensible material and the rear part of each leg edge is curve-shaped and has a convex curved segment located mainly on the rear portion.
- 10 15
2. The garment according to claim 1, wherein the front part of the leg edge which is located on the front portion has a concave curved shape.
3. The garment according to claim 1, wherein the rear part of the leg edge has an S-shaped curvature.
- 20 4. The garment according to claim 2, wherein the crotch portion comprises a substantially non-elastic material which is joined to the front portion in a front join and to the rear portion in a rear join, wherein both joins are arranged in the transverse direction.
- 25 5. The garment according to claim 4, wherein the join between the non-elastic material in the crotch portion and the elastic material in the rear portion is located at a level with or in front of the point on the rear part of the leg edge where the convex curvature is greatest.

6. The garment according to claim 4, wherein the join between the non-elastic material in the crotch portion of the elastic material in the front portion is located at a level with a point on the front part of the leg edge which is located furthest from the waist edge.

5 7. The garment according to claim 1, wherein the front portion and the rear portion consist of an elastic laminate comprising two nonwoven layers and an elastic, perforated plastic film arranged between the nonwoven layers.

8. The garment according to claim 1, further comprising an absorbent package, wherein the absorbent package comprises an absorption core enclosed
10 between a liquid permeable inner layer and a liquid impermeable barrier layer and is arranged at least in the crotch portion of the outer panty.

9. The garment according to claim 1, wherein elastic elements are arranged along the rear part of the leg edge.

10. The garment according to claim 1, wherein each leg edge includes a
15 crotch part located on the crotch portion.

11. The garment according to claim 1, wherein the crotch portion is joined to the front portion in a front join and to the rear portion in a rear join, wherein both joins are arranged in the transverse direction.

12. The garment according to claim 11, wherein the crotch portion is non-
20 stretchable and the join between the crotch portion and the elastic material in the rear portion should be located at a level with or in front of the point on the rear part of the leg edge where the convex curvature is greatest.

13. A pant shaped garment having a length direction and a transverse
25 direction, the garment comprising a rear portion intended to be arranged over the buttocks of a user during use, a front portion intended to be arranged over the belly of a user during use, a nonelastic crotch portion intended to be arranged in the user's crotch during use and, a waist opening with a waist edge extending in

the transverse direction and two leg openings each being bordered by a leg edge having at least a front part of the leg edge being located generally on the front portion and a rear part of the leg edge being located generally on the rear portion and the crotch portion, wherein the rear portion and the front portion are mutually
5 connected in two side joins which run in the length direction from the waist opening to each leg opening, wherein the front portion of the garment consist substantially of an elastically extensible material and the rear part of each leg edge is curve-shaped and has a convex curved segment located mainly on the rear portion.

10 14. The garment according to claim 13, wherein the front part of the leg edge which is located on the front portion has a concave curved shape.

15 15. The garment according to claim 13, wherein the rear part of the leg edge has an S-shaped curvature.

16. The garment according to claim 14, wherein the crotch portion is joined to
15 the front portion in a front join and to the rear portion in a rear join, wherein both joins are arranged in the transverse direction.

17. The garment according to claim 16, wherein the join between the non-
elastic material in the crotch portion and the elastic material in the rear portion is
20 located at a level with or in front of the point on the rear part of the leg edge where the convex curvature is greatest.

18. The garment according to claim 13, wherein the front portion and the rear
portion consist of an elastic laminate comprising two nonwoven layers and an
elastic, perforated plastic film arranged between the nonwoven layers.

19. The garment according to claim 13, further comprising an absorbent
25 package, wherein the absorbent package comprises an absorption core enclosed between a liquid permeable inner layer and a liquid impermeable barrier layer and is arranged at least in the crotch portion of the outer panty.

20. The garment according to claim 13, wherein the crotch portion is joined to the front portion in a front join and to the rear portion in a rear join, wherein both joins are arranged in the transverse direction.

5 21. The garment according to claim 20, wherein the crotch portion is non-stretchable and the join between the crotch portion and the elastic material in the rear portion should be located at a level with or in front of the point on the rear part of the leg edge where the convex curvature is greatest.

22. A pant shaped garment according to any one of claims 1 to 21 substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to figures 1 to 3.

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DATED this 4th day of August 2006

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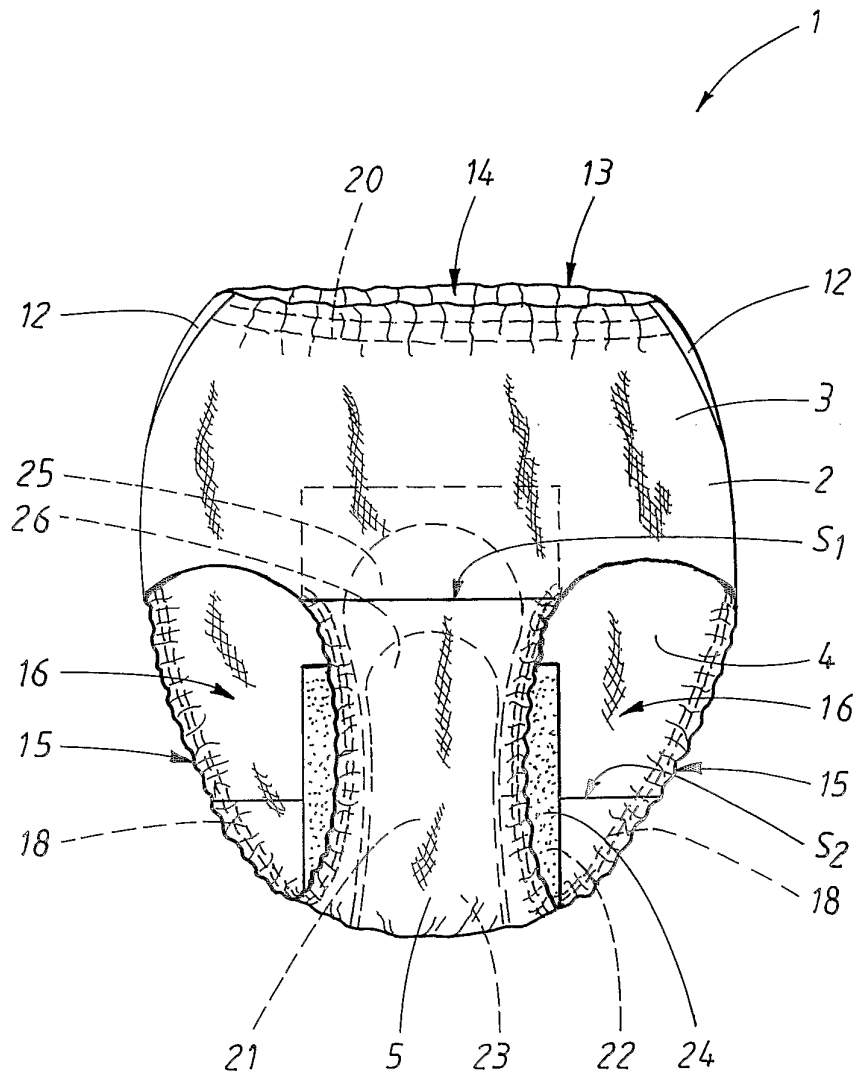


FIG.2

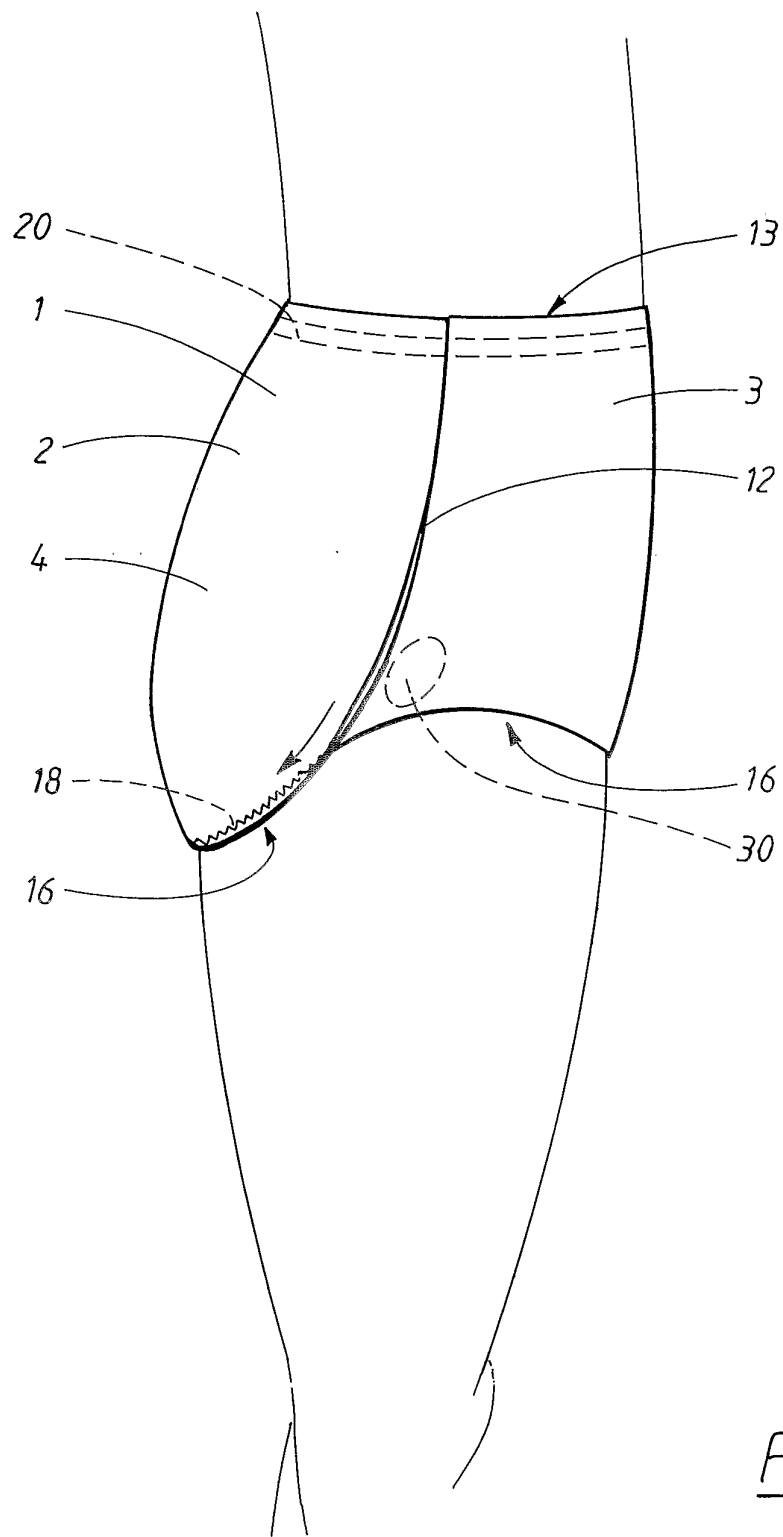


FIG. 3