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(74) Agent: RAUCHHOLZ, William, F.; BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD., 1100 13th Street, N.W., Suite # 1200, Washington, DC 20005-4051 (US).

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(71) Applicant (for JP, KR only): NIKE, INC. [US/US]; One Bowerman Drive, Beaverton, OR 97005 (US).

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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except JP, KR, US): NIKE INTERNATIONAL, LTD. [GB/US]; One Bowerman Drive, Beaverton, OR 97005 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

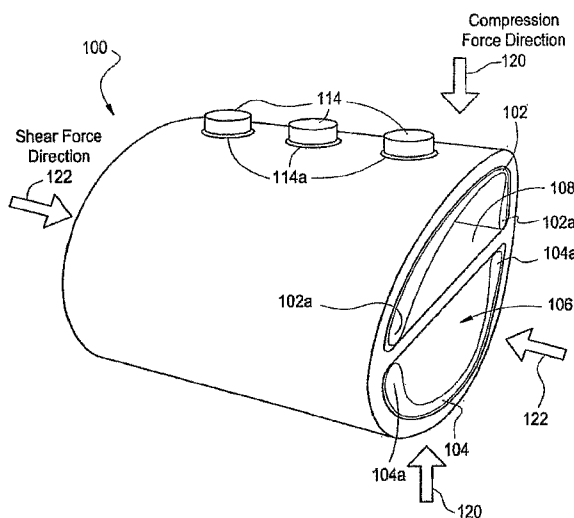
(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): AVENI, Michael, A. [US/US]; Nike, Inc., One Bowerman Drive, Beaverton, OR 97005-6453 (US). SMALDONE, Patricia, Louise [US/US]; Nike, Inc., One Bowerman Drive, Beaverton, OR 97005-6453 (US). FAGERGREN, Fred, G. [US/US]; Nike, Inc., One Bowerman Drive, Beaverton, OR 97005-6453 (US).

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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: IMPACT-ATTENUATION MEMBERS AND PRODUCTS CONTAINING SUCH MEMBERS

FIG. 1A



(57) Abstract: Impact-attenuation members (100) include body portions, optionally with an arched structure (102, 104), that define a base orientation and an open space; and a spring member (108) extending across the open space and engaging the body portion (s). When a force is applied to the body portion (s) in at least some orientations and/or directions of incident force, e.g., so as to change the impact-attenuation member out of its base orientation, the spring member may exert a force that urges the impact-attenuation member back toward the base orientation. Various example structures for the impact-attenuation member are described. Such impact-attenuation members may be used in articles of foot-receiving device products.

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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  
PCT/US2007/012665

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
INV. A43B13/18

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

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

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2006/065499 A1 (SMALDONE PATRICIA L [US] ET AL SMALDONE PATRICIA LOUISE [US] ET AL) 30 March 2006 (2006-03-30) cited in the application the whole document	1-23
X	US 2006/064900 A1 (AVENI MICHAEL A [US]) 30 March 2006 (2006-03-30) cited in the application the whole document	1-3, 6-13, 15-23
X	EP 1 530 913 A (ADIDAS INT MARKETING BV [NL]) 18 May 2005 (2005-05-18) the whole document	1-3, 20-23
A	US 4 492 374 A (LEKHTMAN DAVID [CA] ET AL) 8 January 1985 (1985-01-08) column 3, line 52 - line 57; figure 3E	11-19

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
- \*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
- \*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 person skilled in the art.
- \*Z\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

13 November 2008

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21/11/2008

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Schölvinc, Thérèse

## FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.1

Claims Nos.: 24-77

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Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 24-77

The present application contains 77 claims, of which 6 are independent. There is no clear distinction between the independent claims because of overlapping scope. There are so many claims, and they are drafted in such a way that the claims as a whole are not in compliance with the provisions of clarity and conciseness of Article 6 PCT, as it is particularly burdensome for a skilled person to establish the subject-matter for which protection is sought. The non-compliance with the substantive provisions is to such an extent, that the search was performed taking into consideration the non-compliance in determining the extent of the search (PCT Guidelines 9.19 and 9.25).

The search was based on the subject-matter that, as far as can be understood, could reasonably be expected to be claimed later in the procedure, and the corresponding claims, namely 1-23.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.2), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2)PCT declaration be overcome.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US2007/012665

## 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.: 24-77  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
  
2.  Claims Nos.: 24-77  
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:  
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
  
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:

1.  As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable 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 report covers 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.:

### 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.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No PCT/US2007/012665
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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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