



(51) International Patent Classification:
A47D 13/02 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2014/026378

(22) International Filing Date:
13 March 2014 (13.03.2014)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
61/780,161 13 March 2013 (13.03.2013) US

(71) Applicant: **THE ERGO BABY CARRIER, INC.**
[US/US]; 888 South Figueroa Street, Suite 2050, Los
Angeles, CA 90017-5449 (US).

(72) Inventors: **TELFORD, Rodney, V.**; 18 Nana Pono Place,
Kula, HI 96790 (US). **GOTEL, Daruni, M.**; 893 Makani
Road, Makawao, HI 96708 (US). **LUBICK, Carol, J.**; 58
Wahelani St., Kula, HI 96790 (US).

(74) Agent: **ADAI, John, L.**; SPRINKLE IP LAW GROUP,
1301 W. 25th Street, Suite 408, Austin, TX 78705 (US).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,
AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY,
BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM,
DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT,
HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IR, IS, JP, KE, KG, KN, KP, KR,
KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME,
MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ,
OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SA,
SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM,
TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM,
ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,
GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ,
UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ,
TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK,
EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV,
MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM,
TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW,
KM, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report (Art. 21(3))

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: CHILD CARRIER

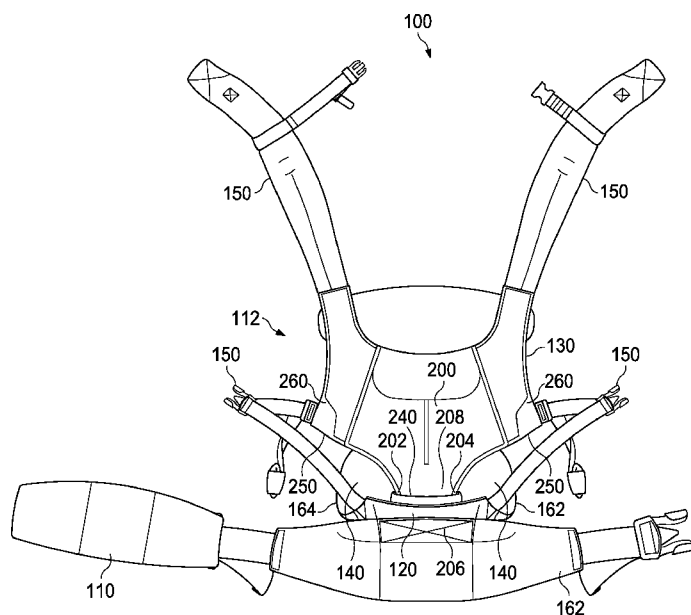


FIG. 2B

(57) Abstract: A child carrier having a waist belt, an upper torso support, a hammock coupled to the waist belt and to the upper torso support, and a thigh support strap extending to each side of the hammock. Each thigh support strap has an inward end portion proximate to the hammock and an outward end portion configured for selective coupling to the upper torso support in multiple positions. When the thigh support straps are coupled to the upper torso support, the hammock and the thigh support straps form a seat to support a child in an ergonomic spread-squat position in inward and outward facing orientations. The shape of the seat adjusts depending on the positions in which the outward end portions of the thigh support straps are coupled to the upper torso support.



— *with amended claims (Art. 19(1))*

Date of publication of the amended claims:
2014

20 November

AMENDED CLAIMS

received by the International Bureau on 19 September 2014 (19.09.2014)

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. (Original) A child carrier comprising:
 - a waist belt;
 - one or more panels forming an upper torso support and a hammock, the hammock having a first end portion coupled to the waist belt and a second end portion coupled to the upper torso support;
 - a thigh support strap extending to each side of the hammock, each thigh support strap having an inward end portion proximate to the hammock and an outward end portion, the outward end portion configured for selective coupling to the upper torso support in multiple positions, the hammock and the thigh support straps adapted to form an adjustable seat to support a child in an ergonomic spread-squat position in an inward facing orientation and an outward facing orientation, wherein the shape of the seat adjusts depending on the positions in which the outward end portions of the thigh support straps are coupled to the upper torso support; and
 - a set of shoulder straps, each shoulder strap having a first end coupled to the upper torso support and a second end coupled to the upper torso support.
2. (Original) The child carrier of claim 1, wherein the upper torso support comprises a plurality of attachment points for each of the thigh support straps.
3. (Original) The child carrier of any one of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the outward end of each thigh support strap comprises an opening for receiving a mechanical fastener on the upper torso support.
4. (Currently Amended) The child carrier of claim 1, wherein each thigh support strap is padded.
5. (Currently Amended) The child carrier of claim 1, wherein each thigh support strap is sized to wrap around a portion of a child's pelvis, bottom and thigh when the outward end is coupled to the upper torso support.
6. (Currently Amended) The child carrier of claim 1, wherein the carrier is adapted to be alternatively worn by a wearer in a front carry, back carry and side carry position.

7. (Currently Amended) The child carrier of claim 1, wherein the carrier is adapted to support the child in the ergonomic spread-squat position in each of a front outward facing and front inward facing orientations.
8. (Currently Amended) The child carrier of claim 1, wherein the child carrier is adapted to distribute the child's weight evenly to the wearer.
9. (Currently Amended) The child carrier of claim 1, further comprising:
 - a first plurality of buttons to a first side of a lateral centerline of the upper torso support to which a first of the thigh support straps can selectively couple; and
 - a second plurality of buttons to a second side of the lateral centerline of the upper torso support to which a second of the thigh support straps can selectively couple.
10. (Currently Amended) The child carrier of claim 1, wherein each thigh support strap angles laterally outward from the inward end portion to the outward end portion when the outward end portion is not coupled to the upper torso support.
11. (Currently Amended) The child carrier of claim 1, further comprising an adjustable collar coupled to the upper torso portion, the adjustable collar securable in an extended position and a non-extended position.
12. (Currently Amended) The child carrier of claim 1, wherein the waist belt comprises an adjustable waist belt.
13. (Original) A method of positioning a child in a child carrier, comprising:
 - fastening a waist belt around a waist of a user;
 - positioning a child in a hammock having an inward end portion coupled to the belt and an outward end portion coupled to an upper torso support;
 - wrapping a first thigh support strap under a first thigh of the child and a second thigh support strap under a second thigh of the child, each thigh support strap having an inward end and an outward end;
 - fastening an outward end of the first thigh strap to the upper torso support and an outward end of the second thigh support strap to the upper torso support at selected attachment points from a plurality of attachment points to adjust the shape of a seat formed by the hammock, the first thigh support strap and the second thigh support strap, the seat

adapted to support the child in an ergonomic spread-squat position in an inward facing orientation and an outward facing orientation; and

inserting at least one arm into a set of shoulder straps, each shoulder strap having a first end coupled to the upper torso support and a second end coupled to the waist belt the upper torso support.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising orienting the child in an inward facing orientation, wherein the seat supports the child in the ergonomic spread squat position in the inward facing orientation.

15. (Original) The method of any one of claim 13 or claim 14, further comprising: readjusting the shape of the seat using the first thigh support strap and second thigh support; and reorienting the child in an outward facing orientation, wherein the seat supports the child in the ergonomic spread squat position in the outward facing orientation.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the child carrier is adapted to be worn in a front carry position, a side carry position and a back carry position.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, further comprising securing an adjustable collar in an extended or non-extended position.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein fastening the waist belt further comprises securing the waist belt.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising securing the set of shoulder straps whereby a center of gravity of the child's weight is supported nearer to the user.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the child carrier further comprises:

a first plurality of buttons to a first side of a lateral centerline of the upper torso support to which a first of the thigh support straps can selectively couple; and

a second plurality of buttons to a second side of the lateral centerline of the upper torso support to which a second of the thigh support straps can selectively couple.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the outward end of each thigh support strap comprises an opening for receiving a mechanical fastener on the upper torso support.
22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein each thigh support strap is padded.
23. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein each thigh support strap angles laterally outward from the inward end portion to the outward end portion when the outward end portion is not coupled to the upper torso support.
24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the carrier further comprises an adjustable collar coupled to the upper torso portion, the adjustable collar securable in an extended position and a non-extended position.