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(71) Applicant: **County Footwear (UK) Limited**
Kettering, Northamptonshire NN16 9RY (GB)

(72) Inventors:
- **Wreford, Lesley Frederick**
  Northampton NN1 5RY (GB)
- **Hopewell, Ian Donald**
  Ise Lodge, Kettering, Northants NN15 5DS (GB)
- **Williams, Anita Ellen**
  Worsley M28 3HE (GB)
- **Nester, Christopher James**
  Astley, Manchester M29 7EH (GB)

(74) Representative: **Every, David Aidan et al**
MARKS & CLERK,
Sussex House,
83-85 Mosley Street
Manchester M2 3LG (GB)

(54) Orthopaedic footwear last and orthopaedic footwear

(57) An orthopaedic footwear last has a back cone section (26) that is sculpted to define a well-fitted back portion of a shoe. The back cone has a wide seat (25) and tapers to an elongate narrow neck (27). The forefoot section has a curvature from rear to front that provides a natural rocker. An orthopaedic shoe constructed on such a last provides stabilisation at the heel of the foot and allows for even pressure distribution at the forefoot. Controlling the heel by a well-fitted design prevents migration of the forefoot into the toe box during the gait cycle and allows a greater angle of toe spring and roll. A last board is provided with an anterior shock-absorbing layer.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 04 25 5670

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
A	FR 2 819 694 A (VARCIAT DOMINIQUE) 26 July 2002 (2002-07-26) * page 5, line 28 - page 6, line 7; figures *	1-4,12	A43D3/02 A43B7/14 A43B13/40 A43B13/14
A	WO 96/28060 A (NIKE INTERNATIONAL LTD ; NIKE INC (US)) 19 September 1996 (1996-09-19) * figures 3,5-10,26 *	1-4,12	
A	DE 343 765 C (TUINDER) 8 November 1921 (1921-11-08) * the whole document *	1-4,12	
A	US 3 543 316 A (AUSTIN CLIVE JONATHAN ET AL) 1 December 1970 (1970-12-01) * column 2, line 30 - line 34; figures *	1-4,12	
A	GB 1 241 734 A (HEATH) 4 August 1971 (1971-08-04) * the whole document *	1-4,12	
A	US 2 160 991 A (PLATO SCHWARTZ RUSSELL) 6 June 1939 (1939-06-06) * page 3, left-hand column, line 6 - line 37; figures 7-10 *	1-4,12	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7) A43D A43B

~~The present search report has been drawn up for all claims~~

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague	4 February 2005	Schölvinck, T.S.

CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS

X : particularly relevant if taken alone
Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category
A : technological background
O : non-written disclosure
P : intermediate document

T : theory or principle underlying the invention
E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date
D : document cited in the application
L : document cited for other reasons

& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

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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 - 4, 12

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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: 1-4,12

An orthopaedic footwear last with specified dimension ratio's and heel pitch/toe spring measurements, the seat surface at the back cone being substantially planar.

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2. claims: 5-11,13

Orthopaedic footwear with a last board having an anterior section with a shock-absorbing layer

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ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO. EP 04 25 5670

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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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82