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- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: ELASTIC LAMINATE AND DISPOSABLE ARTICLE INCLUDING SPUNBONDED NONWOVEN OF POLYPROPYLENE/POLYETHYLENE COPOLYMER

(57) Abstract: The present invention is directed to an elastic laminate which is elastically extensible in at least one direction. The elastic laminate includes an elastic member having a first surface and a second surface opposing the first surface; and a spunbonded nonwoven layer joined to the first surface of the elastic member to form a laminate. The spunbonded nonwoven layer includes component fibers formed by a polypropylene/polyethylene copolymer. The laminate is mechanically stretched to form an elastic laminate. The present invention is also directed to a disposable pull-on garment which has front and back ear panels each of which includes a first nonwoven layer provided on a body-facing surface on the ear panel, and a second nonwoven layer provided on an outer-facing surface on the ear panel. One of the first and second nonwoven layers is a spunbonded nonwoven layer including first component fibers formed by a polypropylene/polyethylene copolymer, while the other of the first and second nonwoven layers includes second component fibers formed by a polypropylene based polymer.

WO 00/46023 A3



# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/US 00/02770

<b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b> IPC 7 B32B5/02 D04H13/00 A61F13/15		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
<b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b>		
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 B32B		
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		
<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 96 16216 A (FIBERWEB NORTH AMERICA INC ;QUANTRILLE THOMAS E (US); THOMAS HAROL) 30 May 1996 (1996-05-30) page 1, line 2 -page 5, line 3 page 12, line 23 -page 13, line 6 page 15, line 35 -page 17, line 8 page 18, line 12 -page 20, line 16 ---	1,7-10
A	EP 0 693 585 A (KIMBERLY CLARK CO) 24 January 1996 (1996-01-24) claims 1,8,14,17-20 page 4, line 3 - line 31 page 6, line 48 - line 50 ---	1-10
A	WO 96 10481 A (KIMBERLY CLARK CO) 11 April 1996 (1996-04-11) claims 1,2,4,10-12 page 13, line 19 -page 14, line 3 ---	1-10
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in 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. "&" document member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search  <p style="text-align: center;">6 July 2000</p>	Date of mailing of the international search report  <p style="text-align: center;">07. 11. 2000</p>	
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer  <p style="text-align: center;">Ibarrola Torres, O</p>	

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int. l. 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.
A	US 5 652 051 A (SHAWVER SUSAN ELAINE ET AL) 29 July 1997 (1997-07-29) claims 1,2,11,13-17 column 1, line 39 - line 46 ---	1,6,8
A	US 5 607 798 A (KOBYLIVKER PETER M ET AL) 4 March 1997 (1997-03-04) claims ---	1,6,8
A	EP 0 683 260 A (KIMBERLY CLARK CO) 22 November 1995 (1995-11-22) claims 1,26 page 7, line 28 - line 33 -----	1,8

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US 00/02770

## Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 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 II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 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 all searchable claims.
  
2.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
  
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.:

1 to 10

### Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

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

1. Claims: 1-10

relating to an elastic laminate, comprising a spunbonded nonwoven layer and an elastic member, and a disposable article containing said laminate

2. Claims: 11-20

relating to disposable pull-on garments comprising a spunbonded nonwoven layer

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No PCT/US 00/02770
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