

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
10 May 2002 (10.05.2002)

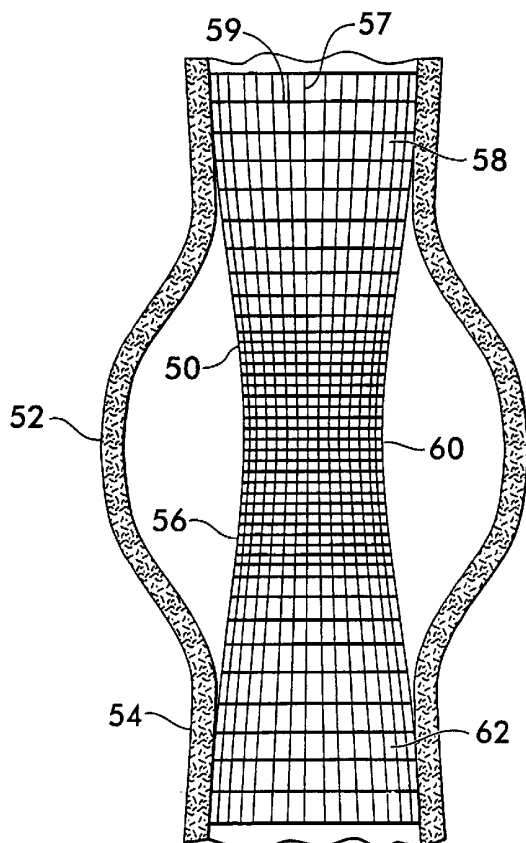
(10) International Publication Number
WO 02/035989 A3

PCT

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| <p>(51) International Patent Classification⁷:</p> | <p>A61F 2/06</p> | <p>(74) Agents: BARRON, Alexis et al.; Synnestvedt & Lechner LLP, 2600 Aramark Tower, 1101 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107-2950 (US).</p> |
| <p>(21) International Application Number:</p> | <p>PCT/US01/47941</p> | |
| <p>(22) International Filing Date:</p> | <p>30 October 2001 (30.10.2001)</p> | <p>(81) Designated States (<i>national</i>): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.</p> |
| <p>(25) Filing Language:</p> | <p>English</p> | |
| <p>(26) Publication Language:</p> | <p>English</p> | |
| <p>(30) Priority Data:</p> | <p>60/244,240 30 October 2000 (30.10.2000) US</p> | <p>(84) Designated States (<i>regional</i>): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).</p> |
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: WOVEN TUBULAR GRAFT WITH REGIONS OF VARYING FLEXIBILITY



(57) Abstract: A woven tube (56) having warp direction oriented lengthwise to the tube (56) and fill direction oriented circumferentially of the tube (56) is disclosed. The tube (56) is woven from a plurality of elastic warp yarns (57) arranged parallel to the warp direction and a plurality of elastic fill yarns (59) arranged parallel to the fill direction. The tube (56) has one or more discrete regions (58,62) of relatively greater flexibility formed in either the warp or fill directions at locations along the tube (56). The flexibility is oriented in the warp direction of the fill direction by weaving either the warp (57) or fill (59) yarns, respectively, under relatively less tension.



Declaration under Rule 4.17:

— *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only*

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

10 October 2002

Published:

— *with international search report*

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.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US01/47941

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61F 2/06

US CL : 623/1.51

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)

U.S. : Please See Continuation Sheet

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 practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2,117,974 A (MOORE) 17 May 1938 (17.05.1938), see the entire document.	1, 4-9, 16
X	US 967,585 A (TEUFFEL) 16 August 1910 (16.08.1910), see the entire document.	1, 4, 6, 7, 13, 16
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Y		12
Y	US 3,304,557 A (POLANSKY) 21 February 1967 (21.02.1967), see the entire document.	12
A	US 5,800,514 A (NUNEZ et al) 01 September 1998 (01.09.1998), see the entire document	1-23

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☐ See patent family annex.

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"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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"&"

document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

22 April 2002 (22.04.2002)

Date of mailing of the international search report

15 April 2002

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Box PCT

Washington, D.C. 20231

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US01/47941

Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 1:

623/1.51, 1.13, 1.3, 1.31, 1.32, 1.33

139/387R, 388