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- **Lebold, Alan**
Niagara Falls, NY 14304 (US)
- **Palazzo, Jason**
Niagara Falls, NY 14304 (US)
- **Parry, Steve**
Clitheroe, Lancashire, BB7 2NY (GB)

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(71) Applicant: **BMP Europe Ltd.**
Accrington BB5 5YH (GB)

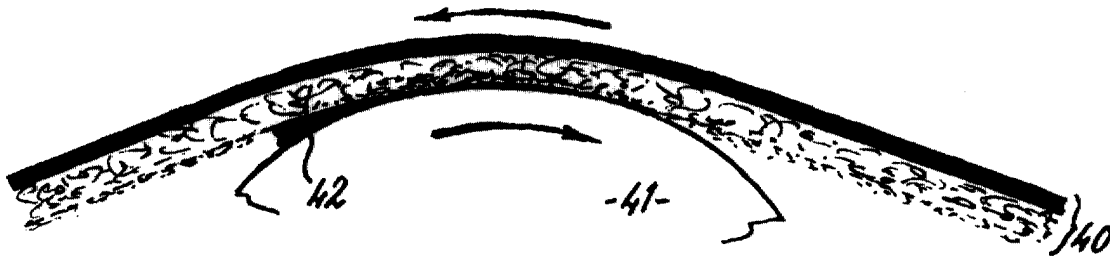
(74) Representative: **Downey, William Gerrard et al**
Wilson, Gunn, M'Caw,
41-51 Royal Exchange,
Cross Street
Manchester M2 7BD (GB)

(72) Inventors:
• **Dugdale, Neil Graham**
Evans, Georgia 30809 (US)

(54) **Cleaning web**

(57) A cleaning web 40 for use in electrostatic re-
production equipment including fibres the cross-section
of each of which having a peripheral dimension and an
area, wherein the ratio of the peripheral dimension and
cross-sectional area is greater than the said ratio for a

fibre of circular or substantially circular and equal area
of cross-section, for instance tri-lobal or multi-lobal fi-
bres. One side of the cleaning web may be substantially
impermeable. A cleaning web having one substantially
impermeable side may be produced with conventional
fibres.



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 99 30 9198

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)
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A	---	12	
X	EP 0 493 652 A (MITSUBISHI MATERIALS CORP ;KANAI JUYO KOGYO KK (JP)) 8 July 1992 (1992-07-08) * page 3, line 33 - page 4, line 12; figures 4,5 *	1	
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1996, no. 02, 29 February 1996 (1996-02-29) & JP 07 287496 A (TEIJIN LTD), 31 October 1995 (1995-10-31) * abstract *	1	
A	WO 98 36331 A (BMP EUROP LTD ;PARRY STEVE (GB)) 20 August 1998 (1998-08-20) * page 9, line 12-16; figure 3 *	1	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			G03G
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 9 July 2001	Examiner De Vries, A
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	

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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:
1-18, 26 (as dependent on any claims 12-18)



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: 1-18, 26 (as dependent on any of claims 12-18)

a cleaning web comprising fibres having a cross-section such that the ratio of peripheral dimension of the cross-section to the area of the cross-section is larger than that ratio for a fibre having a substantially circular cross-section of equal area

2. Claims: 19-25, 26 (as dependent on any of these claims)

a cleaning web of which the non-cleaning side is substantially or completely impermeable

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 99 30 9198

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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09-07-2001

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