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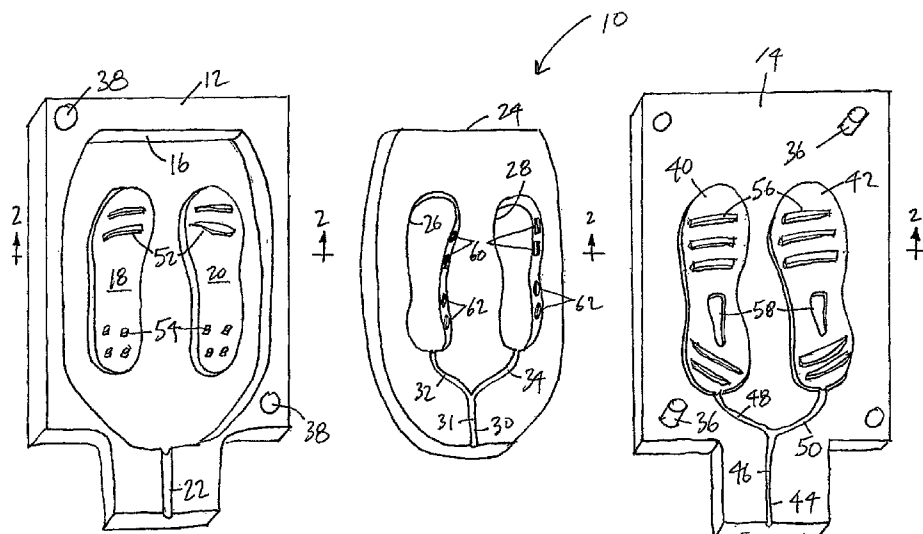
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: FOOTWEAR MOLD ASSEMBLY WITH REMOVABLE PLATE AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING FOOTWEAR



(57) Abstract: A mold assembly for soles of an article of footwear includes a first portion having a recess formed therein and a second portion engageable with the first portion. A removable insert is positioned within the recess of the first portion and has a first aperture and a second aperture. The first aperture defines an exterior surface of a sidewall for a first sole formed by the mold assembly. The second aperture defines an exterior surface of a sidewall for a second sole formed by the mold assembly. The first portion, the first aperture, and the second portion define a first cavity for a first sole to be formed in the mold assembly. The first portion, the second aperture, and the second portion define a second cavity for a second sole to be formed in the mold assembly.

WO 2007/100971 A3



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/US2007/062022

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 INV. B29C45/00 B29D31/515

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)

B29C B29D

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

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 01/76843 A (LEE WOO WON [KR]) 18 October 2001 (2001-10-18) page 25; claims; figures -----	1-18, 23-25
P, X	WO 2006/057814 A (NIKE INTERNAT [US]; NIKE INC [US]; BERGMANN MICHAEL J [US]; HUI MICHAEL) 1 June 2006 (2006-06-01) paragraph [0052]; claims; figure 6 -----	1-25
X	FR 2 572 324 A4 (MOULAGES MAIXENTAIS SARL [FR]) 2 May 1986 (1986-05-02) claims; figures -----	1-25
X	DE 26 39 865 A1 (PISONI GIOVANNI) 1 December 1977 (1977-12-01) claims; figures -----	1-18, 23-25
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☒ See patent family 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

12 November 2007

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19/11/2007

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International 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.
X	GB 1 341 216 A (BOR BUBOR ES CIPOIPARI KUTATO; VNII PLENOCHNY MATERIALOV I IS) 19 December 1973 (1973-12-19) claims; figures -----	1-18, 23-25

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2007/062022

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 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 No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 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 allsearchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search reportcovers 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.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- ☒ 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: claims 1-18, 23-25

mold assembly with 2 exchangeable inserts

2. claims: claims 19-22

mold assembly with fractionable insert

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/US2007/062022

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
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			KR	200195276 Y1		01-09-2000
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