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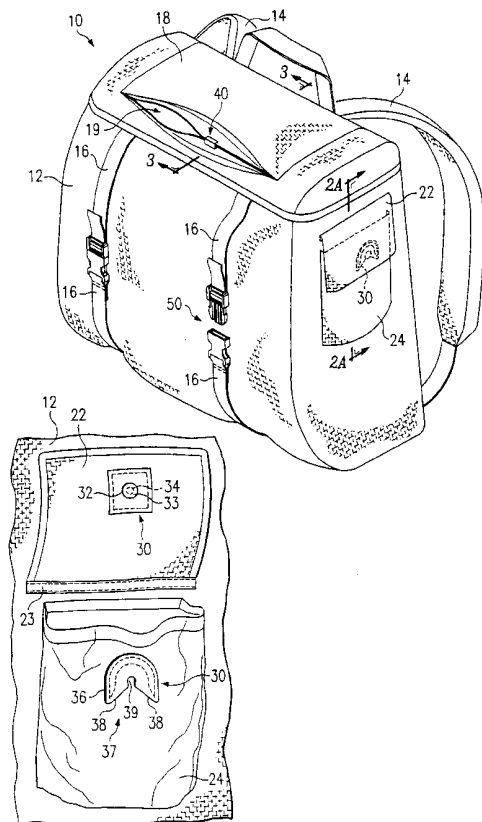
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SUBSTANTIALLY NOISELESS FASTENING SYSTEMS FOR CARRYING PACKS AND APPAREL



(57) Abstract: A substantially noiseless fastening system for a carrying pack (10) includes a flap (22) attached to the shell (12) of the carrying pack (10) along one edge of the flap, a fastener button (32) attached to the flap near a second edge of the flap (22), and a button receiver (36) attached to the shell. The button receiver (36) has a tapered interference fit slot (37) terminating in a notch (39) for receiving the fastener button (32), the slot (37) narrowing towards the edge of the flap attached to the shell. The fastening system also includes a pouch (18) attached to the shell (12), a locking channel (42) attached to the pouch, and a locking groove (44) attached to the shell. The pouch (18) has an edge that forms an opening between the pouch and the shell, and the locking channel (42) engages the locking groove (44) in an interference fit to close the opening. In addition, the fastening system includes a first strap (16) having a first end and a second end the first end attached to the shell, a second strap having a first end and a second end, the first end attached to the shell, a first fastener (52) attached to the first strap, and a noise retarding material coating at least part of the surface to the tangs. The first fastener (56) fastens the first strap to the second strap by receiving the second fastener.

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- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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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

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 4 153 092 A (B. J. HASLAM) 8 May 1979 (1979-05-08) column 1, last paragraph -column 2, paragraph 1; figures 1,2	1
Y	DE 197 29 610 A (G. WEBER-UNGER) 14 January 1999 (1999-01-14) column 1, paragraph 5	1
A	column 4, line 45 -column 5, line 47;	3
X	claims 1,16; figures 8-10	13,15
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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X	page 14, line 4 - line 14 page 15, line 1 -page 17, paragraph 1; claims 1,2; figures 1-6	13,16-21
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