

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
2 May 2008 (02.05.2008)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2008/051271 A3**

- (51) **International Patent Classification:**  
*C12N 11/00 (2006.01)*
- (21) **International Application Number:**  
**PCT/US2007/005731**
- (22) **International Filing Date:** 7 March 2007 (07.03.2007)
- (25) **Filing Language:** English
- (26) **Publication Language:** English
- (30) **Priority Data:**  
60/779,972 8 March 2006 (08.03.2006) US
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- (81) **Designated States** (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM,

AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FT, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW

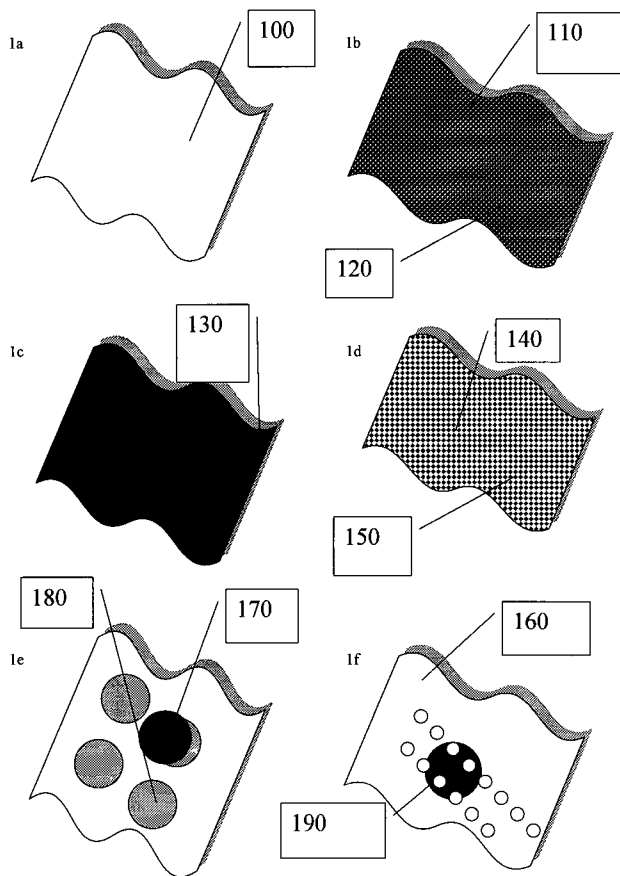
- (84) **Designated States** (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**Published:**

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

[Continued on next page]

(54) **Title:** THIN SHEET FOR RETAINING BIOMOLECULES



(57) **Abstract:** This invention has application in a variety of biological and biochemical fields. The invention describes a thin sheet or sheets of flexible material with surface characteristics that provide an environment for retaining biological molecules. The flexible nature of the thin sheet of material permits the use of continuous preparation, processing and analysis techniques involving more compact and less complex equipment. The invention also describes a lamination of a thin sheet of flexible material to a substantially rigid second substrate so that the combination can be processed by existing equipment. The thin sheet of flexible material may be perforated prior to lamination in order to establish distinct wells in the surface of the lamination.

WO 2008/051271 A3



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(88) Date of publication of the international search report:  
17 July 2008

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No

PCT/US 07/05731

<p><b>A CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b>                  IPC(8) - C12N 11/00 (2008 01)  <b>USPC - 435/174</b>                  According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC</p>														
<p><b>B FIELDS SEARCHED</b></p> <p>Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)                  USPC 435/174</p> <p>Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched                  USPC 435/174 (see text search)</p> <p>Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)                  Electronic Databases Searched PubWEST(USPT,PGPB, EPAB,JPAB), USPTO, Google, Answers.com, Google Patents                  Search Terms Used Support, biological, molecule, thin, sheet, covalent, linker, retain, detect, well, substrate, flexible, rigid, retain, identification, pits, holes, perforations, trenches, rods, pillars, cones, tub</p>														
<p><b>C DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Category*</th> <th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th> <th>Relevant to claim No</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>X</td> <td>US 2004/0087033 A1 (SCHEMBRI, C ) 06 May 2004 (06 05 2004) para [0016], [0019]-[0020], [0037]-[0039], [0044], [0047]-[0055], [0057], [0064]-[0065], [0067]-[0068], [0073]-[0074], [0079], [0082], [0084], [0087], [0089]-[0090], [0093], [0103]-[0104], [0109], [01 13], [0128]-[0129], [0131], [0136], [0139], [0143], [0156], [0161] and [0183]</td> <td>1-32</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>US 2005/0249667 A1 (TUSZYNSKI et al ) 10 November 2005 (10 11 2005)</td> <td>1-32</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No	X	US 2004/0087033 A1 (SCHEMBRI, C ) 06 May 2004 (06 05 2004) para [0016], [0019]-[0020], [0037]-[0039], [0044], [0047]-[0055], [0057], [0064]-[0065], [0067]-[0068], [0073]-[0074], [0079], [0082], [0084], [0087], [0089]-[0090], [0093], [0103]-[0104], [0109], [01 13], [0128]-[0129], [0131], [0136], [0139], [0143], [0156], [0161] and [0183]	1-32	A	US 2005/0249667 A1 (TUSZYNSKI et al ) 10 November 2005 (10 11 2005)	1-32			
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<p>Date of the actual completion of the international search</p> <p>28 March 2008 (28 03 2008)</p>		<p>Date of mailing of the international search report</p> <p><b>0 6 MAY 2008</b></p>												
<p>Name and mailing address of the ISA/US</p> <p>Mail Stop PCT, Attn ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents                  P O Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450                  Facsimile No 571-273-3201</p>		<p>Authorized officer</p> <p>Lee W Young</p> <p>PCT Helpdesk 571 272-4300                  PCT OSP 571 272 7774</p>												