

Title (en)
INFLATABLE LINING FOR FOOTWEAR, GLOVES, HELMETS AND SHIELDS

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Application
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Abstract (en)
[origin: WO9211780A1] There is disclosed an inflatable lining for selected inner surfaces of wearing apparel, such as footwear (10), headgear (493), or a glove (464). The inflatable lining is formed of first (12) and second (14) plastic sheets having the shape and size of the selected inner surfaces, e.g., a sole of a shoe, the back of a glove, or the sides and top of a helmet, or any portion of the interior surfaces of the apparel. The sheets are bonded together in a continuous seam (30) about their peripheral edges thereby forming a sealed interior chamber. A plurality of discontinuous seams (34)-(42) are formed between the first (12) and second (14) sheets to create within the sealed interior chamber a plurality of interconnecting tubular passageways (28), and at least one continuous seam (128) can also be provided that subdivides the interior chamber into two or more subdivided interior chambers (163, 165). The inflatable liner is provided with an air pump (50) that preferably is a flexible bulb with an inlet valve (58) which discharges to a selector valve (380) having a plurality of discharge ports to permit the wearer to direct the discharge of the air pump (50) to any of the plurality of chambers in the inflatable lining. The selector valve (380) also includes a pressure relief valve (396) whereby excess pressure in any of the chambers selected by the selector valve (380) can be vented, thereby controlling the pressure in each of the individual chambers (163, 165) of the lining.

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