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Wirral Merseyside (GB)**(84) Designated Contracting States: **AT BE CH DE FR IT LI
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EC4P 4BQ (GB)**(54) **Method of softening fabrics.**

(57) A method of treating fabrics comprises contacting the fabrics with an aqueous liquor having a pH less than about 7.5, such as between about 5.0 and about 7.0, the liquor containing a cationic fabric softener and lanolin. The liquor is formed by adding to water a composition containing the cationic fabric softener and the lanolin, the concentration of these components in the liquor preferably being from 50 ppm to 500 ppm. The lanolin may be replaced by a lanolin-like material such as derivatives thereof or one or more of the active constituents of lanolin either extracted therefrom or derived from other sources. Preferred ratios of cationic softener to lanolin are 20:1 to 1:20 by weight. A liquor to fabric ratio of less than 25:1 is preferred. The method generally leads to a deposition of cationic softener and lanolin of less than 0.5% by weight of the fabric.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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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. ³)
Y	US-A-4 110 498 (L. BENJAMIN et al.) * Whole document *	1-7	C 11 D 1/62 C 11 D 3/20 C 11 D 17/00
Y	GB-A-2 007 734 (CARGO FLEET) * Page 4, lines 45-55; claims *	1-7	
A	DE-A-2 360 408 (UNILEVER) * Page 2, lines 28-30; page 3, lines 1-3 *	1	
A	FR-A-2 202 184 (COLGATE-PALMOLIVE) * Claims *	1	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. ³)
			C 11 D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 06-11-1985	Examiner COLLER F.
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p>			