



Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

(11) Publication number:

**0 264 112
A3**

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(21) Application number: **87114967.0**

(51) Int. Cl.4: **D04H 1/54**

(22) Date of filing: **13.10.87**

(30) Priority: **17.10.86 JP 245425/86**

(43) Date of publication of application:
20.04.88 Bulletin 88/16

(84) Designated Contracting States:
DE FR GB IT

(88) Date of deferred publication of the search report:
16.08.89 Bulletin 89/33

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(54) **Nonwoven fabrics and method for producing them.**

(57) Nonwoven fabrics contain at least 30 % by weight of heat-adhesive composite fibers consisting of core portion and sheath portion, said core portion being of the side-by-side type composite structure comprising two core components of different polypropylene base polymers in a composite ratio of 1:2 to 2:1, one of said core components having a Q value, expressed in terms of the weight-average molecular weight/the number-average molecular weight, equal to or higher than 6 and the other having a Q value equal to or lower than 5, and said sheath portion meeting at least the requirement that it should comprise a sheath component of a polyethylene base polymer having a melting point lower by at least 20 °C than the lower one of the melting points of said two core components. The nonwoven fabrics are bulky and soft due to the crimps of the heat-adhesive composite fibers resultant from the core portion and are stabilized by the inter-fiber bonds of the sheath portion.

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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.4)
A	FR-A-2 368 554 (CHISSO CO.) * Columns 1,2,4,5,11-18; page 2, line 5 - page 10, line 33; page 11, line 29 - page 13, line 26; examples 1-11,21-26 * ----	1-9	D 04 H 1/54
A	US-A-4 211 819 (K. KUNIMUNE) * Columns 1,5; column 1, line 49 - column 3, line 50; example 1 * -----	1	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)
			D 04 H
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
THE HAGUE	26-05-1989	BLASBAND I.	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
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		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	