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D-80331 München (DE)(54) **Fibers suitable for the production of nonwoven fabrics having improved strength and softness characteristics.**

(57) Disclosed is a fiber for nonwoven fabrics having thermowelding strength equal to or higher than 5 N and/or flexibility index greater than 800, comprising a polymer material additivated with organic phosphites and/or phosphonites, HALS, and optionally phenolic antioxidants, said polymer material being selected from:

- 1) isotactic propylene homopolymers having an isotactic index greater than 90;
- 2) random copolymers of propylene with ethylene and/or a C₄-C₈ α-olefin; and
- 3) blends of polymers (1) with copolymers (2) or blends of at least one of said homopolymers and copolymers with heterophasic propylene polymers;

said fiber being obtained by a spinning process operating with a real or equivalent output hole diameter of less than 0.5 mm and with a hole flow-rate

ranging from 0.1 to 0.6 g/minute, at a spinning temperature ranging from 230 °C to 320 °C, using polymers (1), or (2), or polymer blends (3), having MFR from 5 to 40 g/10 min, and in the absence of a drawing step.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 94 10 9404

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.CLS)
D,Y	EP-A-0 391 438 (HIMONT INC) * the whole document * ---	1-8	D01F6/06 D01F6/30 D01F6/46 D04H1/54
Y	US-A-4 496 508 (HARTMANN LUDWIG ET AL) * the whole document * ---	1-8	
D,P, A	EP-A-0 598 224 (HIMONT INC) * the whole document * ---	1-8	
P,A	WO-A-93 21371 (FIBERWEB NORTH AMERICA INC) * the whole document * -----	1-8	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.5)
			D01F D04H
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 18 May 1995	Examiner Tarrida Torrell, J
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			