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(54) **Bed mattress with variable characteristics of carrying capacity throughout its length**

(57) Bed mattress, of the type consisting essentially of a stratified expanded-foam panel formed by the arrangement, on top of one another, of at least three layers with different load-bearing and/or air-permeability characteristics. The main layer, which is situated in the middle of the other two layers and is basically assigned the load-bearing function, has a thickness variable along the length of the mattress. Said middle load-bearing

ing layer has high load-bearing characteristics, with small-size closed cells, and its thickness varies from a minimum of about 50 mm, in the region of the neck zone of the sleeping person, to a maximum of about 130 mm, in the region of the trunk and respectively the pelvis of the sleeping person.

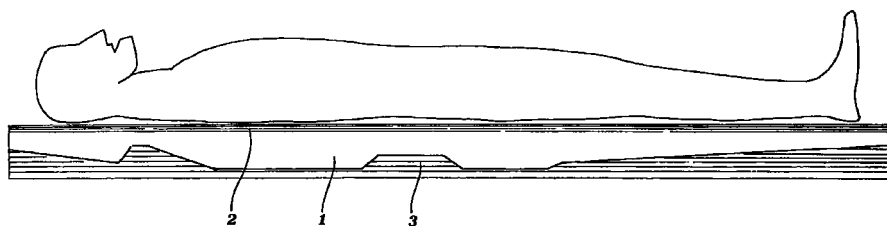


FIG.1

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 98 10 4069

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Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
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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	

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