

(11) **EP 0 965 281 A2** 

(12)

## **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(43) Date of publication:22.12.1999 Bulletin 1999/51

(51) Int Cl.6: **A43B 13/08**, A43B 13/16

(21) Application number: 99830319.2

(22) Date of filing: 27.05.1999

(84) Designated Contracting States:

AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU MC NL PT SE

Designated Extension States:

AL LT LV MK RO SI

(30) Priority: 28.05.1998 IT NA980038

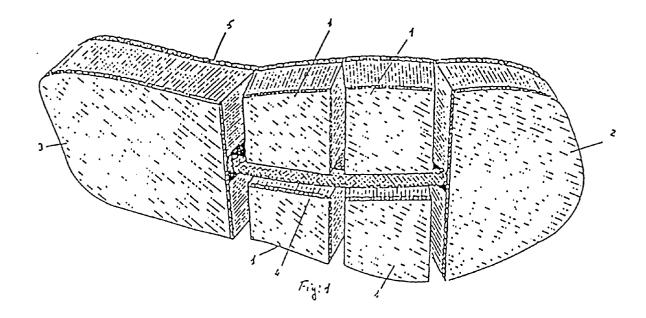
(71) Applicant: Tonelli S.r.I. 80023 Caivano (NA) (IT) (72) Inventor: Cerrone, Carmine 80023 Caivano (NA) (IT)

(74) Representative: Cirillo, Gennaro c/o Studio Tecnico Cirillo Via Santa Lucia 15 80132 Napoli (IT)

## (54) Articulated sole for sabots, sandals, and other footwear

(57) Sole for sabots, sandals and other footwear, divided in several areas (1) linked by a base sole (5) and

made elastically articulated because of an axial elastic with one pole bound to the tip-area (2) and the other bound to the heel area (3).



EP 0 965 281 A2

20

## Description

**[0001]** The soles for sabots and sandals are preferably realised in wood or plastic material and they usually are quite thick, either to isolate the foot from the ground, or for aesthetic and fashion reasons.

**[0002]** This highness and the specific material make them completely stiff, lacking in helping at the smallest unevenness of the ground.

**[0003]** The consequence of this stiffness is that the shoes manufactured with this kind of sole come out uncomfortable and short-termed especially if they are used on disconnected and rough grounds like country paths or sand

**[0004]** The purpose of the patent is to suggest a sole which gives a good elasticity though using the most common materials and though having a quite good thickness.

**[0005]** The idea is to have a sole divided in several tracts kept together by a little elastic sole of cork-sole and elastically articulated by a spring which links in axial direction the tip with the heel being then bound to these two elements. The idea will be better understood referring to the attached table. It is reported just for a showing purpose and it is not binding.

**[0006]** The table 1/1 figure 1 shows the sole from its inferior view while figure 2 is from a side view.

**[0007]** Referring to the figures the sole is conceived by a central part formed by four or more areas 1) by the tip 2) and by the heel area 3).

**[0008]** An elastic 4) is bound from the extremities to the tips 2) and 3) it passes through the central area thanking to a proper space obtained among the interior sides of the blocks 1).

**[0009]** The several sections of the sole are kept together by the sole of the cork-sole 5) which is stick to the whole sole.

**[0010]** I will be available, in this way, a composite sole formed by elements which can turn from one to the other bound from the cork-sole and recalled by the axial elastic.

**[0011]** In this way it will be realised an elastically alterable sole through its longitudinal axis, formed by extremely stiff elements which will become flexible thanking to the elasticity of the spring 4).

**[0012]** After what has been described and illustrated we can highlight the following advantages deriving from the patent:

- Elasticity of also very thick soles made with stiff materials
- Better fitting and suitability of the shoe.
- Better long term of the sole and of the whole shoe.

**[0013]** Formal and structural variations can be produced to stay within the same inventive concept which is determined by the following claims.

## Claims

- 1. Sole for sabots, sandals and other footwear formed by several distinct areas kept together by the sole of cork-sole and by an elastic element which is bound to the extreme tip and to the extreme heel, passing through it in an axial direction with the purpose of giving elastic flexibility to the whole sole.
- 2. Sole like and with the purpose of the previous claim characterised by an elastic element in conjunction between sole an heel which can be divided in more parallel elements linking the two parts.
- 15 3. Sole like and with the purpose of the previous claim characterised by the fact that, between the tip and the heel area, can be put several lines of single or symmetric elements to the axis of the sole properly shaped in order to form the central area of it.
  - **4.** Sole like and with the purpose of the previous claims characterised by the fact that the tip and the heel areas are distinctly realised in one single piece.
- 25 5. Sole like and with the purpose of the previous claims characterised by the fact that the tip and the heel area can be realised in several pieces.

2

