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(54) **Opaque heat-moldable circular knit support fabrics having very high spandex content**

(57) This invention relates to support garments which comprise opaque heat-moldable circular knit fabrics having relatively high amounts of spandex material as well as sufficient amounts of other fibers to simultaneously provide maximum support and maximum comfort to a wearer and which can be easily molded to the specifications of a wearer's body dimensions. Such high-spandex content, moldable garment fabrics are novel to the industry since the permissible added amount of spandex within such fabrics has been limited due to the power, modulus strength, and elongation of such fibers. Furthermore, the ability to provide moldable, high-spandex circular knit fabrics has been limited, if not impossible, due to the above-noted characteristics of the spandex fibers themselves. Thus, the incorporation of such moldable fabrics within certain support garments (such as brassieres, girdles, medical braces, athletic supporters, and the like) has been unsuccessful in the past. The inventive moldable fabrics and garments provide such desirable spandex properties while also increasing the comfortability to the wearer. The method of producing such fabrics is also contemplated within this invention.

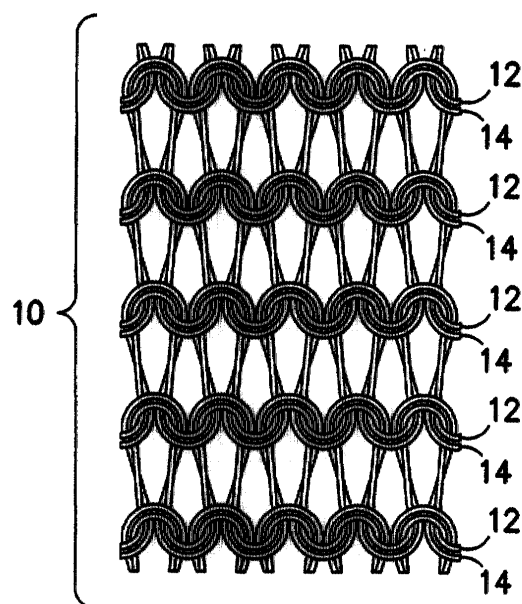


FIG. -1-

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 00 12 0142

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			D04B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 30 December 2002	Examiner Sterle, D
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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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 00 12 0142

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