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(54) **Carpet underfelt**

(57) A method of treating an underfelt comprising felted thermoplastic fibres which comprises heating at least one surface of the felt sufficiently to soften the fibres, and then passing the felt through polished callender rollers whereby to callender and quench the softened thermoplastic surface of the felt to give a glazed finish. Preferably, the rollers are polished stainless steel rollers, which conveniently may be water cooled to give the best effect. Advantageously, to give optimum heat transfer, the felt is passed around about 90° of the surface of the roller. The nip of the rollers is used to give control over the initial pressure and final thickness of the felt, whereas the increased angle of wrap increases the heat

transfer and quenching and thus the glazing effect on the softened thermoplastic fibre surface. The underfelts treated in accordance with the invention are particularly useful in two distinct areas. Firstly, if the surface is lightly glazed, achieved by modest application of heat before callendering, the felt, when in place on the floor, allows a carpet to move more easily when being fitted. In a second application, where more heat and pressure is applied, the surface can be callendered further until it is highly glazed and is almost impervious. This enables the finished carpet underlay to be stuck to the floor and for the carpet to be stuck to the underlay.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 00 20 3152

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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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			D06C D06N
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 12 September 2002	Examiner Goodall, C
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p>			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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