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(54) **Advanced backpack system**

(57) An integrated backpack system (100) including an integrated hydrating frame (150) for storing a liquid and providing a substantially rigid support to the backpack (101). A harness releasably secures the frame to the backpack. A movable pouch (280) connected to the backpack with a shockcord (281) moves from a storage position to an accessible position. A slidable pouch (240) slides along a second belt (241) between a storage position and an accessible position as well. A weight supporting and ventilating system (180) shifts the weight of the backpack and its contents to the user's waist and hips and provides an airway (270) for ventilation between the backpack (100) and the user's back.

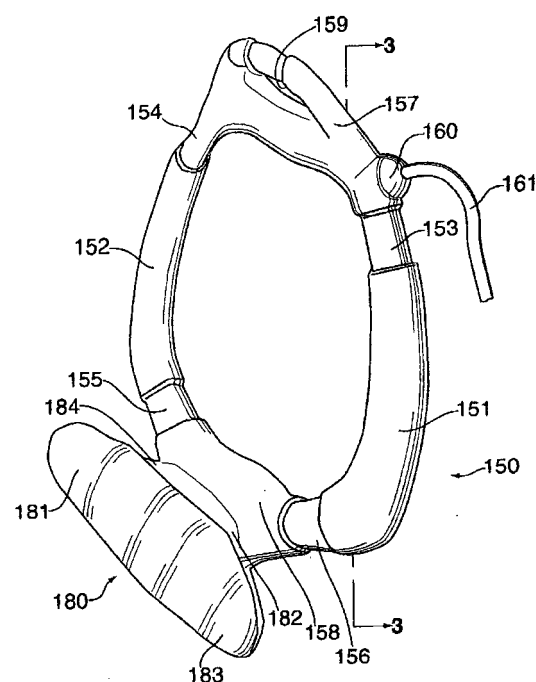


FIG. 1



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
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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Y	US 5 547 461 A (LEVIS JEFFREY D) 20 August 1996 (1996-08-20) * figures 2,5 *	1,2, 7-11,17 3-6	
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Y	DE 93 11 999 U (NESLER STEFAN) 11 November 1993 (1993-11-11) * the whole document *	1,2, 7-11,17	
A	---		
A	FR 2 706 119 A (ROSSIGNOL SA) 16 December 1994 (1994-12-16) * figure 1 *	12	
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			A45F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		17 January 2003	Hinrichs, W
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		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	
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			

EPO FORM 1503 03 82 (P04C01)



European Patent
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Application Number
EP 00 30 9079

CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- ☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☒ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:

1-12, 17



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**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B**

Application Number
EP 00 30 9079

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims: 1-12, 17
2. Claim : 13
3. Claims: 14, 15-16, 18-29, 30-32

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 00 30 9079

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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17-01-2003

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