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EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

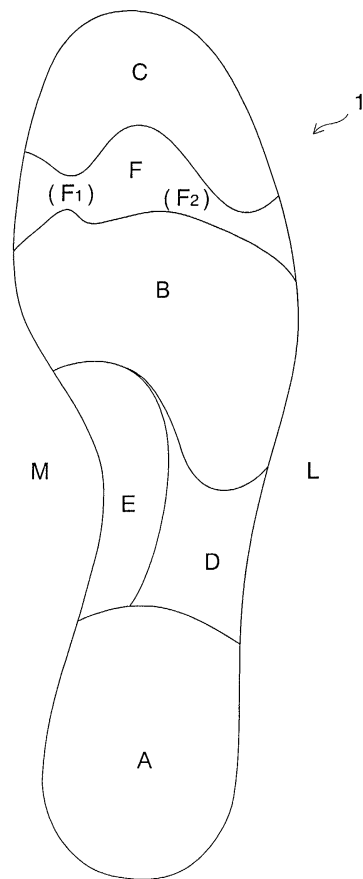
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(30) Priority: 23.02.2001 JP 2001047881	(74) Representative: Abbie, Andrew Kenneth et al R.G.C. Jenkins & Co. 26 Caxton Street London SW1H 0RJ (GB)
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(54)

Outsole structure of football shoe

(57) An outsole (1) of a soccer spike shoe is formed of six portions, i.e. a heel portion (A), a tread portion (B), a toe portion (C), a midfoot portion (D), an arch portion (E) and a toe root portion (F). The heel portion (A), tread portion (B), toe portion (C) and midfoot portion (D) are made more rigid, and the arch portion (E) and the toe root portion (F) are made less rigid. First to fifth studs (31-35) are provided on a sole surface of the outsole (1). The first stud (31) is disposed at a central portion of a distal phalanx (DP₁) of a first or great toe of a shoe wearer's foot. The second stud (32) is positioned at a metatarsophalangeal joint (MJ₁) of the first toe. The third stud (33) is placed at a head portion of a metatarsus (MB₄) of a fourth toe. The fourth stud (34) is located at a distal phalanx (DP₃) of a third toe. The fifth stud (35) is deployed at each head portion of metatarsi (MB₂, MB₃) of a second and third toe. Thereby, rigidity and strength as well as bendability of the outsole can be achieved. Also, slippage on the contact surfaces can be prevented from occurring during playing soccer.

FIG. 3





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 02 25 0233

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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P,A	* the whole document *	1-4	A43B13/14
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A	WO 00 30483 A (TURNER AMANDA ; COLLINS WILLIAM (GB)) 2 June 2000 (2000-06-02) * the whole document *	1-4,37	A43C15/16

A	DE 19 73 891 U (ADOLF DASSLER) * the whole document *	1-4,37	

X	WO 00 57740 A (GROSS ALEXANDER L) 5 October 2000 (2000-10-05)	37	
A	* the whole document *	1-4	

A	EP 0 123 550 A (NIKE INTERNATIONAL LTD) 31 October 1984 (1984-10-31) * the whole document *	1-4,37	

			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			A43B A43C
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 28 May 2002	Examiner Claudel, B
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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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:

1-21, 37



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**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B**

Application Number
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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: 1-21,37

footwear providing both rigidity and bendability of the
outsole

2. Claims: 22-36,38,39

football footwear preventing slippage on some contact
surfaces

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

EP 02 25 0233

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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28-05-2002

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