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Note: Bibliography reflects the latest situation

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Remarks:

This application was filed on 20 - 01 - 2003 as a
divisional application to the application mentioned
under INID code 62.

(54) **Multi-layer forming fabric with stitching yarn pairs integrated into papermaking surface**

(57) A papermaker's fabric (20), comprising top machine direction yarns (21-30), top cross machine direction yarns (31-40), bottom machine direction yarns (41-50), bottom cross machine direction yarns (51-60), and sets of first and second stitching yarns (61a-70a and 61b-70b), said fabric being formed in a plurality of repeating units, each of said repeating units comprising: a set of top machine direction yarns; a set of top cross machine direction yarns interwoven with said set of top machine direction yarns; a set of bottom machine direction yarns; a set of bottom cross machine direction yarns interwoven with said set of bottom machine direction yarns; wherein pairs of first and second stitching yarns are positioned between pairs of top cross machine direction yarns, said first and second stitching yarns of each pair being interwoven with said top and bottom machine direction yarns, and wherein said pair of first and second stitching yarns is positioned between each pair of adjacent top cross machine direction yarns; each of said first stitching yarns passes over a first number of top machine direction yarns, and each of said second stitching yarns passes over a second number of top machine direction yarns; said first number is different than said second number; and wherein at least some of the

top cross machine direction yarns are immediately adjacent to either two first stitching yarns or two second stitching yarns.



