



(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:  
**10.08.2005 Bulletin 2005/32**

(51) Int Cl.7: **D06B 17/04, D06B 23/20**

(43) Date of publication A2:  
**25.08.2004 Bulletin 2004/35**

(21) Application number: **04003773.1**

(22) Date of filing: **19.02.2004**

(84) Designated Contracting States:  
**AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR  
HU IE IT LI LU MC NL PT RO SE SI SK TR**  
Designated Extension States:  
**AL LT LV MK**

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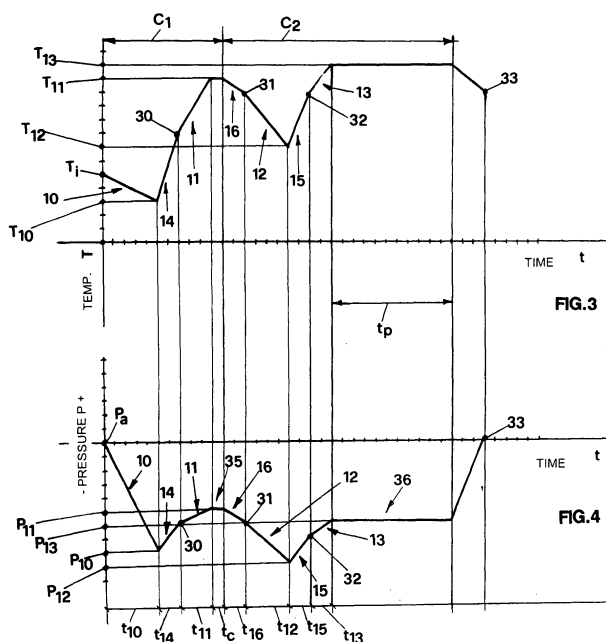
(30) Priority: **19.02.2003 IT VI20030034**

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(54) **Method and equipment for conditioning and heat-setting textile articles**

(57) A method of conditioning and heat-setting textile products in an autoclave (21) is disclosed comprising: two or more thermal cycles (C1, C2), at least one of which comprising a transfer phase (16) of water present in the autoclave (21) to inside a recovery tank (22), a suction phase (10, 12) to put the autoclave (21) under vacuum, a water return phase (14, 15) from the recovery tank (22) to the autoclave (21), a heating phase (11, 13) of water contained in the autoclave (21) to gen-

erate saturated steam, a stay phase (35, 36) in the autoclave (21) for a predetermined time ( $t_c$ ,  $t_p$ ) of the reached conditions of temperature ( $t_{11}$ ,  $t_{13}$ ) and pressure ( $p_{11}$ ,  $p_{13}$ ), restoring in the autoclave (21) the ambient pressure ( $P_a$ ) at the end of the last stay phases (36). Each phase of transfer (16) and return (14, 15) of said water occurs spontaneously by suction produced by the difference of pressure existing between autoclave (21) and recovery tank (22).





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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 04 00 3773

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			D06B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search <b>The Hague</b>		Date of completion of the search <b>20 June 2005</b>	Examiner <b>D'Hulster, E</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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EPO FORM 1503 03/82 (P04C01)

**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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