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(54) **Garment hanger**

(57) A molded plastic garment hanger, as is widely used for the purpose of shipping and displaying garments, comprising a unitary plastic central hook and arms extending in opposite directions from the base of the central hook to facilitate a garment to be suspended therefrom by garment clips (28). The garment clips (28) enable the attachment of various kinds of garments thereto, such as underwear, slips, brassieres, swimwear, multiple garments, and the like. The garment hanger has an improved garment retaining clip (28) wherein as a garment is inserted into the garment retaining clip, the garment receiving channel (34) of the first clip opens to allow the garment to enter, and then closes to securely retain the garment and to prevent it

from becoming accidentally dislodged therefrom. The garment hanger also has an improved panty retaining clip (30) having an inward slant defined by a receiving channel of the panty retaining clip (30). As a panty waist band is inserted into the panty retaining clip (30), the panty waist band moves radially inwardly towards the center of the garment hanger, which means that, after a panty waist band is inserted fully into the panty retaining clip, the panty waist band shrinks at each end of the garment hanger. Accordingly, the panty waist band must be expanded or stretched at each end of the garment hanger to remove the panty from the panty retaining clip, which makes accidental dislodgment of the garment from the garment clip a virtual impossibility.

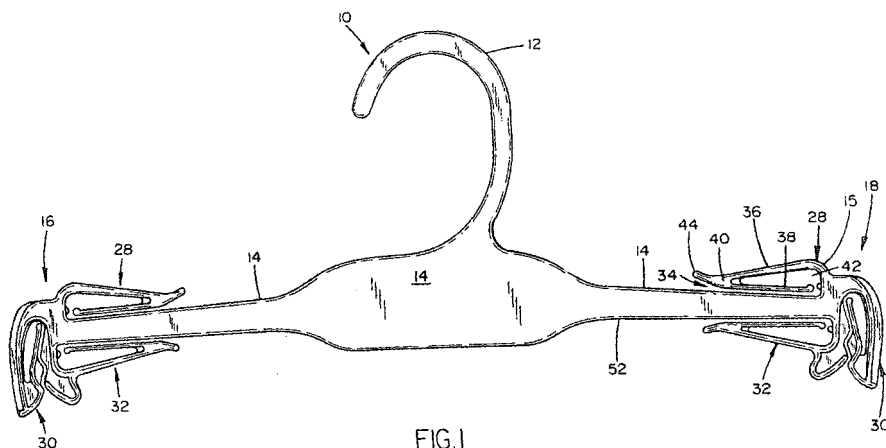


FIG. 1



European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 04 01 3602

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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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A	US 5 062 556 A (WILLPUETZ WILHELM) 5 November 1991 (1991-11-05) * figure 1 * -----		
A	US 5 065 916 A (FILDAN GERHARD) 19 November 1991 (1991-11-19) * figure 2 * -----		
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague		21 September 2004	van Overbeek, K
<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.
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21-09-2004

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