



(11) **EP 1 654 941 A3**

(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:
14.05.2008 Bulletin 2008/20

(51) Int Cl.:
A41D 27/00 (2006.01) **A41D 3/00** (2006.01)
A41D 15/00 (2006.01) **A42B 1/04** (2006.01)

(43) Date of publication A2:
10.05.2006 Bulletin 2006/19

(21) Application number: **05256831.8**

(22) Date of filing: **04.11.2005**

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

(72) Inventor: **Martin, Mark Gary, Berghaus Limited Enterprise Park, Sunderland SR5 3XB (GB)**

(30) Priority: **09.11.2004 GB 0424730**

(74) Representative: **Stoner, Gerard Patrick et al Mewburn Ellis LLP York House 23 Kingsway London WC2B 6HP (GB)**

(71) Applicant: **Berghaus Limited London W1U 3PH (GB)**

(54) **Length adjusters; garments and other articles with length adjustment**

(57) A length adjusting device, particularly for use in fabric articles such as garments, comprising a resiliently extensible tensile element (1) held at a substantially constant length between at least two holding means (2) such as cord locks fixed to a support (3) such as a plastic tube. The free portions (13) of the tensile element can be extended from the holding means, which in turn prevents

retraction of the extended portion into a shortened condition until released. The extended portion has an engagement or coupling element (11) for engagement with a corresponding portion (72) on an associated article (7), the length of which is to be adjusted. In the shortened condition, excess slack lengths outside the system can be avoided.

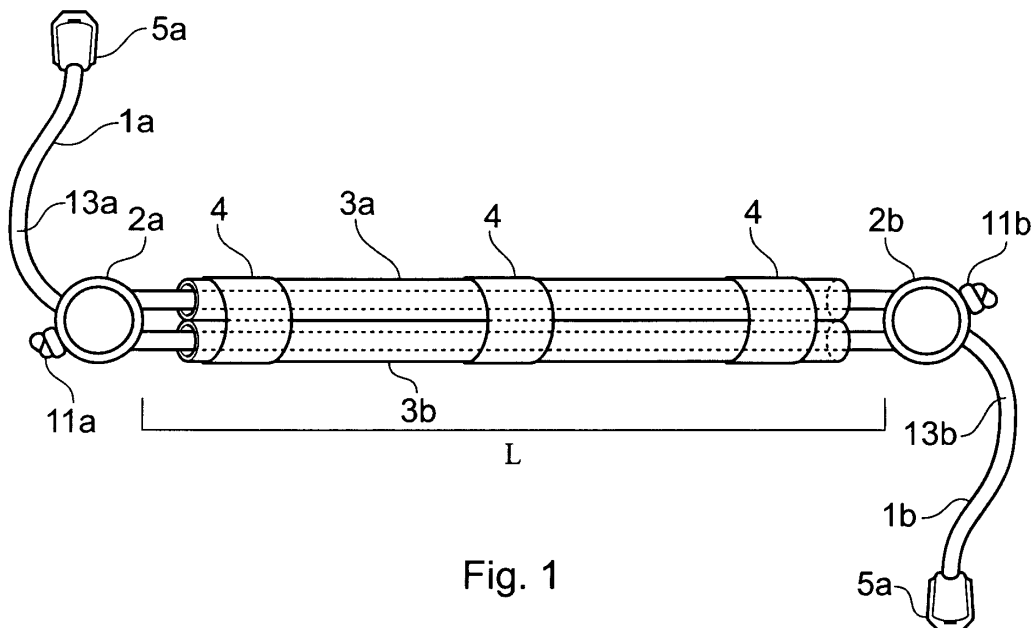


Fig. 1

EP 1 654 941 A3



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	US 2003/192108 A1 (VIDAL NAOMI [CA]) 16 October 2003 (2003-10-16) * paragraph [0017] - paragraph [0024]; figure 1 *	1-7, 10-13	INV. A41D27/00 A41D3/00 A41D15/00 A42B1/04
X	EP 1 262 113 A (EIDER [FR]) 4 December 2002 (2002-12-04) * paragraph [0007] - paragraph [0014]; figures 1,2 *	1,5-7, 10-13	
P,X	US 2005/241045 A1 (TOLTON GARY A [US]) 3 November 2005 (2005-11-03) * paragraph [0020] - paragraph [0027]; figure 1 *	1-3,5-7, 11-13	
A	US 3 676 879 A (IRIE KATSUMASA) 18 July 1972 (1972-07-18) * column 1, line 45 - column 2, line 57; figures 1-4 *	1-13	
A	US 6 374 418 B1 (RINDLE MARKUS M H [US]) 23 April 2002 (2002-04-23) * column 4, line 39 - column 7, line 13 *	1-13	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			A41D A42B
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
Munich		7 April 2008	Richmond, Sarah
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	
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		& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

4
EPO FORM 1503 03.02 (P04C01)

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

EP 05 25 6831

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
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

07-04-2008

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2003192108 A1	16-10-2003	CA 2381720 A1	15-10-2003
EP 1262113 A	04-12-2002	AT 299654 T	15-08-2005
		DE 60205063 D1	25-08-2005
		FR 2825238 A1	06-12-2002
US 2005241045 A1	03-11-2005	NONE	
US 3676879 A	18-07-1972	NONE	
US 6374418 B1	23-04-2002	DE 20118164 U1	17-01-2002

EPO FORM P0459

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82