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(54) **Undergarment**

(57) An undergarment (14) comprising a front panel (18,22) composed of a first stitch pattern, a rear panel (74,78) composed of a second stitch pattern, a waistband (46) formed at the top of the front and rear panels, a leg band (58) formed at the bottom of the front and rear panels and an interface (102). The interface is formed between the front and rear panels and generally extending at least partially between the waistband and the leg band on a side of the undergarment. The interface interleaves at least a portion of the front panel with at least a portion of the rear panel.

els and an interface (102). The interface is formed between the front and rear panels and generally extending at least partially between the waistband and the leg band on a side of the undergarment. The interface interleaves at least a portion of the front panel with at least a portion of the rear panel.

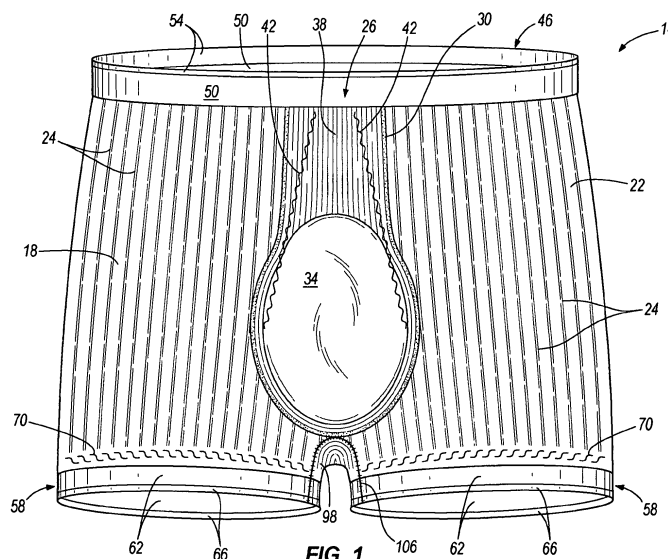


FIG. 1



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 06 02 1076

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	EP 1 342 423 A1 (WACOAL CORP [JP]) 10 September 2003 (2003-09-10) * paragraph [0018] * * paragraph [0025] * * paragraph [0082] * * claim 18; figures 1-3,13,15 *	1-24	INV. A41B9/00
A	US 2005/115282 A1 (STARBUCK MICHAEL [GB]) 2 June 2005 (2005-06-02) * the whole document *	1,13	
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A	WO 2005/006894 A1 (MAIDENFORM INC [US]; SHANNON CATHERINE [US]) 27 January 2005 (2005-01-27) * the whole document *	1,13	
X	US 5 671 615 A (KJ RGAARD FINN [DK]; KRISTENSEN JOHANNES NYVANG [DK]) 30 September 1997 (1997-09-30) * column 4, line 2 - line 15 * * column 5, line 10 - line 13; figures 5,6 *	25-52	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC) D04B A41B
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A	EP 0 556 068 A1 (LEE SARA CORP [US]) 18 August 1993 (1993-08-18) * column 2, line 39 - line 58; figure *	25,39	
A	WO 03/006727 A1 (LEE SARA CORP [US]) 23 January 2003 (2003-01-23) * page 4, line 18 - line 26; figure *	25,39	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 1 October 2009	Examiner Pieracci, Andrea
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)



Application Number

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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing claims for which payment was due.

☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due 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 those claims for which no payment was due.

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:

☐ The present supplementary 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 (Rule 164 (1) EPC).



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: 1-24

An undergarment with improved and more comfortable transition between front panel and rear panel and method of manufacturing the same.

2. claims: 25-52

An undergarment with improved waistband and legband and method of manufacturing the same

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

EP 06 02 1076

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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