

(11) EP 2 698 071 A1

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(43) Date of publication:

19.02.2014 Bulletin 2014/08

(51) Int Cl.:

A41C 3/00 (2006.01)

A41F 15/00 (2006.01)

(21) Application number: 12180585.7

(22) Date of filing: 15.08.2012

(84) Designated Contracting States:

AL AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HR HU IE IS IT LI LT LU LV MC MK MT NL NO PL PT RO RS SE SI SK SM TR

Designated Extension States:

BA ME

(71) Applicant: Afxentiou, Claudia New York, NY 11364 (US) (72) Inventor: Afxentiou, Claudia New York, NY 11364 (US)

(74) Representative: Blance, Stephen John et al

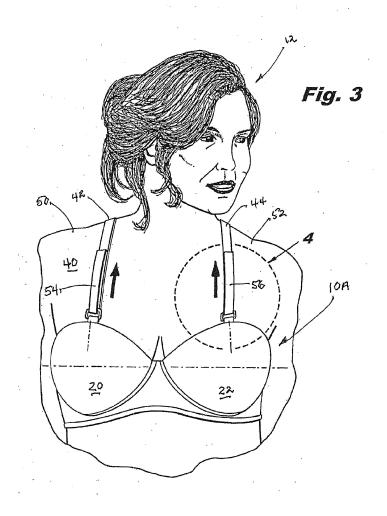
Pure Ideas Ltd Kestrel House Falconry Court Baker's Lane

Epping, Essex CM15 5DQ (GB)

(54) Asymmetrical bosom corrective brassiere

(57) An anomaly-correcting brassiere (10A) of assumed positions of asymmetrical bosoms using interconnecting patches of loops (62) and hooks (64) for shoulder

straps (42, 44) constituted as closed loops and non-elastic construction material to maintain symmetrical and obviate asymmetrical bosom conditions.



Description

[0001] The present invention relates generally to improvements for a brassiere for a female having cognizable asymmetric bosoms, and more particularly to improvements whereby the bosoms lower breast cup is urged in ascending movement as a result of its shoulder strap size adjustment to contribute to the brassiere cupsupported breasts being oriented in horizontal relation during wearing use of the brassiere, all as will be better understood as the description proceeds.

1

Background of the Invention

1. Field of Search

[0002] Exemplified by patent 5,152,741 issued to the patentee Farnio, but prevalent in many patents too numerous to mention, is the practice of using stretchable brassiere shoulder straps for the wearing comfort of the user during movement, and also in the sizing of the brassiere in conjunction with brassiere cup sizes.

[0003] As is known to occur in normal growth, a right-handed individual's right arm is larger than the left, and like anatomical situations exist, and so also is a condition in which, as noted, a female's bosoms are noticeably not in a horizontal alignment with each other to the significant embarrassment of the wearer.

Summary of the Invention

[0004] Broadly, it is an object of the present invention to overcome the foregoing and other noted difficulties of the prior art.

[0005] More particularly, it is an object to provide a nonelastic shoulder strap and a size-adjustment made thereof to allay the embarrassment of the brassiere wearer.

Brief Description of Several Views of the Drawings

[0006] The description of the invention which follows, together with the accompanying drawings should not be construed as limiting the invention to the example shown and described, because those skilled in the art to which this invention appertains will be able to devise other forms thereof.

Figures 1 and 2 are prior art-labelled front elevational views of a brassiere-wearing female in which in Figure 1 the anomaly of an asymmetrical bosom is illustrated and in which, in Figure 2, it is illustrated that the anomaly persists wearing a brassiere of the prior art;

Figure 3 is a front elevational view of said brassierewearing female having a corrected symmetrical bosom wearing the inventive brassiere according to the present invention;

Figure 4 is a partial perspective view of the structural

features in the area designated by the arrow 4 in Figure 3; and

Figure 5 is a rear elevational view of said brassierewearing female, wearing the brassiere according to the present invention.

Detailed Description of the Invention

[0007] Shown in the drawings is a brassiere, generally designated 10, to be used by a female 12 having, as often occurs, an asymmetrical bosom 14 in which the left breast 16 and right breast 18 are not horizontally positioned adjacent each other, it being assumed in this case that the right breast 18 is lower than the left breast 16 by a half inch or so, an anomaly known to the female 12 to an extent that she requires correction to be effectuated during the wearing of the brassiere 10.

[0008] To achieve the purposes intended (see Figure 3), brassiere 10A has cooperating left and right breastcovering brassiere cups 20 and 22 each having an inner edge, an outer edge, and a top edge. Preferably, cups 20 and 22 are made of a satin material and are not stretchable but provide comfort to the wearer. In addition, brassiere 10A also includes two selected lengths, as known from common experience, of cooperating back panels 70 of elastic construction material, preferably, satin power net. However, other suitable materials can be utilized. Each of the back panels 70 are attached to extend from opposite sides of a cooperating brassiere cup, into connected relation to each other rearwardly of the female 12, via a conventional closure clasp 72, such as, for example, hook and eye, snap, or Velcro (RTM) closures, as seen in Figure 5. The closure clasp 72 allows the back panels 70 to be adjustable to accommodate the size of the wearer.

[0009] Consequently, there is an urgency in the elastic construction material which maintains the brassiere 10A in encircling relation about the upper torso 40 of the female 12.

[0010] Completing the construction of the brassiere 10A are a left 42 and a right 44 shoulder strap of selected construction material, as subsequently disclosed, which straps 42, 44 are attached, as at rear torso sites to extend therefrom forwardly over cooperating shoulders 50, 52 and present free ends 54, 56 threaded through cup-attached loop-shaped links 58. Preferably, loop-shaped links 58 are made of metal; however, other suitable materials can be utilized, such as plastic. The cup-attached loop-shaped links 58 are generally centrally disposed between the inner and outer side edges of the cups 20 and 22 and at a position spaced-apart and disposed above the top edges thereof. Particularly, as seen in Figure 4, each of the loop-shaped links 58 are attached to cups 20 and 22 via an upwardly projecting tab 74 which is stitched to the top edge of the cups 20 and 22. The rear portion of each of the shoulder straps 42, 44 includes means for adjusting the length of the shoulder straps, such as, a conventional sliding adjuster 76 which permits the shoul-

35

45

50

15

der straps to be shortened or lengthened depending on the size of the wearer.

[0011] Patches of loops 62 and hooks 64 in facing relation to each other are adhesively attached to the free ends 54, 56 so that during the wearing of the brassiere 10A the shoulder straps 42, 44 are configured as closed loops.

[0012] Underlying the present invention is the selection of non-elastic construction material for the shoulder straps 42, 44 so that a selected closed-loop for the sagging or lower breast 18 having undergone a size adjustment to raise the breast 18 from an asymmetrical into a symmetrical relation of the female's bosom 14 is maintained during the wearing of the brassiere 10. Preferably, the shoulder straps 42, 44 are made of a satin material. [0013] While the construction and operating mode of the within inventive corrective brassiere herein shown and disclosed in detail is fully capable of attaining the objects and providing the advantages hereinbefore stated, it is to be understood that it is merely illustrative of the presently preferred embodiment of the invention and that no limitations are intended to the detail of construction or design herein shown other than as defined in the appended claims.

Claims

1. A brassiere for a female having an asymmetrical bosom constituted of a right and left breast, comprising:

left and right breast-covering brassiere cups, each having a top edge and inner and outer side edges:

two cup-attached loop-shaped links, one of which is attached to said top edge of said left brassiere cup, at a position spaced-apart and disposed above said top edge thereof and substantially centrally disposed between said inner and outer side edges thereof and the other of which is attached to said top edge of said right brassiere cup, at a position spaced-apart and disposed above said top edge thereof and substantially centrally disposed between said inner and outer side edges thereof;

a central connector being disposed between and connected to said inner side edges of said left and right brassiere cups;

two predetermined lengths of inter-connectable back panels each constructed of elastic material, each of said back panels having one end connected to said outer edge of one of said brassiere cups and an opposite end for interconnection with the other of said back panels rearwardly of the female, so that the interconnection of said back panels is effective to maintain said brassiere in wearing relation on an upper torso of the female;

a left and right shoulder strap, constructed of a non-elastic material, each having one end attached to extend from said inter-connectable back panels forwardly over the shoulder of the female and having a second free end threaded through said cup-attached loop-shaped links to overlie a portion of said strap; and

loop and hook fasteners releasably attached in facing relation to each other on said overlying portion of said left and right shoulder straps, forming closeable loops therefrom;

wherein the lengths of said left and right shoulder straps are separately adjustable to a predetermined length via said loops and hooks and wherein, the adjustment of which, in turn, urges the female's breast in ascending movement in order to adjust the female's asymmetrical bosom

2. The brassiere according to Claim 1 wherein:

said shoulder straps are made of satin material.

3. The brassiere according to Claim 1 or Claim 2 further comprising:

means for adjusting a length of said left and right shoulder straps, which are located on said shoulder straps rearwardly of the female.

4. The brassiere according to any preceding claim further comprising:

two generally upwardly projecting tabs, each tab connecting said loop-shaped link to said brassiere cup.

5. The brassiere according to any preceding claim further comprising:

means for connecting said back panels rearwardly of the female.

6. The brassiere according to any preceding claim wherein:

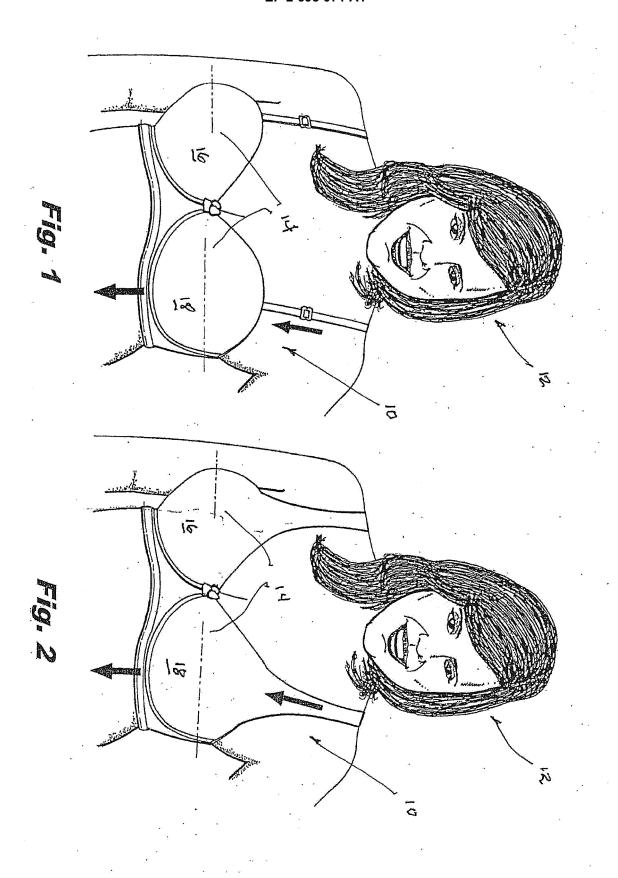
said back panels are made of satin power net material.

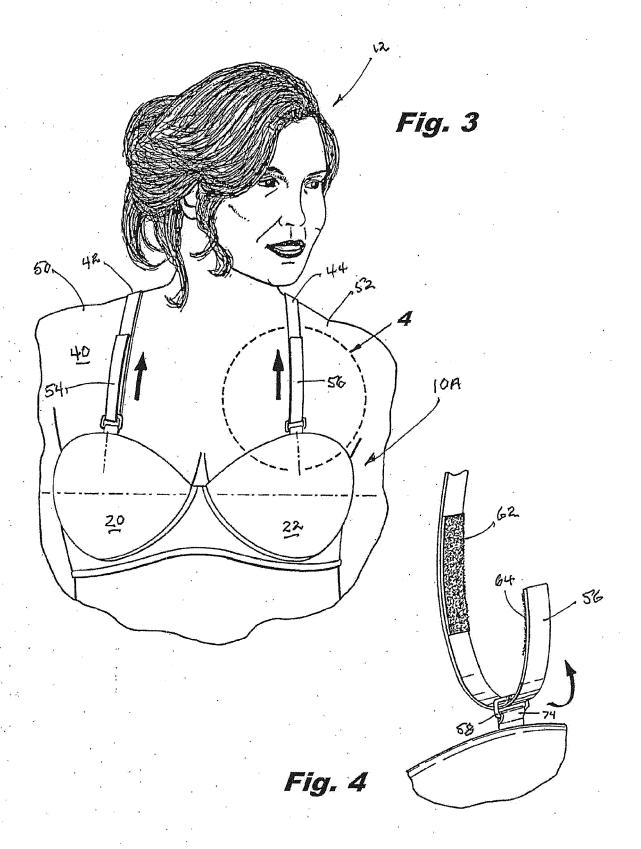
7. The brassiere according to any preceding claim wherein:

said cups are made of satin material.

55

40





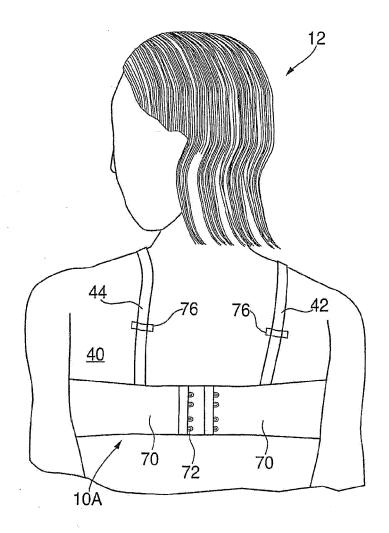


FIG. 5



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number EP 12 18 0585

	DOCUMENTS CONSIDERE	D TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indicati of relevant passages	on, where appropriate,	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)	
Υ	US 2009/075562 A1 (C.S 19 March 2009 (2009-03 * paragraphs [0058] - [0068], [0071], [0078	-19) [0063], [0066] -	1-7	INV. A41C3/00 A41F15/00	
Y,D	US 5 152 741 A (F.G. F. 6 October 1992 (1992-10 * column 3, line 44 - 6 * column 5, line 66 - 6	9-06) column 4, line 43 *	1-7		
А	US 2 315 614 A (A.A. G 6 April 1943 (1943-04-04-04-04-04-04-04-04-04-04-04-04-04-	96)	1,4,5		
A	US 6 200 194 B1 (B.A. 0 13 March 2001 (2001-03 * column 2, line 18 -	-13)	1,4		
				TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)	
				A41C	
				A41F	
	The present search report has been of Place of search	drawn up for all claims Date of completion of the search		Examiner	
		4 January 2013	Goo	Goodall, Colin	
X : part Y : part docu A : tech O : non	ATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS ioularly relevant if taken alone ioularly relevant if combined with another iment of the same category inological background -written disclosure mediate document	T : theory or principle E : earlier patent door after the filling date D : dooument cited in L : dooument cited fo	underlying the i ument, but public e the application r other reasons	nvention shed on, or	

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

EP 12 18 0585

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.

04-01-2013

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2009075562	A1	19-03-2009	CA 2623674 A1 US 2009075562 A1	14-03-2009 19-03-2009
US 5152741	Α	06-10-1992	NONE	
US 2315614	Α	06-04-1943	NONE	
US 6200194	B1	13-03-2001	NONE	

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

EP 2 698 071 A1

REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

This list of references cited by the applicant is for the reader's convenience only. It does not form part of the European patent document. Even though great care has been taken in compiling the references, errors or omissions cannot be excluded and the EPO disclaims all liability in this regard.

Patent documents cited in the description

• US 5152741 A [0002]