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(54) **COMPRESSION DEVICE IN COMBINATION WITH LOWER LIMB PROTECTION**

(57) The present invention relates to a support system for a body part including a compression device in combination with a lower leg protection system. The support system comprises: an inner positioner (14) formed of bladder (13) including fluidized material therein which can retain its shape after sculpting; an outer support (52) comprising a top layer, a first intermediate layer, a second intermediate layer, and a bottom layer; a first plenum formed between the top layer and the first intermediate layer, the top layer includes perforations; a first valve connected to the first plenum and a first pump, said first pump providing air through the first valve to said first plenum to create air flow into the plenum and out through the perforations; a second plenum formed between the first intermediate layer and the second intermediate layer and second pump, a second valve connecting to the second pump, said second pump provides air to the second plenum to inflate said second plenum in an intermittent or sequential manner; and a third plenum formed between the second intermediate layer and the bottom layer, said third plenum containing a fixed amount of static air. The outer support can include a rigid outer shell for providing support.

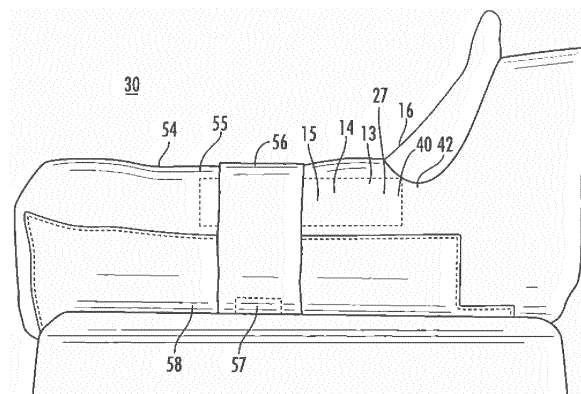


FIG. 1A



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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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 2012/316481 A1 (PURDY WILLIAM [US] ET AL) 13 December 2012 (2012-12-13)	1-10, 13-22, 30	INV. A61H9/00
Y	* the whole document *	11, 12, 23, 24, 31	
Y	US 2007/282230 A1 (VALDERRABANO VICTOR [CH] ET AL) 6 December 2007 (2007-12-06) * paragraphs [0039], [0040]; figure 1 *	11, 12, 23, 24, 31	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			A61H
<p>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p>			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
Munich		26 August 2016	Schut, Timen
<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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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:

1-24, 30, 31

☐ 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, 30, 31

A support system for a body part comprising: an inner positioner, an outer support comprising a first plenum and a second plenum and a rigid outer shell surrounding or integral with the outer support and the corresponding method

2. claims: 25-29, 32, 33

A support system for a body part comprising: an inner positioner, an outer support comprising a first plenum, a second plenum and a third plenum and the corresponding method.

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

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5 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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26-08-2016

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2012316481 A1	13-12-2012	NONE	
US 2007282230 A1	06-12-2007	US 2007282230 A1	06-12-2007
		WO 2007078845 A2	12-07-2007