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### (54) STRETCHABLE WATERPROOF LINER

(57) Waterproof articles of footwear having an improved fit and waterproof stretchable liners are provided. The footwear and liners of the present technology may include various stretchable components configured to tightly secure and conform to a user's foot and adapted to provide a tighter and more versatile fit around the differently sized and shaped feet of various different users.

In some aspects of the present technology, the waterproof liner may contain one or more stretchable panels and one or more non-stretchable or less stretchable panels. In other aspects, waterproof footwear may be provided with stretchable components such as straps or bands adapted to secure a user's foot.

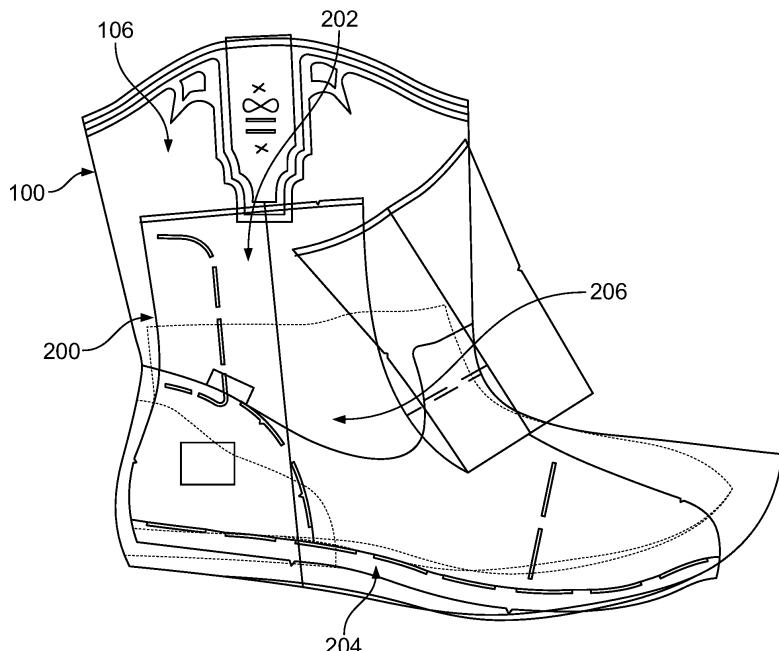


FIG. 2B



## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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50	1 The present search report has been drawn up for all claims		
55	Place of search The Hague	Date of completion of the search 17 March 2022	Examiner Chirvase, Lucian
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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## CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

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

10  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):

15  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

30  All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.

35  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.

40  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:

45  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:

1-11

50  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**

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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:

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**1. claims: 1-11**

**a liner for an article of footwear;**

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**2. claims: 12-15**

**an article of footwear comprising an internal belt;**

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

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