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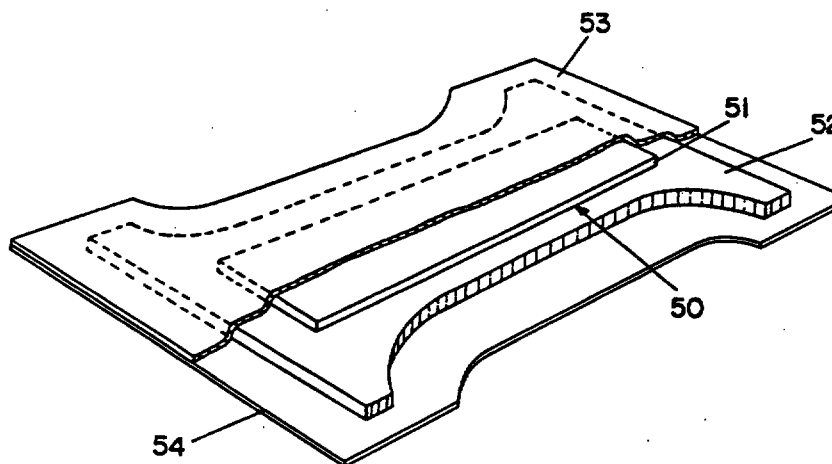
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁵ : A61F 13/15	A2	(11) International Publication Number: WO 93/03699 (43) International Publication Date: 4 March 1993 (04.03.93)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US92/06709 (22) International Filing Date: 7 August 1992 (07.08.92) (30) Priority data: 743,950 12 August 1991 (12.08.91) US (71) Applicant: THE PROCTER AND GAMBLE COMPANY [US/US]: One Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (US). (72) Inventors: YOUNG, Gerald, Alfred ; 1101 Hearthstone Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45231 (US). LaVON, Gary, Dean ; 10132 Lee's Creek, Harrison, OH 45030 (US). TAY- LOR, Gregory, Wade ; 463 Blue Teal Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45246 (US).	(74) Agent: REED, T. David; The Procter & Gamble Com- pany, Ivorydale Technical Center, 5299 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45217-1087 (US). (81) Designated States: AU, BB, BG, BR, CA, CS, FI, HU, JP, KP, KR, LK, MG, MN, MW, NO, PL, RO, RU, SD, Eu- ropean patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, SN, TD, TG). Published Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.	

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



(54) Title: HIGH EFFICIENCY ABSORBENT ARTICLES FOR INCONTINENCE MANAGEMENT



(57) Abstract

Disclosed are absorbent articles, such as diapers, for the management of incontinence. Such articles utilize in their absorbent cores (50) a fluid acquisition/distribution component (51) and a fluid storage/redistribution component (52) maintained in fluid communication with the acquisition/distribution component. The fluid acquisition/distribution component (51) can be any porous hydrophilic, e.g., fibrous or foam-based material which will provide an initial Fluid Acquisition Rate of at least 2 ml of synthetic urine per second and will also preferably provide a 30-minute Vertical Wicking Height of at least 2 cm. The fluid storage/redistribution component (52) comprises a hydrophilic, flexible, open-celled polymeric foam having a free absorbent capacity of at least about 12 ml of synthetic urine per gram of dry foam and an absorbent capacity under a 5.1 kPa confining pressure which is at least 5 % of this free capacity. Preferred fluid acquisition/distribution component materials comprise chemically stiffened, twisted, curled cellulosic fibers. Preferred fluid storage/redistribution component materials comprise absorbent foams prepared by polymerizing a high internal phase emulsion (HIPE).