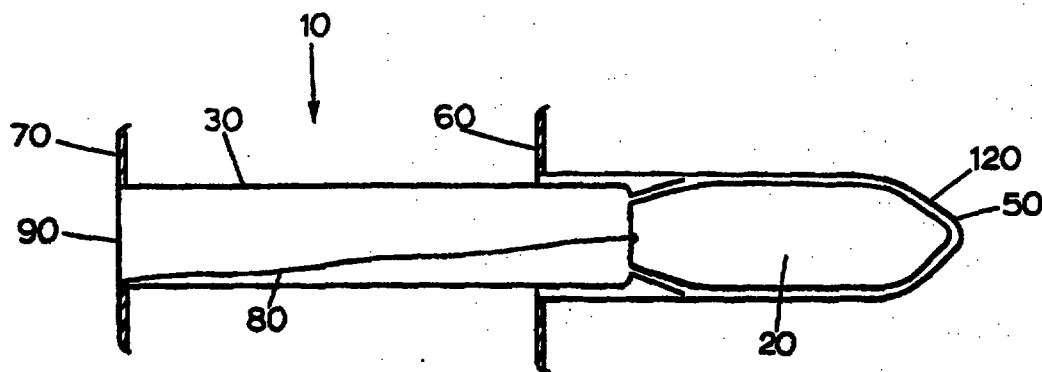


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(21) International Application Number: PCT/IB98/00313 (22) International Filing Date: 11 March 1998 (11.03.98) (30) Priority Data: 08/818,919 17 March 1997 (17.03.97) US (71) Applicant: THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY [US/US]; One Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (US). (72) Inventors: ^① OSBORN, Thomas, Ward, III ; 400 Deanview Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45224 (US). ^② MILBRADA, Edward, John ; 5613 Winding Creek Way, West Chester, OH 45069 (US). (74) Agents: REED, T., David et al. ; The Procter & Gamble Company, 5299 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45217 (US).	(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, GM, GW, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i>	

(54) Title: **TAMPON AND METHOD OF MAKING SAME**

(57) Abstract

Absorptive pads including catamenial tampons are provided which are characterized by O₂ levels sufficiently reduced so as to reduce the introduction of air into the vaginal canal with a resulting reduction in the probability of production of toxic shock syndrome exotoxin during internal use of the pads.