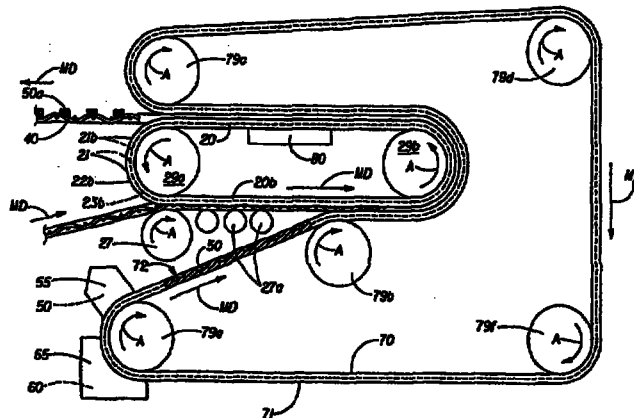




INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁷ : B29C 39/18, 39/20		A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 00/09308
			(43) International Publication Date: 24 February 2000 (24.02.00)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/18595 (22) International Filing Date: 13 August 1999 (13.08.99) (30) Priority Data: 09/134,186 14 August 1998 (14.08.98) US (71) Applicant: THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY [US/US]; One Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (US). (72) Inventor: AMPULSKI, Robert, Stanley; 5674 Red Oak Drive, Fairfield, OH 45014 (US). (74) Agents: REED, T., David et al.; The Procter & Gamble Company, 5299 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45217-1087 (US).		(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AT (Utility model), AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, CZ (Utility model), DE, DE (Utility model), DK, DK (Utility model), EE, EE (Utility model), ES, FI, FI (Utility model), GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, 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, SK (Utility model), SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i>	

(54) Title: PAPERMAKING BELT AND PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR MAKING SAME



(57) Abstract

The invention comprises a method for applying a curable resin (50) to a reinforcing structure (40) and an apparatus therefor. The apparatus comprises a working surface (72) having a pattern of recesses therein structured and designed to at least partially receive a reinforcing structure (40), a means for disposing the reinforcing structure (40) in the pattern of recesses of the working surface, a means (55) for applying a fluid resinous material to the reinforcing structure disposed in the recesses of the working surface, and a means for solidifying the fluid resinous material to provide a patterned resinous framework joined to the reinforcing structure. The process comprises the steps of at least partially disposing the reinforcing structure in the recesses of a working surface, applying the fluid resinous material to the reinforcing structure, and then solidifying the fluid resinous material to form a patterned resinous framework joined to the reinforcing structure. Preferably, the reinforcing structure has voids, penetrable by the fluid resinous material, intermediate the first and second sides, and the resinous material occupies at least some of the voids in the reinforcing structure. The finished belt comprises a patterned resinous framework joined to the reinforcing structure such that a substantial portion of a bottom side of the resinous framework is between two opposite sides of the reinforcing structure.