

ABSTRACT

5 The present invention provides an air permeable, substantially liquid impermeable
barrier structure and products made therefrom, such as sanitary napkins,
pantliners, incontinence products and diapers. The barrier structure has a porous
layer having opposing sides, the porous layer having: a porous substrate having
10 pores, which extend between the opposing sides that correspond to the opposing
sides of the porous layer, whereby a liquid may transverse the substrate; and
particles that are fused to at least one side of the porous substrate so as to restrict
entry of the liquid into the pores; wherein the porous layer resists penetration by
the liquid when it is contained in an absorbent structure that overlays the side of
15 the porous layer to which the particles are fused, and is under a loading of one
pound per square inch; and wherein the porous layer has a Frazier air permeability
value in the range of greater than zero to about 80 mm³/ft²/min (861 mm³/m²/min).

 The air permeable, substantially liquid impermeable barrier structure is
distinguished by having the particles that are fused to the porous substrate being
predominantly on the surface of the porous substrate rather than being admixed
20 with and penetrating the depth of the materials that comprise the porous substrate.

