



REPLACEMENT SHEET

Date **1 8 DEC 1997**

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What is Claimed is:

1. A method for manufacturing tape tab stock that may be used to form tape tabs for use with a disposable absorbent article, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a backing substrate having a first surface, a first longitudinal centerline and a transverse centerline perpendicular to said longitudinal centerline and a pair of longitudinal edges;

applying a pressure-sensitive adhesive to at least a portion of said first surface of said backing substrate;

slitting said backing substrate in a direction parallel to said longitudinal centerline to form at least two segments, each said segment having an inner longitudinal edge;

separating said segments in a direction parallel to said transverse centerline;

contacting a release substrate, having a release surface, an adhesive surface and a longitudinal centerline, with said pressure-sensitive adhesive, such that said release surface covers said pressure-sensitive adhesive and forms a unitary laminate comprising said segments and said release substrate;

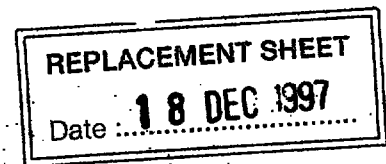
applying a construction adhesive to at least a portion of said adhesive surface of said release substrate;

slitting said laminate in a direction parallel to said longitudinal centerline; and

separating said laminate into tape tab stock.

2. A method for manufacturing tape tab stock that may be used to form tape tabs for use with a disposable absorbent article, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a backing substrate having a longitudinal centerline, a transverse centerline perpendicular to said longitudinal centerline, a first surface, and a pair of longitudinal edges;



applying a pressure-sensitive adhesive to said first surface of said backing substrate, said adhesive being applied in at least a first zone and a second zone, said first and second zones being transversely spaced apart and running continuously in a direction parallel to said longitudinal centerline of said backing substrate, said first and second zones being located on opposite sides of said longitudinal centerline and between said longitudinal centerline and said longitudinal edges wherein said first and second zones are spaced transversely inwardly toward said longitudinal centerline from said longitudinal edges such that an area formed adjacent to each of said longitudinal edges is free of said pressure-sensitive adhesive;

slitting said backing substrate between said first zone and said second zone, parallel to said longitudinal centerline to form at least two segments, each said segment having an inner longitudinal edge;

separating said segments in a direction parallel to said transverse centerline;

contacting a release substrate, having a release surface, an adhesive surface and a second longitudinal centerline, with said pressure-sensitive adhesive, such that said release surface covers said pressure-sensitive adhesive located in both said first zone and said second zone forming a unitary laminate comprising said segments and said release substrate;

applying a construction adhesive to at least a portion of said adhesive surface of said release substrate;

slitting said laminate between said segments in a direction parallel to said longitudinal centerline; and

separating said laminate into a tape tab stock.

3. The method of Claims 1 or 2 wherein said step of slitting said backing substrate comprises slitting said backing substrate coincident with said longitudinal centerline.



4. The method of Claim 3 wherein said step of slitting said laminate comprises slitting said laminate coincident with said second longitudinal centerline.
5. The method of Claims 1 or 2 further comprising the steps of:

cutting said tape tab stock into individual tape tabs, each having a permanently attached end and an refastenable end;

providing a chassis of an absorbent article; and

securing said permanently attached end of said tape tab to said chassis with said construction adhesive.
6. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of folding said inner longitudinal edges back over said first surface of said backing substrate to form release tabs, said folding step being performed before said release substrate is placed in contact with said backing substrate.
7. The method of Claims 1 or 2 wherein said release substrate completely covers said backing substrate.
8. The method of Claims 1 or 2 wherein the step of applying a construction adhesive to at least a portion of said adhesive surface of said release substrate includes applying said construction adhesive to at least a portion of said backing substrate.
9. The method of Claim 8 wherein said construction adhesive applied to said backing substrate is applied laterally inwardly from said longitudinal edges up to about .05 cm.
10. The method of Claim 13 wherein said construction adhesive applied to said backing substrate is applied laterally inwardly from said longitudinal edges up to about .05 cm.
11. A method for manufacturing tape tab stock that may be used to form tape tabs for use with a disposable absorbent article, the method comprising the steps of:



providing a backing substrate having a pair of longitudinal edges;

applying a pressure-sensitive adhesive to said first surface of said backing substrate;

contacting a release substrate, having a release surface and an adhesive surface, with said pressure-sensitive adhesive, such that said release surface covers said pressure-sensitive adhesive forming a unitary laminate; and

applying a construction adhesive to at least a portion of said adhesive surface of said release substrate and at least a portion of said backing substrate forming a tape tab stock.

12. The method of Claim 11 wherein said construction adhesive applied to said backing substrate is applied laterally inwardly from said longitudinal edges up to about .05 cm.

13. The method of Claim 8 further comprising the steps of:

cutting said tape tab stock into individual tape tabs, each having a permanently attached end and a refastenable end;

providing a chassis of an absorbent article; and

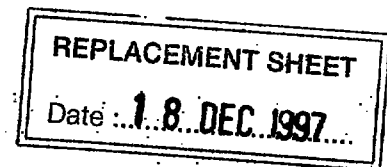
securing said permanently attached end of said tape tab to said chassis with said construction adhesive.

14. The method of Claim 11 further comprising the steps of:

cutting said tape tab stock into individual tape tabs, each having a permanently attached end and a refastenable end;

providing a chassis of an absorbent article; and

securing said permanently attached end of said tape tab to said chassis with said construction adhesive.



15. A method for manufacturing tape tab stock that may be used to form tape tabs for use with a disposable absorbent article, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a backing substrate having a pair of longitudinal edges;

applying a pressure-sensitive adhesive to said first surface of said backing substrate;

contacting a release substrate, having a release surface and an adhesive surface, with said pressure-sensitive adhesive, such that said release surface covers said pressure-sensitive adhesive forming a unitary laminate;

applying a construction adhesive to at least a portion of said adhesive surface of said release substrate and at least a portion of said backing substrate forming a tape tab stock, wherein said construction adhesive is applied laterally inwardly from said longitudinal edges up to about .05 cm;

cutting said tape tab stock into individual tape tabs, each having a permanently attached end and a refastenable end;

providing a chassis of an absorbent article; and

securing said permanently attached end of said tape tab to said chassis with said construction adhesive.