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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR PREPARING REDUCED ODOR AND IMPROVED BRIGHTNESS INDIVIDUALIZED, POLYCARBOXYLIC ACID CROSSLINKED FIBERS																					
(57) Abstract Disclosed is a process for making reduced odor individualized, crosslinked fibers which includes the steps of providing cellulosic fibers, contacting the fibers with a solution containing a C₂-C₉ polycarboxylic acid crosslinking agent, mechanically separating the fibers into substantially individual form, drying the fibers and reacting the crosslinking agent with the individualized fibers to form intrafiber crosslink bonds. The individualized cellulosic fibers are then contacted with a strong alkaline solution and strong oxidizing agent to reduce the odor and increase the brightness. Preferably, the crosslinking agent is citric acid, and preferably, between about 1.0 weight % and about 12.0 weight % of the crosslinking agent reacts to form the intrafiber crosslink bonds. Preferably, the alkaline solution is an aqueous solution of sodium hydroxide, and preferably, about 0.09 weight % of the sodium hydroxide, on a dry fiber weight basis, is applied to the crosslinked fibers. Preferably, the oxidizing agent is hydrogen peroxide, and preferably, about 0.04 weight % of the hydrogen peroxide, on a dry fiber weight basis, is applied to the crosslinked fiber. The reduced odor individualized, crosslinked fibers are useful in a variety of absorbent structure applications.																					
<table border="1"><tr><td colspan="2">REPLACED SHEETS</td><td>SG</td></tr><tr><td>☐</td><td>Description</td><td>: paged to paged</td></tr><tr><td>☒</td><td>Claim(s)</td><td>: paged ³⁶ to paged ³⁸</td></tr><tr><td>☐</td><td>Drawing(s)</td><td>: paged to paged</td></tr><tr><td>☐</td><td>Abstract</td><td>: paged to paged</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3">DATE OF RECEIPT</td></tr></table>				REPLACED SHEETS		SG	☐	Description	: paged to paged	☒	Claim(s)	: paged ³⁶ to paged ³⁸	☐	Drawing(s)	: paged to paged	☐	Abstract	: paged to paged	DATE OF RECEIPT		
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