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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US00/08048 (22) International Filing Date: 27 March 2000 (27.03.00) (30) Priority Data: 09/287,994 8 April 1999 (08.04.99) US 09/309,467 10 May 1999 (10.05.99) US (71) Applicant: THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY [US/US]; One Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (US). (72) Inventors: TAYLOR, Fiona, M.; 3316 Alicemont Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45209 (US). OSBORN, Thomas, Ward, III; 640 Windings Lane, Cincinnati, OH 45220 (US). STRONG, Kevin, C.; 144 Nottingham Road, Auburn, ME 04210 (US). BROAD, Gavin, J.; 16 Coachman Avenue, Auburn, ME 04210 (US). KREUTZ, Karen, Ann; 8151 Chestershire Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45241 (US). BUTTERWORTH, George, A., M.; 9378 Kempergrove Lane, Loveland, OH 45140 (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, CR, CU, CZ, CZ (Utility model), DE, DE (Utility model), DK, DK (Utility model), DM, EE, EE (Utility model), ES, FI, FI (Utility model), GB, GD, GH, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, 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, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, 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> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>
(54) Title: TAMPON WITH ENHANCED LEAKAGE PROTECTION		
(57) Abstract		
This invention relates to absorbent tampons. More particularly, the invention relates to an improved absorbent tampon having improved leakage performance. Tampons, having a primary absorbent member which is constructed from an absorbent material compressed to a self-sustaining form and a mass of secondary absorbent material are disclosed. The mass of secondary absorbent material is preferably located generally proximate the withdrawal end of the primary absorbent member, and is preferably substantially non-compress, and preferably of a smaller diameter than the primary absorbent member. The mass of secondary absorbent material may be multiple pieces or one piece. The secondary absorbent material may be attached to the primary absorbent member, the withdrawal cord, or both, or may be integral with one or both of these members. The withdrawal cord of the tampon may have absorbent and non-absorbent zones, especially when the mass of secondary absorbent material is attached to the withdrawal cord. The mass of secondary absorbent material preferably has a lower total absorbency than the primary absorbent member. Preferably, the mass of secondary absorbent material is provided with a driving force to direct fluid toward the primary absorbent member. A preferred method of making a tampon of the present invention is also disclosed. The diagram shows a tampon assembly. Label 20 points to the entire assembly. Label 30 points to the primary absorbent member, which is a cylindrical shape. Label 21 points to a secondary absorbent mass located near the withdrawal end of the primary member. Label 34 points to the withdrawal cord. Label 60 points to a specific part of the withdrawal cord, possibly a connector or a zone. Label 48 points to the end of the withdrawal cord.		