



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶: D01F 2/00, D21H 13/08, D04H 1/42	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 95/35399 (43) International Publication Date: 28 December 1995 (28.12.95)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/GB95/01439 (22) International Filing Date: 19 June 1995 (19.06.95) (30) Priority Data: 9412500.2 22 June 1994 (22.06.94) GB (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): COUR- TAULDS FIBRES (HOLDINGS) LIMITED [GB/GB]; 50 George Street, London W1A 2BB (GB). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): GANNON, James, Mar- tin [GB/GB]; 33 Westbury Road, Chapelfields, Coventry CV5 8JE (GB). GRAVESON, Ian [GB/GB]; 75 Bettina Close, Nuneaton CV10 9EX (GB). JOHNSON, Pamela, Ann [GB/GB]; 63 Kirby Road, Earlsdon, Coventry CV5 6HL (GB). WOODINGS, Calvin, Roger [GB/GB]; 12 Copse- wood Avenue, Nuneaton, Warwickshire CV11 4TQ (GB). (74) Agent: HALE, Stephen, Geoffrey; J.Y. & G.W. Johnson, Furnival House, 14-18 High Holborn, London WC1V 6DE (GB).		(81) Designated States: AM, AT, AU, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LK, LR, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TT, UA, US, UZ, VN, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG), ARIPO patent (KE, MW, SD, SZ, UG). Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the</i> <i>claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of</i> <i>amendments.</i>
(54) Title: LYOCELL FIBRE AND A PROCESS FOR ITS MANUFACTURE		
(57) Abstract The fibrillation tendency of solvent-spun cellulose fibre can be increased by subjecting the fibre to a treatment which reduces its degree of polymerisation by about 200 units or more. Suitable methods of treatment include severe bleaching, for example application of an aqueous liquor containing 0.1 to 10 percent by weight sodium hypochlorite (as available chlorine) to the fibre followed by steaming. Fibre may be treated in never-dried or previously-dried form. Fibre treated by the process of the invention is useful for example in the manufacture of paper and hydroentangled fabrics. Fibre of increased tendency to fibrillation can be beaten to a Canadian Standard Freeness 400 in the Disintegration Test by 30,000-150,000 disintegrator revolutions and to a Canadian Standard Freeness 200 in the same Test by 50,000-200,000 disintegrator revolutions.		

