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(54) Title: DIAPER HAVING ABDOMINAL STRETCH PANELS

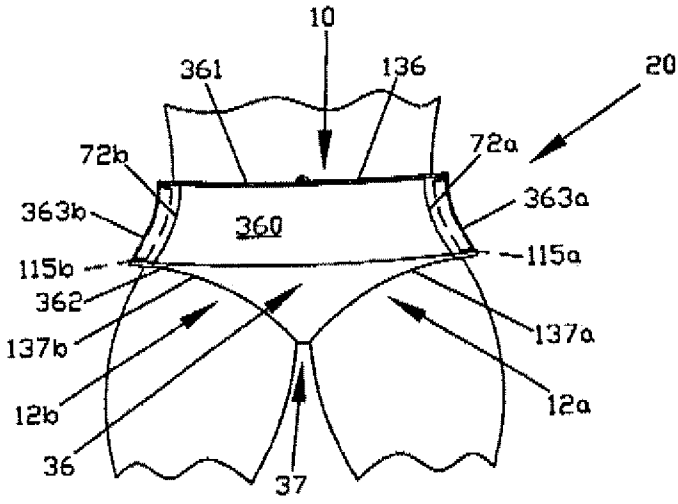


FIG. 8

(57) Abstract: A disposable absorbent article including a chassis and an absorbent assembly in combination with abdominal stretch panels extending circumferentially around the waist of the wearer. The chassis includes a water-impermeable backsheet that may be folded laterally inward at both of its side edges to form opposing side flaps. Each side flap is attached to the interior surface of the chassis adjacent to its end edges. Each side flap has a longitudinally extending elastic gathering member attached adjacent to its proximal edge. The chassis may include an extensible formed web material. The absorbent assembly may be attached in a cruciform pattern to the chassis to allow unattached portions of the chassis to extend laterally. Frangible tear lines and/or tear locator lines may be formed to facilitate removal of the article from the wearer.

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