



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁵ : C08J 9/00, 9/28, 9/36	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 93/04113 (43) International Publication Date: 4 March 1993 (04.03.93)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US92/06655 (22) International Filing Date: 7 August 1992 (07.08.92) (30) Priority data: 743,951 12 August 1991 (12.08.91) US (71) Applicant: THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY [US/US]; One Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (US). (72) Inventor: DESMARAIS, Thomas, Allen ; 4245 FLoral Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45212 (US). (74) Agent: REED, T., David; The Procter & Gamble Com- pany, Ivorydale Technical Center, 5299 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45217-1087 (US).		(81) Designated States: AU, BB, BG, BR, CA, CS, FI, HU, JP, KP, KR, LK, MG, MN, MW, NO, PL, RO, RU, SD, Eu- ropean patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i>
(54) Title: METHOD FOR HYDROPHILIZING ABSORBENT FOAM MATERIALS (57) Abstract Normally hydrophobic foams, such as polyurethane foams and polymerized water-in-oil emulsion foams, are rendered hydrophilic by means of treatment with simple surfactants and hydrophilizing agent salts. Thus, a surfactant-containing foam is treated with a solution of, for example, calcium chloride, and is dried to leave a substantially uniformly distributed residue of hydrated or hydratable calcium chloride on the surfactant-containing internal foam surfaces. In use, the combination of surfactant and calcium chloride hydrate provides a hydrophilic surface to the foam. Other hydratable calcium or magnesium salts such as magnesium chloride can be used. The resulting hydrophilized foams are suitable for use in absorbent devices, including diapers, sanitary napkins, bandages, and the like. This Sheet Has Been Replaced 		