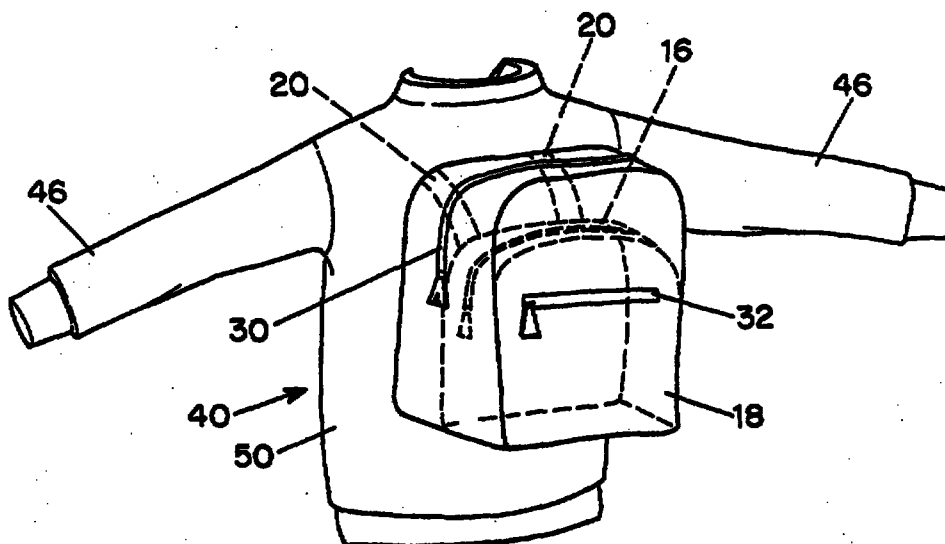




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(54) Title: **CONVERTIBLE BACKPACK**

(57) Abstract

A backpack (15) is convertible between a backpack only mode and a backpack and protective outerwear mode. In the former mode, carrying straps (20) and a second compartment (16) are connected to the outside of a first compartment (18), and protective outerwear (40) is connected to and stored on the inside of the first compartment (18). In the latter mode, the first compartment (18) is inverted so that the second compartment (16) and carrying straps (20) are stored inside the first compartment (18), and the protective outerwear (40) is external of the first compartment (18), so that the first compartment (18) is located on the back of the protective outerwear (40) to form a backpack. A support strap (55) is fastened to the inside of the protective outerwear (40) to provide support for a load carried in the first compartment (18) and to enable the individual to carry heavier loads than possible without the support strap.

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