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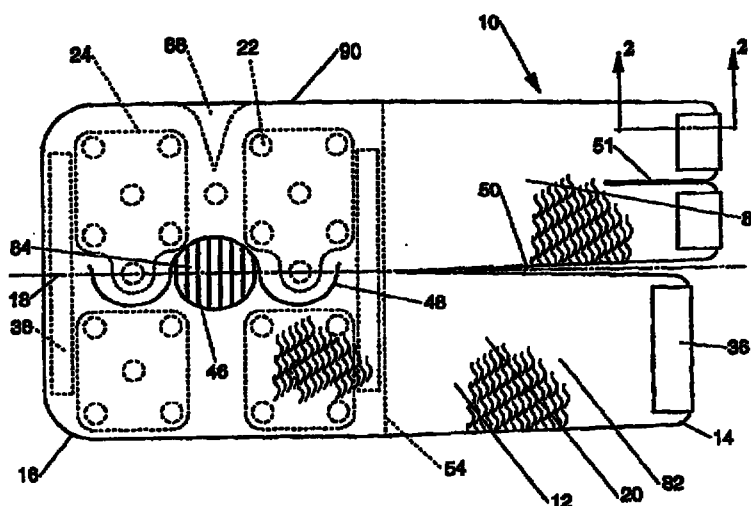
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<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/US96/08664</p> <p>(22) International Filing Date: 4 June 1996 (04.06.96)</p> <p>(30) Priority Data: 08/496,565 29 June 1995 (29.06.95) US</p> <p>(71) Applicant: THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY [US/US]; One Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (US).</p> <p>(72) Inventors: QUELLETTE, William, Robert; 11987 Blackhawk Circle, Cincinnati, OH 45240 (US). BURKETT, Timothy, Alan; 8738 Rupp Farm, West Chester, OH 45069 (US). DAVIS, Leane, Kristine; 705 1/2 Maple Ridge Drive, Milford, OH 45150 (US). HARVEY, Elizabeth, Marie; 7892 Woodglen Drive, West Chester, OH 45069 (US). HOLSTEIN, Kurt, Edward; 9915 Mistymorn Lane, Cincinnati, OH 45242 (US). NOBLE, Carl, Andrew; 1078 Ascot Drive, Maineville, OH 45039 (US).</p> <p>(74) Agents: REED, T., David et al.; The Procter & Gamble Company, 5299 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45217 (US).</p>	<p>(81) Designated States: AU, CA, CN, JP, SG, TR, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE).</p> <p>Published <i>With international search report.</i></p>	

(54) Title: **ELASTIC KNEE WRAP**



(57) Abstract

A substantially rectangular piece of flexible web having a first end and a second end and an elastic portion therebetween stretchable along a longitudinal axis of the piece of flexible web. The piece of flexible web has a length great enough to encircle a user's knee such that the first and second ends overlap. The first end has a reclosable fastening system for attaching the first end to the piece of flexible web near the second end in order to hold the piece of flexible web around the user's knee when the piece of web is stretched. The piece of flexible web also has an aperture therein. The aperture is aligned with the user's patella to establish a convenient locating point for wrapping the knee wrap around the user's knee. The piece of flexible web further includes a means for extending the piece of flexible web transverse to said longitudinal axis at the aperture in order to accommodate bending of the user's knee. The knee wrap even further includes a plurality of thermal elements embedded in the piece of flexible web. The plurality of thermal elements has a pattern which applies thermal energy to the sides and top of the user's knee.