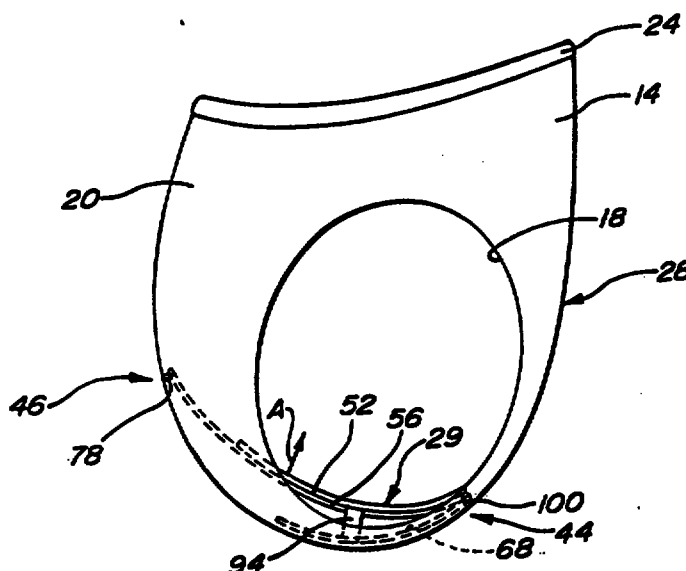


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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US93/06956 (22) International Filing Date: 22 July 1993 (22.07.93) (30) Priority data: 07/915,133 23 July 1992 (23.07.92) US (71) Applicant: THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY [US/US]; One Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (US). (72) Inventors: OSBORN, Thomas, Ward, III ; 400 Deanview Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45224 (US). SCHMITZ, Beborah, Catherine ; 8097 Timbertree Way, West Chester, OH 45069 (US). REDWINE, Nona, Jane ; 881 Tradewind Drive, Mason, OH 45040 (US).		(74) Agents: REED, T., David et al.; The Procter & Gamble Company, 5299 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45217 (US). (81) Designated States: AU, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CZ, FI, HU, JP, KP, KR, KZ, LK, MG, MN, MW, NO, NZ, PL, RO, RU, SD, SK, UA, 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). Published <i>With international search report.</i>

(54) Title: MENSTRUAL SHORTS HAVING IMPROVED FASTENING SYSTEM**(57) Abstract**

The female protection system of the present invention includes a menstrual short (28) having an outer protective layer (30) and an inner gusset layer (32). A catamenial pad assembly (50) is connectable to the menstrual short and includes front and rear ends. The catamenial pad assembly includes an absorbent member (52) for absorbing menses and a cinch (56) for biasing the absorbent member into the gluteal groove and against the perineum of the female when worn. A first fastener (70, 72) is provided on the front end of the catamenial pad assembly for attaching the catamenial pad assembly to a first mating surface that is provided at a front attachment location on at least one of the inner gusset layer and the outer protective layer. A second fastener (78) is provided on the rear end of the catamenial pad assembly for attaching the catamenial pad assembly to a second mating surface that is provided at a rear attachment location on at least one of the inner gusset layer and the outer protective layer. The front and rear attachment locations are positioned to cause the cinch to bias the absorbent member of the catamenial pad assembly into the gluteal groove and against the perineum of the female when worn.

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