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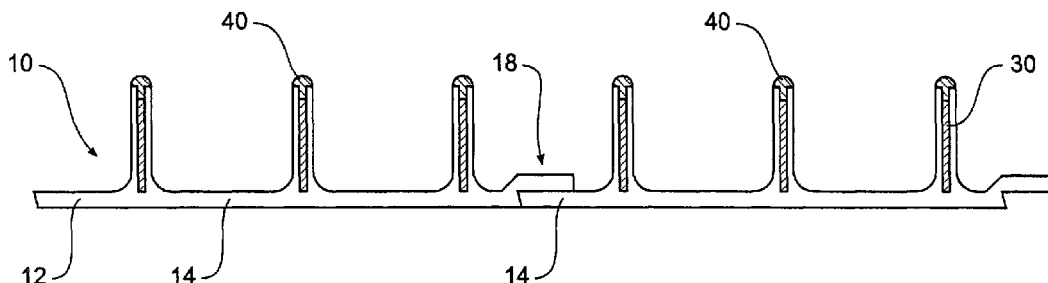
(43) International Publication Date  
30 October 2003 (30.10.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 03/089226 A1**

- (51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **B29C 63/32**, 53/78, F16L 9/16
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- (21) International Application Number: PCT/AU03/00461
- (22) International Filing Date: 17 April 2003 (17.04.2003)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:  
PS 1824 22 April 2002 (22.04.2002) AU
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- (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:**  
— with international search report
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: COMPOSITE STRIP WINDABLE TO FORM A HELICAL PIPE AND METHOD THEREOF



(57) Abstract: A composite strip (10) windable to form a helical pipe is disclosed. The composite strip (10) comprises: an elongate plastic strip (11) having a base portion (12) and at least one lengthwise extending rib portion (20) upstanding from the base portion (12); and an elongate reinforcing strip (30) extending lengthwise and supported laterally by the rib portion (20), the reinforcing strip (30) having a height to thickness ratio of at least three to one and orientated substantially perpendicular to the base portion (12). When wound into a helical pipe, the reinforcing strip (30) reinforces the pipe against radial crushing loads. A bead (40) seals the reinforcing strip (30) from the environment. Desirably the composite strip (10) further comprises: a planar lamina (50) extending lengthwise and bonded to the base portion (12), the lamina (50) having a higher Young's modulus and strength than those of the plastic strip (11). The lamina (50) greatly improves the pressure rating of a pipe wound from the strip (10).



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