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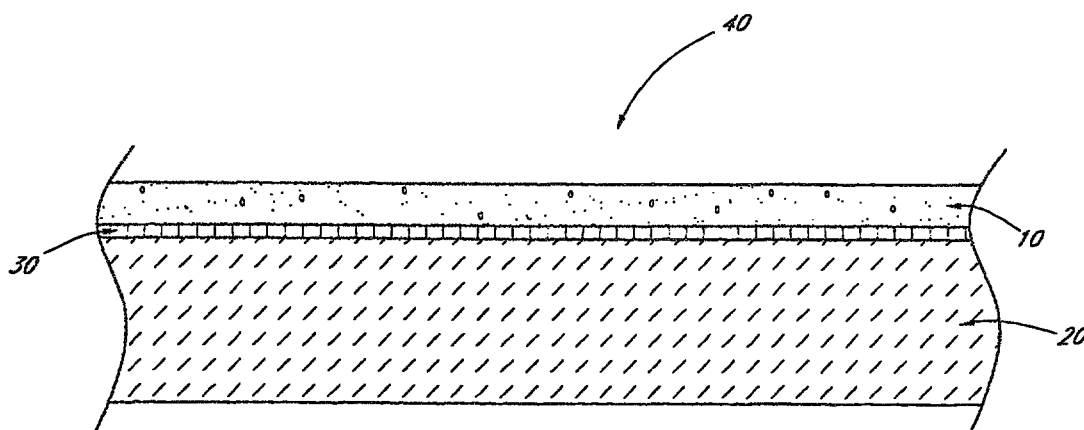
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- (71) Applicants (for all designated States except US): JAMES HARDIE RESEARCH PTY. LIMITED [AU/AU]; 2nd Floor, 1 Grand Avenue, Camellia, New South Wales 2142 (AU). FISHER, Mark, T. [US/US]; 21171 Lockhaven Circle, Huntington Beach, CA 92646 (US).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): GLEESON, James, A. [AU/US]; 10655 Lemon Avenue, Alta Loma, CA 91737 (US). MERKLEY, Donald, J. [US/US]; 5054 Klusman Avenue, Alta Loma, CA 91733 (US).
- (74) Agent: ALTMAN, Daniel, E.; Knobbe, Martens, Olson and Bear, LLP, 620 Newport Center Drive, 16th Floor, Newport Beach, CA 92660 (US).
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(54) Title: FIBER-CEMENT/GYPSUM LAMINATE COMPOSITE BUILDING MATERIAL



(57) Abstract: A building material (40) is provided comprising fiber-cement (10) laminated to gypsum (20) to form a single piece laminate composite. This single piece laminate composite exhibits improved fire resistance and surface abuse and impact resistance, but achieves these properties without the excessive weight and thickness of two piece systems. Additionally, because of the reduced thickness, the preferred laminate building material is easier to cut and is quicker and easier to install than two piece systems. Furthermore, forming the fiber-cement and gypsum into a single piece laminate eliminates the need to install two separate pieces of building material, thereby simplifying installation. In one embodiment, a 5/8" thick laminate composite is provided comprising a 1/2" thick gypsum panel laminated to a 1/8" thick fiber-cement sheet, the laminate composite having a fire resistance rating of 1 hour when measured in accordance with ASTM E119.

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