

PATENT SPECIFICATION

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DRAWINGS ATTACHED

(19)



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(54) ABSORBENT PRODUCTS

(71) We, SOUTHALLS (BIRMINGHAM) LIMITED, a British Company, of Charford Mills, Alum Rock Road, Birmingham 8, do hereby declare the invention for which we pray that a Patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to absorbent pads such for instance as sanitary towels, dressings and other forms of pad intended to absorb liquids discharged from the human body, and it is an object of the invention to provide such an absorbent pad in a simple and convenient form.

According to the invention, an absorbent pad intended to absorb liquid discharged from the human body comprises an elongated absorbent core having upper and lower faces and side edges, said core being formed from fibrous material, a liquid impervious back sheet positioned adjacent and covering the lower face of said core, a pervious fabric cover extending over the upper face of the core, the upper face of the core when the pad is in use receiving the discharged liquid, said cover extending around the side edges of the core and acting to encase the core and said back sheet, a trough formed in the upper face of said core, the formation of said trough acting to cause compression of the portion of the core lying beneath the trough and a plurality of openings from the base of the trough into the interior of the core.

In the accompanying drawings:—

Figure 1 is a section through one example of an absorbent pad in accordance with the invention, and

Figure 2 is a plan view of the pad of Figure 1.

The invention is to be described as applied to an absorbent pad in the form of a sanitary towel. The towel comprises an absorbent core 10 which is formed from fibrous

material such as cellulose wadding, and against the lower face of the core which in use, is remote from the body of the user, there is located a back sheet 11 which is non permeable and which acts to minimise the risk of "strike through".

Surrounding the core 10 and sheet 11 is a cover 12 formed from non woven fabric. The cover overlaps on the lower face of the towel and the ends of the cover are stitched and retain supporting loops not shown. The upper face of the core is covered by the central portion of the sheet and is positioned adjacent the body of the wearer to receive the menstrual fluid when in use.

The fabric from which the cover 12 is formed is permeable and is sufficiently soft to avoid chaffing the wearers skin. Moreover, peripheral edge portions 13 on the upper face of the towel, the side portions, and the two portions of the cover on the lower face of the towel are rendered impervious by the application of a coating of a fluid proofing compound which can be applied by spraying, brushing or by rollers. A central strip 14 of the cover 12 on the upper face of the towel is apertured by means of a spiked roller to enable the fluid to flow into the core and the action of the roller is to produce a shallow trough 15 on the upper face of the core and towel. This central strip is bounded by strips 16 which are not spiked and which are not rendered impervious.

The spikes of the roller are arranged to penetrate substantially two thirds of the thickness of the core 10 and it has been found that the channels 17 thus defined facilitate the flow of fluid into the core. Moreover, this portion of the core has a higher fibre density as a result of the action of the roller. This portion of the core acts to conduct quickly the fluid to the remaining portion of the core from the point of application.

[Price 25p]

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. An absorbent pad intended to absorb liquid discharged from the human body and comprising an elongated absorbent core having upper and lower faces and side edges, said core being formed from fibrous material, a liquid impervious back sheet positioned adjacent and covering the lower face of said core, a pervious fabric cover extending over the upper face of the core, the upper face of the core when the pad is in use receiving the discharged liquid, said cover extending around the side edges of the core and acting to encase the core and said back sheet, a trough formed in the upper face of said core, the formation of said trough acting to cause compression of the portion of the core lying beneath the trough and a plurality of openings from the base of the trough into the interior of the core.
2. An absorbent pad according to claim 1 in which the cover is provided with a liquid impervious coating, said coating being applied so as to leave a liquid pervious zone on the portion of the cover overlying the upper face of the core, said zone extending over said trough and laterally on opposite sides thereof.
3. An absorbent core according to claim 1 in which the trough and openings are formed by means of a spiked roller.
4. An absorbent pad substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawing.

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