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(21) International Application Number: PCT/IB99/00404 (22) International Filing Date: 12 March 1999 (12.03.99) (30) Priority Data: 09/042,429 13 March 1998 (13.03.98) US (71) Applicant: THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY [US/US]; One Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (US). (72) Inventor: DESMARAI, Thomas, Allen; 10204 Scull Road, Cincinnati, OH 45252 (US). (74) Agents: REED, T., David et al.; The Procter & Gamble Company, 5299 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45217-1087 (US).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AT (Utility model), AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, CZ (Utility model), DE, DE (Utility model), DK, DK (Utility model), EE, EE (Utility model), ES, FI, FI (Utility model), GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SK (Utility model), SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i>
(54) Title: HIGH SUCTION POLYMERIC FOAM MATERIALS (57) Abstract Disclosed are polymeric foam structures suitable for absorbing and storing body fluids such as urine, menses and the like. These liquid storage structures are high suction collapsible polymeric foam materials. The collapsed foams, upon contact with aqueous fluids, can absorb and expand these fluids even when opposed by significant hydrostatic pressures. These absorbent polymeric foams comprise interconnected open-cells. In one aspect, the foams can absorb at least about 25 g/g against a hydrostatic head pressure of 50 cm. In another aspect, the foams of the present invention will have a vertical hang sorption height at 90 % of at least about 60 cm. The image is a black and white micrograph showing a dense, interconnected network of small, rounded cells. The cells are dark in color, suggesting they are filled with a liquid or have a high density. The walls of the cells are thin and form a continuous, porous-looking structure. The overall appearance is that of a highly porous, sponge-like material, consistent with the description of a polymeric foam structure in the abstract.		