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(21) International Application Number: PCT/AU95/00682 (22) International Filing Date: 17 October 1995 (17.10.95) (30) Priority Data: PM 8852 17 October 1994 (17.10.94) ✓ AU (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): COMMON-WEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION [AU/AU]; 407 Royal Parade, Parkville, VIC 3052 (AU). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): RUSSELL, Ian, Maxwell [AU/AU]; 22 Gwyther Road, Highton, VIC 3216 (AU). PIERLOT, Anthony, Paul [AU/AU]; 10 Sutherland Street, Lethbridge, VIC 3332 (AU). (74) Agents: ANGLISS, Michael et al.; Davies Collison Cave, 1 Little Collins Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000 (AU).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LK, LR, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, 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), ARIPO patent (KE, MW, SD, SZ, UG). Published With international search report. RMTP copy
(54) Title: CHEMICALLY ASSISTED PROTEIN ANNEALING TREATMENT ✓ (57) Abstract A method for treating proteinaceous materials that contain disulfide or polysulfide bonds to improve their performance at high relative humidity and when wet. The method comprises annealing the fabric at a temperature in the range of from 70 °C to 160 °C at a regain of between 10 % and 25 % for a period greater than about 10 minutes wherein the fabric is annealed in the presence of a gas which enhances the disulfide interchange reaction. A further embodiment of the invention comprises annealing the fabric at a temperature in the range of from 70 °C to 160 °C to a regain of between 10 % and 25 % for a period greater than 10 minutes wherein the fabric has at least in part been treated with a liquid which enhances the disulfide interchange reaction. The present method is particularly applicable to keratinous materials such as for example wool, wool with reduced crystallinity, mohair, regenerated protein, or mixtures thereof.		

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