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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/25667 (22) International Filing Date: 3 December 1998 (03.12.98) (30) Priority Data: 08/984,463 3 December 1997 (03.12.97) US (71) Applicant: THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY [US/US]; One Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (US). (72) Inventors: LAVON, Gary, Dean; 7320 Canterbury Court, Middletown, OH 45044 (US). LIM, Hyun, Sung; 5303 Copperpenny Court, Chesterfield, VA 23832 (US). McKENNA, James, Michael; 23 Arthur Drive, Hockessin, DE 19707 (US). OSTAPCHENKO, George, Joseph; 202 Saddler Lane, Wilmington, DE 19803 (US). VAIDYA, Shailaja, Rejeev; 1 Paddock Drive, Hockessin, DE 19707 (US). BECK, Theodora; 2765 Klondike Court, Cincinnati, OH 45251 (US). CURRO, John, Joseph; 3102 Dot Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45213 (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, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, 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, 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. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>
(54) Title: ABSORBENT ARTICLES (57) Abstract The present invention relates to absorbent articles such as diapers, adult incontinence garments, and feminine hygiene products. The present invention further relates to such absorbent articles having outer coverings designed to provide breathability and promote more healthy internal environmental conditions for the wearer. More specifically, the present invention provides an absorbent article comprising (a) a topsheet; (b) a backsheets; and (c) an absorbent core located between the topsheet and the backsheets; wherein the backsheets comprises a non-porous, substantially fluid impermeable, moisture vapor permeable composite sheet material. Preferably, the composite sheet material is oriented such that the film layer of the composite sheet material faces toward said absorbent core. Where the film layer of the composite sheet comprises a substantially hydrophilic elastomer film layer, the substantially hydrophilic elastomer film is preferably located in contact with the fibrous substrate. Where the film layer of the composite sheet comprises a multiple layer film with a substantially hydrophilic elastomer film layer and a substantially hydrophobic elastomer film, the substantially hydrophilic elastomer film is preferably located between the substantially hydrophobic elastomer film and the fibrous substrate. In another embodiment, the film layer may further comprise a third film layer comprising a substantially hydrophobic elastomer film located between the substantially hydrophilic elastomer film and the fibrous substrate. The absorbent article may comprise a disposable diaper.		