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(54) Title: FLEXIBLE CUSHIONING PADS, ITEMS INCORPORATING SUCH PADS, AND METHODS OF MAKING AND USING

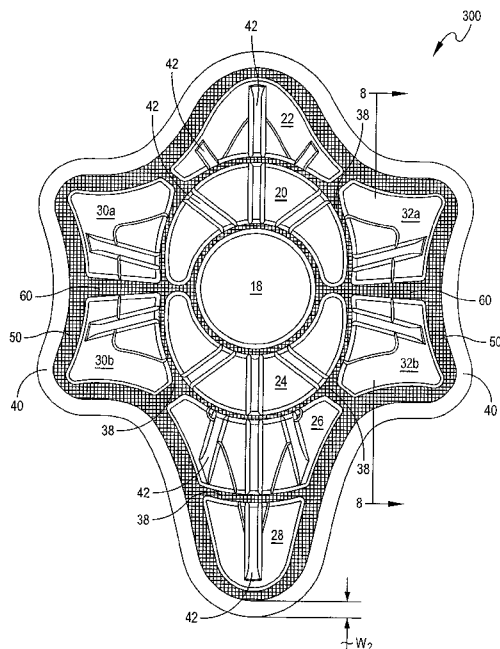


FIG. 7

(57) Abstract: Disclosed herein are conformable protection pads, which can be integrated into articles such as clothing and protective cases. In one embodiment, an exemplary cushioning pad includes a first channel comprising a thickness and a width. The first channel comprises a continuous upper layer and a continuous lower layer, which is at least partially bonded to the continuous lower layer. The cushioning region is disposed adjacent to the first channel, and has a thickness greater than the thickness of the first channel. The cushioning region further includes a cushioning material disposed between and bonded to the continuous upper layer and the continuous lower layer. A groove maybe defined in the upper surface of the cushioning region, with a thickness less than the thickness of the cushioning region and greater than the thickness of the first channel..



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