



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : A61F 13/15	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 96/09025 ✓	(43) International Publication Date: 28 March 1996 (28.03.96)
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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US95/11266 ✓

(22) International Filing Date: 8 September 1995 (08.09.95) ✓

(30) Priority Data:
08/310,173 21 September 1994 (21.09.94) ✓ US(71) Applicant: THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY
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45217 (US).(81) Designated States: AM, AU, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CN, CZ,
EE, FI, GE, HU, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LK, LR,
LT, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MX, NO, NZ, PL, RO, RU,
SG, SI, SK, TJ, TT, UA, 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.

Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the
claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of
amendments.

(54) Title: ABSORBENT ARTICLE HAVING INFLECTED BARRIER CUFFS

(57) Abstract

Absorbent articles having side panels that provide inflected barrier cuffs which promote better containment and fit. The absorbent articles comprise a liquid pervious topsheet, a liquid impervious backsheet, an absorbent core positioned between the topsheet and the backsheet; a side panel extending laterally from each longitudinal edge of the absorbent article and having a proximal edge, a distal edge and a fold intermediate the distal edge and the proximal edge; spacing means for spacing the distal edge away from the liquid-receiving surface (topsheet) of the absorbent article; and a closing means for securing the distal edges inboard of the proximal edges in the front waist region. The fold of the side panel is secured inboard of the proximal edges in the front waist region and is disposed outboard of the proximal edge in the rear waist region when fitted to the wearer. Thus, the side panels are inflected such that the portion of the side panels in the rear waist region provide a gasketing action about the buttocks of the wearer to contain exudates and a snug fit, while the stand-up portions of the side panels in the crotch region and the closed portion of the side panels in the front waist region provide channels to contain, restrain and hold body exudates.

