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(54) Title: BREATHABLE BLOOD AND VIRAL BARRIER FABRIC

(57) Abstract: The composite fabric of the invention provides a barrier to blood and viral challenges, and also provides breathability for comfort. The fabric is particularly suited for use as a disposable surgical gown. The fabric comprises a nonwoven fabric substrate with a first microporous resin layer on one surface and a second microporous resin layer on the opposite surface.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No T/US2004/006606

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 B32B27/00 D04F D04H13/00 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) B32B D04H IPC 7 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, COMPENDEX C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. WO 96/31345 A (MINNESOTA MINING & MFG) χ 1,4, 19-21 10 October 1996 (1996-10-10) claims 1,2,6,16 page 11, line 21 - line 25 figure 8 1,4, χ US 5 529 830 A (WILLMANN ROBERT C ET AL) 25 June 1996 (1996-06-25) 19-21 claims 1,7 column 1, line 13 - line 24 figure 1 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. ° Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention *E* earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 2 September 2004 09/09/2004 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Hillebrand, G Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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