

1. WO2015147900 - SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR ALTERING THE COLOR, APPEARANCE, OR FEEL OF A VEHICLE SURFACE

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PCT/US2014/046619

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15.07.2014

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30.10.2015

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B60R 13/00 2006.1

CPC

B05C 7/04 B21D 53/88 B23K 31/02

B44D 3/00 B60J 11/00 B60R 13/00

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Applicants

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Inventors

DEVATHI, Srinivas, S.

Agents

MEYERTONS, Eric, B.

Priority Data

14/227,859 27.03.2014 US

Publication Language

English [en]

Filing Language

English [en]

Designated States

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Title

[EN] SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR ALTERING THE COLOR, APPEARANCE, OR FEEL OF A VEHICLE SURFACE

[FR] SYSTÈMES ET PROCÉDÉS PERMETTANT DE MODIFIER LA COULEUR, L'APPARENCE OU LE TOUCHER D'UNE SURFACE DE VÉHICULE

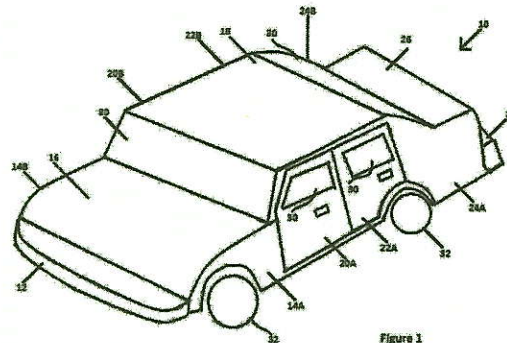


Figure 1

Abstract

[EN] Systems and methods for altering the appearance and/or texture of a vehicle surface include installing a vest relative to a vehicle surface such that an exterior side of the vest, spaced from the vehicle surface, defines a fluid-tight space between the vehicle surface and the exterior side of the vest. Visual media can be provided into and from the fluid-tight space using one or more ports, the exterior side being at least partially transparent or translucent such that the visible media within the fluid-tight space are visible through the exterior side of the vest, thereby allowing the repeatable alteration of the appearance of the surface.

[FR] L'invention concerne des systèmes et des procédés permettant de modifier l'apparence et/ou la texture d'une surface de véhicule, comprenant l'installation d'un gilet par rapport à une surface de véhicule de telle sorte qu'un côté extérieur du gilet, espacé de la surface du véhicule, définit un espace étanche aux fluides entre la surface du véhicule et le côté extérieur du gilet. Des supports visuels peuvent être amenés dans et hors de l'espace étanche aux fluides en utilisant un ou plusieurs orifices, le côté extérieur étant au moins partiellement transparent ou translucide de sorte que les supports visuels à l'intérieur de l'espace étanche aux fluides sont visibles à travers le côté extérieur du gilet, ce qui permet ainsi de modifier de manière répétée l'apparence de la surface.

Related patent documents

[US08910998](#) [EP3122597](#) [CN106458108](#) [AU2014388300](#) [EA201691898](#) [KR1020160138420](#)
[ID2017/07965](#) [MYPI2016703531](#) [PH1/2016/502134](#) [TH167845](#) [JP2017512713](#) [US20150273564](#)
[IN6623/CHE/2014](#) [MX2016012570](#) [CA2944200](#) [BR112016022393](#) [NZ725679](#)

Latest bibliographic data on file with the International Bureau

PCT

REQUEST

The undersigned requests that the present international application be processed according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

For receiving Office use only

International Application No.	PCT/US14/46619
International Filing Date	15-07-2014
Name of receiving Office and "PCT International Application"	RO/US
Applicant's or agent's file reference <i>(if desired) (12 characters maximum)</i>	

Box No. I TITLE OF INVENTION	
SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR ALTERING THE COLOR, APPEARANCE, OR FEEL OF A VEHICLE SURFACE	
Box No. II APPLICANT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This person is also inventor	
Name and address: <i>(Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)</i> Devathi, Srinivas S. 111 Congress Ave., Suite 400 Austin, Texas 78701 U.S.A.	Telephone No.
	Facsimile No.
	Applicant's registration No. with the Office
E-mail authorization: Marking one of the check-boxes below authorizes the receiving Office, the International Searching Authority, the International Bureau and the International Preliminary Examining Authority to use the e-mail address indicated in this Box to send, notifications issued in respect of this international application to that e-mail address if those offices are willing to do so. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> as advance copies followed by paper notifications; or <input type="checkbox"/> exclusively in electronic form (no paper notifications will be sent). E-mail address: orders@hulseyiplaw.com	
State <i>(that is, country)</i> of nationality: India	State <i>(that is, country)</i> of residence: U.S.A.
This person is applicant for the purposes of: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> all designated States <input type="checkbox"/> the States indicated in the Supplemental Box	
Box No. III FURTHER APPLICANT(S) AND/OR (FURTHER) INVENTOR(S)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Further applicants and/or (further) inventors are indicated on a continuation sheet.	
Box No. IV AGENT OR COMMON REPRESENTATIVE; OR ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	
The person identified below is hereby/has been appointed to act on behalf of the applicant(s) before the competent International Authorities as: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agent <input type="checkbox"/> common representative	
Name and address: <i>(Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country.)</i> Mattis, Jacob Attorney at Law 919 Congress Ave. #919 Austin, TX 78701 US	Telephone No. 512-478-9190
	Facsimile No.
	Agent's registration No. with the Office 58833
E-mail authorization: Marking one of the check-boxes below authorizes the receiving Office, the International Searching Authority, the International Bureau and the International Preliminary Examining Authority to use the e-mail address indicated in this Box to send, notifications issued in respect of this international application to that e-mail address if those offices are willing to do so. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> as advance copies followed by paper notifications; or <input type="checkbox"/> exclusively in electronic form (no paper notifications will be sent). E-mail address: orders@hulseyiplaw.com	
<input type="checkbox"/> Address for correspondence: Mark this check-box where no agent or common representative is/has been appointed and the space above is used instead to indicate a special address to which correspondence should be sent.	

Box No. V DESIGNATIONS				
<p>The filing of this request constitutes under Rule 4.9(a) the designation of all Contracting States bound by the PCT on the international filing date, for the grant of every kind of protection available and, where applicable, for the grant of both regional and national patents.</p> <p>However,</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> DE Germany is not designated for any kind of national protection</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> JP Japan is not designated for any kind of national protection</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> KR Republic of Korea is not designated for any kind of national protection</p> <p><i>(The check-boxes above may only be used to exclude (irrevocably) the designations concerned if, at the time of filing or subsequently under Rule 26bis.1, the international application contains in Box No. VI a priority claim to an earlier national application filed in the particular State concerned, in order to avoid the ceasing of the effect, under the national law, of this earlier national application.)</i></p>				
Box No. VI PRIORITY CLAIM AND DOCUMENT				
The priority of the following earlier application(s) is hereby claimed:				
Filing date of earlier application <i>(day/month/year)</i>	Number of earlier application	Where earlier application is:		
		national application: country or Member of WTO	regional application: regional Office	international application: receiving Office
item (1) 2014-03-27	14227859	US		
item (2)				
item (3)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Further priority claims are indicated in the Supplemental Box.				
Furnishing the priority document(s):				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) (only if the earlier application(s) was filed with the receiving Office which, for the purposes of this international application, is the receiving Office) identified above as: <p style="margin-left: 20px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> all items <input type="checkbox"/> item (1) <input type="checkbox"/> item (2) <input type="checkbox"/> item (3) <input type="checkbox"/> other, see Supplemental Box </p>				
<input type="checkbox"/> The International Bureau is requested to obtain from a digital library a certified copy of the earlier application(s) identified above, using, where applicable, the access code(s) indicated below (if the earlier application(s) is available to it from a digital library): <p style="margin-left: 20px;"> <input type="checkbox"/> item (1) access code _____ <input type="checkbox"/> item (2) access code _____ <input type="checkbox"/> item (3) access code _____ <input type="checkbox"/> other, see Supplemental Box </p>				
Restore the right of priority: the receiving Office is requested to restore the right of priority for the earlier application(s) identified above or in the Supplemental Box as item(s) (_____). (See also the Notes to Box No. VI; further information must be provided to support a request to restore the right of priority.)				
Incorporation by reference: where an element of the international application referred to in Article 11(1)(iii)(d) or (e) or a part of the description, claims or drawings referred to in Rule 20.5(a) is not otherwise contained in this international application but is completely contained in an earlier application whose priority is claimed on the date on which one or more elements referred to in Article 11(1)(iii) were first received by the receiving Office, that element or part is, subject to confirmation under Rule 20.6, incorporated by reference in this international application for the purposes of Rule 20.6.				
Box No. VII INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY				
Choice of International Searching Authority (ISA) (if more than one International Searching Authority is competent to carry out the international search, indicate the Authority chosen; the two-letter code may be used): <p>ISA/ <u>US</u></p>				

Continuation of Box No. VII USE OF RESULTS OF EARLIER SEARCH, REFERENCE TO THAT SEARCH

The ISA indicated in Box No. VII is requested to take into account the results of the earlier search(es) indicated below (*see also Notes to Box VII; use of results of more than one earlier search*).

Filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>)	Application Number	Country (<i>or regional Office</i>)
---------------------------------------	--------------------	---------------------------------------

Statement (Rule 4.12(ii)): this international application is the same, or substantially the same, as the application in respect of which the earlier search was carried out except, where applicable, that it is filed in a different language.

Availability of documents: the following documents are available to the ISA in a form and manner acceptable to it and therefore do not need to be submitted by the applicant to the ISA (Rule 12bis.1(f)):

- a copy of the results of the earlier search,*
- a copy of the earlier application,
- a translation of the earlier application into a language which is accepted by the ISA,
- a translation of the results of the earlier search into a language which is accepted by the ISA,
- a copy of any document cited in the results of the earlier search. (*If known, please indicate below the document(s) available to the ISA*):

Transmit copy of results of earlier search and other documents (*where the earlier search was not carried out by the ISA indicated above but by the same Office as that which is acting as the receiving Office*): the **receiving Office** is requested to prepare and transmit to the ISA (Rule 12bis.1(c)):

- a copy of the results of the earlier search,*
- a copy of the earlier application,
- a copy of any document cited in the results of the earlier search.

* Where the results of the earlier search are neither available from a digital library nor transmitted by the receiving Office, the applicant is required to submit them to the receiving Office (Rule 12bis.1(a)) (*See item 11. in the check-list and also Notes to Box No. VII*).

Filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>)	Application Number	Country (<i>or regional Office</i>)
---------------------------------------	--------------------	---------------------------------------

Statement (Rule 4.12(ii)): this international application is the same, or substantially the same, as the application in respect of which the earlier search was carried out except, where applicable, that it is filed in a different language.

Availability of documents: the following documents are available to the ISA in a form and manner acceptable to it and therefore do not need to be submitted by the applicant to the ISA (Rule 12bis.1(f)):

- a copy of the results of the earlier search,*
- a copy of the earlier application,
- a translation of the earlier application into a language which is accepted by the ISA,
- a translation of the results of the earlier search into a language which is accepted by the ISA,
- a copy of any document cited in the results of the earlier search. (*If known, please indicate below the document(s) available to the ISA*):

Transmit copy of results of earlier search and other documents (*where the earlier search was not carried out by the ISA indicated above but by the same Office as that which is acting as the receiving Office*): the **receiving Office** is requested to prepare and transmit to the ISA (Rule 12bis.1(c)):

- a copy of the results of the earlier search,*
- a copy of the earlier application,
- a copy of any document cited in the results of the earlier search.

* Where the results of the earlier search are neither available from a digital library nor transmitted by the receiving Office, the applicant is required to submit them to the receiving Office (Rule 12bis.1(a)) (*See item 11. in the check-list and also Notes to Box No. VII*).

Further earlier searches are indicated on a continuation sheet.

Box No. VIII DECLARATIONS

The following **declarations** are contained in Boxes Nos. VIII (i) to (v) (*mark the applicable check-boxes below and indicate in the right column the number of each type of declaration*):

		Number of declarations
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII (i) Declaration as to the identity of the inventor	:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII (ii) Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to apply for and be granted a patent	:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII (iii) Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to claim the priority of the earlier application	:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII (iv) Declaration of inventorship (only for the purposes of the designation of the United States of America)	:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII (v) Declaration as to non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty	:

Box No. VIII (i) DECLARATION: IDENTITY OF THE INVENTOR

The declaration must conform to the standardized wording provided for in Section 211; see Notes to Boxes Nos. VIII, VIII (i) to (v) (in general) and the specific Notes to Box No. VIII (i). If this Box is not used, this sheet should not be included in the request.

Declaration as to the identity of the inventor (Rules 4.17(i) and 51bis.1(a)(i)):

Applicant Srinivas S. Devathi declares that he is the sole, original inventor of the claimed invention and has authorized this application.

This declaration is continued on the following sheet, "Continuation of Box No. VIII (i)".

Box No. VIII (ii) DECLARATION: ENTITLEMENT TO APPLY FOR AND BE GRANTED A PATENT

The declaration must conform to the standardized wording provided for in Section 212; see Notes to Boxes Nos. VIII, VIII (i) to (v) (in general) and the specific Notes to Box No. VIII (ii). If this Box is not used, this sheet should not be included in the request.

Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to apply for and be granted a patent (Rules 4.17(ii) and 51 bis. 1(a)(ii)), in a case where the declaration under Rule 4.17(iv) is not appropriate:

As sole, original inventor of the claimed invention, Applicant Srinivas S. Devathi is entitled to apply for and be granted a patent.

This declaration is continued on the following sheet, "Continuation of Box No. VIII (ii)".

Box No. VIII (iii) DECLARATION: ENTITLEMENT TO CLAIM PRIORITY

The declaration must conform to the standardized wording provided for in Section 213; see Notes to Boxes Nos. VIII, VIII (i) to (v) (in general) and the specific Notes to Box No. VIII (iii). If this Box is not used, this sheet should not be included in the request.

Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to claim the priority of the earlier application specified below, where the applicant is not the applicant who filed the earlier application or where the applicant's name has changed since the filing of the earlier application (Rules 4.17(iii) and 51bis.1(a)(iii)):

Applicant Srinivas S. Devathi declares that as sole original inventor of the invention claimed in the priority application as well as applicant for the prior application, he is entitled to claim priority to the earlier application.

This declaration is continued on the following sheet, "Continuation of Box No. VIII (iii)".

Box No. IX CHECK LIST for EFS-Web filings - this sheet is only to be used when filing an international application with RO/US via EFS-Web

This international application contains the following:	Number of sheets	This international application is accompanied by the following item(s) (mark the applicable check-boxes below and indicate in right column the number of each item):	Number of items
(a) request form PCT/RO/101 (including any declarations and supplemental sheets) :	7	1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fee calculation sheet :	
(b) description (excluding any sequence listing part of the description, see (f), below) :	24	2. <input type="checkbox"/> original separate power of attorney :	
(c) claims :	5	3. <input type="checkbox"/> original general power of attorney :	
(d) abstract :	1	4. <input type="checkbox"/> copy of general power of attorney; reference number: :	
(e) drawings (if any) :	4	5. <input type="checkbox"/> priority document(s) identified in Box No. VI as item(s) :	
(f) sequence listing part of the description in the form of an image file (e.g. PDF) :		6. <input type="checkbox"/> Translation of international application into (language): :	
Total number of sheets (including the sequence listing part of the description if filed as an image file) :	41	7. <input type="checkbox"/> separate indications concerning deposited microorganism or other biological material :	
(g) sequence listing part of the description		8. <input type="checkbox"/> (only where item (f) is marked in the left column) copy of the sequence listing in electronic form (Annex C/ST.25 text file) not forming part of the international application but furnished only for the purposes of international search under Rule 13ter. :	
<input type="checkbox"/> filed in the form of an Annex C/ST.25 text file		9. <input type="checkbox"/> (only where item (f) is marked in the left column) a statement confirming that "the information recorded in electronic form submitted under Rule 13ter is identical to the sequence listing as contained in the international application" as filed via EFS-Web: :	
<input type="checkbox"/> WILL BE filed separately on physical data carrier(s), on the same day and in the form of an Annex C/ST.25 text file		10. <input type="checkbox"/> copy of results of earlier search(es) (Rule 12bis.1(a)) :	
Indicate type and number of physical data carrier(s) :		11. <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify): :	

Figure of the drawings which should accompany the abstract:	Language of filing of the international application:
---	--

Box No. X SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, AGENT OR COMMON REPRESENTATIVE
Next to each signature, indicate the name of the person signing and the capacity in which the person signs (if such capacity is not obvious from reading the request).

/Jacob Mattis/ - Jacob Mattis - Attorney at Law

REG. 58833

For receiving Office use only	
1. Date of actual receipt of the purported international application: 15-07-2014	2. Drawings: <input type="checkbox"/> received: <input type="checkbox"/> not received:
3. Corrected date of actual receipt due to later but timely received papers or drawings completing the purported international application:	
4. Date of timely receipt of the required corrections under PCT Article 11(2):	
5. International Searching Authority (if two or more are competent): ISA / US	6. <input type="checkbox"/> Transmittal of search copy delayed until search fee is paid

For International Bureau use only

Date of receipt of the record copy by the International Bureau:

6/9/2020

Mail - Srinivas Devathi - Outlook

DEVA001WO - International Search Report

Andrew Cook <Andrew.Cook@hulseyiplaw.com>

Wed 8/5/2015 9:58 AM

To: Srinivas Devathi <SDevathi@satyainnovations.com>

Cc: Bill Hulsey <Bill.Hulsey@hulseyiplaw.com>; Jeff Hunt <Jeff.Hunt@hulseyiplaw.com>; Debbie Condel <Accountant@hulseyiplaw.com>; Samantha Scobie <Samantha.Scobie@hulseyiplaw.com>

📎 1 attachments (602 KB)

DEVA001WO_ISR.PDF;

Good Morning Srinivas,

Per our conversation yesterday, please find enclosed a copy of the International Search Report as issued by the US Receiving Office. Please confirm receipt, and confirm that this is the report/documentation that you had requested. I have a meeting scheduled today with Debbie Condel (our accountant) regarding the corrected invoice, and I will give you an update as soon as complete.

Kind Regards,

Andrew

HULSEY HUNT & PARKS P.C.



Intellectual Property Lawyers

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andrew.cook@hulseyiplaw.com

(O) 512-478-9190; (F) 512-478-9192

919 Congress Avenue, Suite 919, Austin, Texas 78701

PCT/US2014/046619 04.11.2014

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To: JACOB MATTIS ATTORNEY AT LAW 919 CONGRESS AVE. #919 AUSTIN, TX 78701

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF
THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT AND
THE WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL
SEARCHING AUTHORITY, OR THE DECLARATION

(PCT Rule 44.1)

Date of mailing (day/month/year)	04 NOV 2014
-------------------------------------	--------------------

Applicant's or agent's file reference DEVA001WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraphs 1 and 4 below
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International application No. PCT/US2014/046619	International filing date (day/month/year) 15 July 2014
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Applicant DEVATHI, SRINIVAS S.

1. The applicant is hereby notified that the international search report and the written opinion of the International Searching Authority have been established and are transmitted herewith.
Filing of amendments and statement under Article 19:
 The applicant is entitled, if he so wishes, to amend the claims of the international application (see Rule 46):
When? The time limit for filing such amendments is normally two months from the date of transmittal of the international search report.
How? Directly to the International Bureau of WIPO preferably through ePCT or on paper to, 34 chemin des Colombettes
 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland, Facsimile No.: +41 22 338 82 70
For more detailed instructions, see PCT Applicant's Guide, International Phase, paragraphs 9.004 - 9.011.
 2. The applicant is hereby notified that no international search report will be established and that the declaration under Article 17(2)(a) to that effect and the written opinion of the International Searching Authority are transmitted herewith.
 3. **With regard to any protest against payment of (an) additional fee(s) under Rule 40.2, the applicant is notified that:**
 the protest together with the decision thereon has been transmitted to the International Bureau together with any request to forward the texts of both the protest and the decision thereon to the designated Offices.
 no decision has been made yet on the protest; the applicant will be notified as soon as a decision is made.
- 4. Reminders**
- The applicant may submit comments on an informal basis on the written opinion of the International Searching Authority to the International Bureau. These comments will be made available to the public after international publication. The International Bureau will send a copy of such comments to all designated Offices unless an international preliminary examination report has been or is to be established.
- Shortly after the expiration of 18 months from the priority date, the international application will be published by the International Bureau. If the applicant wishes to avoid or postpone publication, a notice of withdrawal of the international application, or of the priority claim, must reach the International Bureau before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication (Rules 90bis.1 and 90bis.3).
- Within 19 months from the priority date, but only in respect of some designated Offices, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed if the applicant wishes to postpone the entry into the national phase until 30 months from the priority date (in some Offices even later); otherwise, the applicant must, within 20 months from the priority date, perform the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before those designated Offices. In respect of other designated Offices, the time limit of 30 months (or later) will apply even if no demand is filed within 19 months. For details about the applicable time limits, Office by Office, see www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/time_limits.html and the PCT Applicant's Guide, National Chapters.
- Within 19 months from the priority date, the applicant may request that a supplementary international search be carried out by a different International Searching Authority that offers this service (Rule 45bis.1). The procedure for requesting supplementary international search is described in the PCT Applicant's Guide, International Phase, paragraphs 8.006-8.032.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. 571-273-3201	Authorized officer <p style="text-align: center;">Blaine R. Copenheaver</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300 Telephone No. PCT OSP: 571-272-7774</p>
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PCT/US2014/046619 04.11.2014

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference DEVA001WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION	see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.
International application No. PCT/US2014/046619	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 15 July 2014	(Earliest) Priority Date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 27 March 2014
Applicant DEVATHI, SRINIVAS S.		

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of 2 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of:

the international application in the language in which it was filed.

a translation of the international application into _____ which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b)).

b. This international search report has been established taking into account the rectification of an obvious mistake authorized by or notified to this Authority under Rule 91 (Rule 43.6bis(a)).

c. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. Certain claims were found unsearchable (see Box No. II).

3. Unity of invention is lacking (see Box No. III).

4. With regard to the title,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2, by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the drawings,

a. the figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 1

as suggested by the applicant.

as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

b. none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

PCT/US2014/046619 04.11.2014

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US2014/046619
--

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(8) - B60R 13/00 (2014.01) CPC - B60R 13/00 (2014.09) 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) IPC(B) - B60R 13/00, 13/04; B65B 1/04, 1/28; G09F 19/00, 21/00, 21/04 (2014.01) CPC - B60R 13/00, 13/04; B65B 1/04, 1/28; G09F 19/00, 21/00, 21/04 (2014.09)		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched USPC - 40/406; 141/100, 104; 296/21, 181.1; 434/31, 84, 105		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) Orbit, Google Patents, Google Scholar.		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 7,516,764 B1 (COBB) 14 April 2009 (14.04.2009) entire document	1-3, 7, 16, 18
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Y		4-6, 8-15, 17, 19-23
Y	US 4,144,663 A (SAENGER et al) 20 March 1979 (20.03.1979) entire document	4-6, 9, 11, 12, 17, 20-23
Y	US 5,636,669 A (PRICE) 10 June 1997 (10.06.1997) entire document	8, 10, 15, 19
Y	US 3,709,770 A (HALE) 09 January 1973 (09.01.1973) entire document	13, 14
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/>		
* Special categories of cited documents:		
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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 invention	
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone	
"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)	"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 documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art	
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family	
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		
Date of the actual completion of the international search 26 September 2014	Date of mailing of the international search report 04 NOV 2014	
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. 571-273-3201	Authorized officer: Blaine R. Copenheaver PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300 PCT OSP: 571-272-7774	

PCT/US2014/046619 04.11.2014

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To: JACOB MATTIS
ATTORNEY AT LAW
919 CONGRESS AVE. #919
AUSTIN, TX 78701

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) **04 NOV 2014**

Applicant's or agent's file reference DEVA001WO		FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below	
International application No. PCT/US2014/046619	International filing date (day/month/year) 15 July 2014	Priority date (day/month/year) 27 March 2014	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC IPC(8) - B60R 13/00 (2014.01) CPC - B60R 13/00 (2014.09)			
Applicant DEVATHI, SRINIVAS S.			

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- Box No. II Priority
- Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1 bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. 571-273-3201	Date of completion of this opinion 26 September 2014	Authorized officer: Blaine R. Copenheaver <small>PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300 PCT OSP: 571-272-7774</small>
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PCT/US2014/046619 04.11.2014

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.

PCT/US2014/046619

Box No. I Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - the international application in the language in which it was filed,
 - a translation of the international application into _____ which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b)).

2. This opinion has been established taking into account the **rectification of an obvious mistake** authorized by or notified to this Authority under Rule 91 (Rule 43bis.1(a))

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, this opinion has been established on the basis of a sequence listing filed or furnished:
 - a. (means)
 - on paper
 - in electronic form

 - b. (time)
 - in the international application as filed
 - together with the international application in electronic form
 - subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search

4. In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.

5. Additional comments:

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**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.

PCT/US2014/046619

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>4-6, 8-15, 17, 19-23</u>	YES
	Claims	<u>1-3, 7, 16, 18</u>	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	<u>None</u>	YES
	Claims	<u>1-23</u>	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1-23</u>	YES
	Claims	<u>None</u>	NO

2. Citations and explanations:

Claims 1-3, 7, 16, and 18 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by Cobb.

Regarding claim 1, Cobb discloses a system for altering the appearance of a vehicle surface (abstract), the system comprising: a vest (shell 6; col. 2, lines 56-59) comprising an edge (as shown in figs. 1 and 2) secured to the vehicle surface (col. 2, lines 55-56) and an exterior side (outer surface of either panel 8 or 10 that is facing away from vehicle as shown in figs. 1-3) spaced from the vehicle surface to define a fluid-tight space (12) between the exterior side of the vest and the vehicle surface (col. 2, lines 59-62), wherein the exterior side is at least partially transparent (col. 2, lines 56-59), at least partially translucent, or combinations thereof for enabling visualization of visible media (paint 14) in the fluid-tight space through the exterior side (abstract); and at least one port (port allowing paint to be pumped straight into the body panel shell 6) communicating between the fluid-tight space (col. 3, lines 24-27) and a region (16) exterior to the fluid-tight space for receiving visible media into the fluid-tight space, removing visible media from the fluid-tight space, or combinations thereof (col. 2, line 66 to col. 3, line 3; fig. 4).

Regarding claim 2, Cobb discloses the system of claim 1, and Cobb discloses of wherein the vest further comprises an interior side (either panel 8 or 10) adjacent to the vehicle surface and spaced from the exterior side (col. 2, lines 55-56; figs. 1 and 2), and wherein the fluid-tight space is defined between the exterior side and the interior side (col. 2, lines 59-62).

Regarding claim 3, Cobb discloses the system of claim 2, and Cobb discloses of further comprising a sealant (11) between the interior side of the vest and the vehicle surface for preventing passage of materials between the interior side of the vest and the vehicle surface (col. 2, lines 56-59; fig. 3).

Regarding claim 7, Cobb disclose the system of claim 1, and Cobb discloses of wherein the vehicle surface comprises a body portion of a vehicle (abstract; figs. 1 and 2), and wherein the vest comprises a shape that matches that of the body portion of the vehicle (as shown in figs. 1 and 2).

Regarding claim 16, Cobb discloses a method for altering the appearance of a vehicle surface (abstract), the method comprising: providing a vest (shell 6; col. 2, lines 56-59) in association with a vehicle surface (col. 2, lines 55-56; figs. 1 and 2), wherein the vest comprises an exterior side (either panel 8 or 10 that is facing away from vehicle as shown in figs. 1 and 2) spaced from the vehicle surface to define a fluid-tight space (12) between the exterior side of the vest and the vehicle surface (col. 2, lines 59-62), and wherein the exterior side is at least partially transparent (col. 2, lines 56-59), at least partially translucent, or combinations thereof; and providing a first visible medium into the fluid-tight space through at least one port (port allowing paint to be pumped straight into the body panel shell 6) communicating between the fluid-tight space and a region exterior to the fluid-tight space (col. 3, lines 24-27).

Regarding claim 18, Cobb discloses the method of claim 16, and Cobb discloses of wherein the step of providing the vest into association with the vehicle surface comprises positioning an interior side of the vest (either panel 8 or 10) adjacent to the vehicle surface and spaced from the exterior side (col. 2, lines 55-56; figs. 1 and 2), and wherein the fluid-tight space is defined between the exterior side and the interior side (col. 2, lines 59-62).

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
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International application No.

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Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.

Continuation of:

Claims 4-6, 9, 11, 12, 17, and 20-23 lack an inventive step under PCT Article 33(3) as being obvious over Cobb in view of Saenger et al. (hereinafter referred to as Saenger).

Regarding claim 4, Cobb discloses the system of claim 1, but Cobb fails to disclose of further comprising a visible medium within the fluid-tight space, wherein the visible medium comprises a fluid adapted to remain flowable at temperatures ranging from negative 37 degrees Fahrenheit to 150 degrees Fahrenheit.

Saenger discloses a system for altering the appearance of a surface (abstract) and Saenger discloses of further comprising a visible medium (liquid petrolatum with dye) within the fluid-tight space (col. 4, lines 51-54), wherein the visible medium comprises a fluid adapted to remain flowable at temperatures ranging from negative 37 degrees Fahrenheit (col. 4, lines 51-54) to 150 degrees Fahrenheit (liquid petrolatum remains a liquid up to 150 degrees Fahrenheit) and further discloses that liquid petrolatum with dye completely and rapidly empties out of the cavity between the two rigid transparent plates (col. 4, lines 41-46).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use as the visible medium of Cobb the liquid petrolatum with dye as taught by Saenger in order that the flow into and out of the fluid-tight space rapidly and completely over a wide range of temperatures.

Regarding claim 5, the modified Cobb discloses the system of claim 4, but Cobb fails to disclose of wherein the visible medium comprises a quantity of visible solid or viscous components sufficient to remain flowable in the visible medium and through said at least one port. Saenger discloses of wherein the visible medium comprises a quantity of visible solid or viscous components (liquid petrolatum with dye) sufficient to remain flowable in the visible medium and through said at least one port (col. 4, lines 51-54) and further discloses that liquid petrolatum with dye completely and rapidly empties out of the cavity between the two rigid transparent plates (col. 4, lines 41-46).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use as the visible medium of Cobb the liquid petrolatum with dye as taught by Saenger in order that the flow into and out of the fluid-tight space rapidly and completely over a wide range of temperatures.

Regarding claim 6, Cobb discloses the system of claim 1, but Cobb fails to disclose of wherein said at least one port comprises a bidirectional valve, a multidirectional valve, at least two one-way valves, or combinations thereof.

Saenger discloses of wherein at least one port (7) comprises a bidirectional valve, a multidirectional valve, at least two one-way valves (15 and 16; col. 4, lines 6-21), or combinations thereof and further discloses that the two one way valves are used to control flow during filling and emptying cycles (col. 4, lines 6-21).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include in the system of Cobb two one way valves as taught by Saenger in order to control the flow of visible medium during filling and emptying cycles.

Regarding claim 9, Cobb discloses the system of claim 1, but Cobb fails to disclose of wherein the fluid-tight space comprises a thickness ranging from 1 micron to 5 millimeters.

Saenger discloses of wherein a fluid-tight space (4) comprises a thickness of about 6 millimeters (col. 5, lines 5-7) and further discloses that sun light will not penetrate the liquid when it fills the cavity having a width of about 6 mm (col. 5, lines 5-7).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to configure the fluid-tight space of Cobb to comprises a thickness ranging from 1 micron to 5 millimeters, since where the general conditions of the claim are disclosed in the prior art, discovering the optimum or workable ranges involves only routine skill in the art and the fluid in the fluid tight space must be thick enough to prevent light reflected of the vehicle surface from showing through the fluid in the fluid-tight space.

Regarding claim 11, Cobb discloses the system of claim 1, and Cobb discloses of wherein the vest comprises an interior (side of panels 8 and 10 facing interior 12) adjacent to the fluid-tight space, but Cobb fails to disclose of wherein the interior comprises a hydrophobic coating adapted to facilitate removal of visible media from the fluid-tight space.

Saenger discloses of wherein a vest (plates 2 and 3 and cavity 4 there-between) comprises an interior (inner surfaces of plates 2 and 3) adjacent to a fluid-tight space (4), and wherein the interior must avoid any residual adhesion to facilitate removal of visible media (liquid petrolatum with dye) from the fluid-tight space (col. 4, lines 46-48) and further discloses that it is essential that the cavity between the two rigid transparent plates be completely and rapidly emptied of liquid (col. 4, lines 41-46).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include in the vest interior of Cobb hydrophobic coating adapted to facilitate removal of visible media from the fluid-tight space, since it was within the general skill of a worker in the art to select a known material on the basis of its suitability for the intended use and by facilitating the removal of the visible media the cavity between the two rigid transparent plates can be completely and rapidly emptied of liquid.

Regarding claim 12, Cobb discloses the system of claim 1, but Cobb fails to disclose of wherein the vest comprises at least one interior barrier, protrusion, or recession on an interior thereof adapted to provide the vest with a plurality of regions, spaces, or combinations thereof, each having at least one port associated therewith and adapted to receive media therein, remove media therefrom, or combinations thereof.

Saenger discloses of wherein a vest (sign comprising panels A-F; col. 5, lines 21-42; figs. 4 and 5) comprises at least one interior barrier (unnumbered barriers between panels as shown in fig. 4) on an interior thereof (as shown in fig. 4) adapted to provide the vest with a plurality of regions, spaces, or combinations thereof (A-F; col. 5, lines 21-53; figs. 4 and 5), each having at least one port associated therewith and adapted to receive media therein, remove media therefrom, or combinations thereof (col. 5, lines 49-53; figs. 4 and 5) and further discloses that this allows different coloring for different sections of the vest (col. 5, lines 31-33).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include in the vest interior of Cobb the barriers in order to provide the vest with a plurality of regions, spaces, or combinations thereof as taught by Saenger in order to allow different coloring for different sections of the vest.

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Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.

Continuation of:

Regarding claim 17, Cobb discloses the method of claim 16, but Cobb fails to disclose of further comprising: removing the first visible medium from the fluid-tight space through said at least one port; and providing a second visible medium into the fluid-tight space through said at least one port.

Saenger discloses of removing a first visible medium (liquid) from a fluid-tight space (4) through a port (port of second conduit; col. 2, lines 6-9); and providing a second visible medium (liquid from reservoir) into the fluid-tight space through a port (port of second conduit; col. 1, line 66 to col. 2, line 12).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include in the method of Cobb the step of removing and providing visible medium as taught by Saenger in order to present a variety of colors to the vest.

Regarding claim 20, Cobb discloses the method of claim 16, but Cobb fails to disclose of wherein the step of providing the vest into association with the vehicle surface comprises spacing the exterior side of the vest from 1 micron to 5 millimeters from the vehicle surface. Saenger discloses of a step (fig. 2) of providing a vest (plate 2) into association with a surface (3) comprises spacing an exterior side (side of plate 2 facing away from plate 3 as shown in fig. 2) of the vest about 16 millimeters from the surface (col. 5, lines 5-7 and 14-15) and further discloses that sun light will not penetrate the liquid when it fills the cavity having a width of about 6 mm (col. 5, lines 5-7).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to configure the fluid-tight space of Cobb to comprises a thickness ranging from 1 micron to 5 millimeters, since where the general conditions of the claim are disclosed in the prior art, discovering the optimum or workable ranges involves only routine skill in the art and the fluid in the fluid tight space must be thick enough to prevent light reflected of the vehicle surface from showing through the fluid in the fluid-tight space.

Regarding claim 21, the modified Cobb discloses the method of claim 17, and Cobb discloses of a wash fluid (cleaning solution 27; col. 3, line 9), but Cobb fails to disclose of wherein the step of removing the first visible medium from the fluid-tight space comprises flowing a wash fluid through said at least one port into the fluid-tight space to displace the first visible medium, alter the first visible medium, or combinations thereof, and removing the wash fluid from the fluid-tight space through said at least one port.

Saenger discloses of wherein a step of removing a first visible medium (liquid) from a fluid-tight space (4) comprises flowing a wash fluid (air) through a port (port of first conduit) into the fluid-tight space to displace the first visible medium (col. 2, lines 6-9), alter the first visible medium, or combinations thereof, and removing the wash fluid from the fluid-tight space through a port (port of first conduit; col. 2, lines 2-6) and further discloses that in this manner the cavity is rapidly and completely filled and emptied with the liquid (col. 2, lines 9-13).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include in the method of Cobb the step of removing the first visible medium from the fluid-tight space as taught by Saenger so that the cavity is rapidly and completely filled and emptied of the visible medium.

Regarding claim 22, the modified Cobb discloses the method of claim 17, but Cobb fails to disclose of further comprising the step of drying the fluid-tight space after removing the first visible medium therefrom by flowing a gas into the fluid-tight space.

Saenger discloses of a step of drying (cavity is completely emptied of liquid; col. 2, lines 9-13) a fluid-tight space (4) after removing a first visible medium (liquid) therefrom by flowing a gas (air) into the fluid-tight space (col. 2, lines 6-9).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include in the method of Cobb the step of drying the fluid-tight space after removing a first visible medium therefrom by flowing a gas into the fluid-tight space as taught by Saenger in order to remove residue of the first visible medium from the fluid tight space.

Regarding claim 23, Cobb discloses a method for altering the appearance of a vehicle surface (abstract), the method comprising: providing a vest (shell 6; col. 2, lines 56-59) into association with a vehicle surface (col. 2, lines 55-56; figs. 1 and 2), wherein the vest comprises an exterior side (outer surface of either panel 8 or 10 that is facing away from vehicle as shown in figs. 1 and 2) spaced from the vehicle surface to define a fluid-tight space (12) between the exterior side of the vest and the vehicle surface (col. 2, lines 59-62), wherein the exterior side is at least partially transparent (col. 2, lines 56-59), at least partially translucent, or combinations thereof, and wherein a first medium (paint 14) is disposed within the fluid-tight space and visible through the exterior side (abstract); engaging at least one conduit (36) to at least one port (port allowing paint to pass from conduit 36 into the gap 12) associated with the vest (col. 3, lines 10-21).

Cobb fails to disclose of generating a suction pressure via said at least one conduit to draw the first medium through said at least one port to remove the first medium from the fluid-tight space; injecting an intermediate medium via said at least one conduit through said at least one port and into the fluid-tight space to displace the first medium, alter the first medium, clean an interior of the vest, or combinations thereof; generating a suction pressure via said at least one conduit to draw the intermediate medium through said at least one port to remove the intermediate medium from the fluid-tight space; injecting a gas via said at least one conduit through said at least one port and into the fluid-tight space to dry the interior of the vest; and injecting a second medium via said at least one conduit through said at least one port and into the fluid-tight space to at least partially fill the fluid-tight space, wherein the second medium is visible through the exterior side.

Saenger discloses of generating a suction pressure (via pump 10) via a conduit (conduit branch 7b) to draw a first medium (liquid) through a port (conduit branch 7b port into cavity 4 as shown in fig. 3) to remove the first medium from a fluid-tight space (4; col. 4, lines 15-21); injecting an intermediate medium (air) via a conduit (conduit branch 7a) through said at least one port and into the fluid-tight space to displace the first medium, alter the first medium, clean an interior of the vest, or combinations thereof (col. 4, lines 21-23); generating a suction pressure via said at least one conduit to draw the intermediate medium through said at least one port to remove the intermediate medium from the fluid-tight space (col. 4, lines 10-13); injecting a gas (air) via said at least one conduit through said at least one port and into the fluid-tight space to dry the interior of the vest (col. 4, lines 10-13); and injecting a second medium (liquid) via said at least one conduit through said at least one port and into the fluid-tight space to at least partially fill the fluid-tight space (col. 4, lines 6-9), wherein the second medium is visible through an exterior side (col. 4, lines 2-4).

It would have been obvious to include in the method of Cobb the steps of generating suction pressure, removing a first medium, injecting an intermediate medium, removing the intermediate medium, injecting a drying gas, and injecting a second medium as taught by Saenger in order to change the visible medium in the vest.

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WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITYInternational application No.
PCT/US2014/046619

Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.

Continuation of:

Claims 8, 10, 15, and 19 lack an inventive step under PCT Article 33(3) as being obvious over Cobb in view of Price.

Regarding claim 8, Cobb discloses the system of claim 1, but Cobb fails to disclose of wherein edge comprises an extension associated therewith, and wherein the extension is adapted for securing the vest to the vehicle surface by welding, laser welding, ultrasonic welding, heat sealing, heat fusion, crimping, soldering, brazing, adhesives, pressure-sensitive adhesives, contact adhesives, hot adhesives, hot gas welding, infrared welding, receiving at least one fastener, compressively retaining an extension extending from the edge of the vest between the vehicle surface and an adjacent object, or combinations thereof.

Price discloses a system for altering the appearance of a vehicle surface (abstract and col. 3, lines 51-52) and discloses of wherein an edge (24) comprises an extension (56) associated therewith (col. 3, lines 29-32; figs. 4 and 5), and wherein the extension is adapted for securing the vest to the vehicle by receiving at least one fastener (62; col. 3, lines 34-36).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include in the in the vest of Cobb an extension and fastener as taught by Price in order to easily attach and remove the vest.

Regarding claim 10, Cobb discloses the system of claim 1, but Cobb fails to disclose of wherein the vest is at least partially formed from polyester, acrylic, fiberglass, polyethylene, plastic, silicone, polypropylene, polystyrene, polyester, glass, fiber, thermoplastic, thermoset, latex, polymer fibers, polyvinyl chloride, polyethylene terephthalate, nylon, vinyl, thermoplastic materials, thermoset materials, phenolics, furane resins, amino resins, epoxy, alkyds, allyl plastics, aminos, polyamides, polyethylene resins, polycarbonate, acrylic resin, cellulose acetate, cellulose nitrate, cellulose acetate butyrate, cellulose propionate, rubber, neoprene, Thiokol, nitrile, butyl rubber, silicone rubber, acetals, cellulose, fluoroplastics, ionomers, polyimide, polyolefins, polysulfone, composites, polythene, epoxides, polyurethane, synthetic rubber, synthetic plastic, synthetic resin, or combinations thereof.

Price discloses of wherein the vest is at least partially formed from plastic (col. 2, lines 66-67).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to form the vest of Cobb from plastic as taught by Price since plastic is easily formed into complex shapes.

Regarding claim 15, Cobb discloses the system of claim 1, but Cobb fails to disclose of wherein the exterior side of the vest and the fluid-tight space comprise an integral portion of the vehicle surface.

Price discloses of wherein the exterior side of the vest and the fluid-tight space comprise an integral portion of the vehicle surface (col. 3, lines 52-62; fig. 1).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to configure the vest and the fluid-tight space of Cobb to be an integral portion of the vehicle surface as taught by Price in order that the alteration to the vehicle appearance by the vest can be made permanent.

Regarding claim 19, Cobb discloses the method of claim 16, but Cobb fails to disclose of wherein the step of providing the vest into association with the vehicle surface comprises seeming an extension extending from an edge of the vest to the vehicle surface by welding, laser welding, ultrasonic welding, heat sealing, heat fusion, crimping, soldering, brazing, adhesives, pressure-sensitive adhesives, contact adhesives, hot adhesives, hot gas welding, infrared welding, receiving at least one fastener, compressively retaining an extension extending from an edge of the vest between the vehicle surface and an adjacent object, or combinations thereof.

Price discloses of wherein the step of providing a vest (12) into association with the vehicle comprises seeming an extension (58) extending from an edge (24) of the vest to the vehicle surface by receiving at least one fastener (62; col. 3, lines 34-36).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include in the in the vest of Cobb an extension and fastener as taught by Price in order to easily attach and remove the vest.

Claims 13 and 14 lack an inventive step under PCT Article 33(3) as being obvious over Cobb in view of Hale.

Regarding claim 13, Cobb discloses the system of claim 1, but Cobb fails to disclose of wherein the vest comprises an exterior having a material, a coating, a treatment, or combinations thereof adapted to provide the vest, and thereby the vehicle surface, with a glossy texture, a rubbery texture, a silky texture, a smooth texture, a metallic texture, a matte texture, a stringy texture, a bubbled texture, a flakey texture, a thorny texture, a rough texture, a geometrically patterned texture, a pebble-like texture, a fur-like texture, a leather-like texture, or combinations thereof.

Hale discloses of a system for altering the appearance of a vehicle surface (abstract) and discloses of wherein a vest (24; col. 4, lines 56-57) comprises an exterior having a material (molded thermoplastic) adapted to provide the vest, and thereby the vehicle surface, with a rough texture (grained outer surface; col. 2, lines 55-63).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include in the vest of Cobb an exterior having a material adapted to provide the vest with a rough texture as taught by Hale in order to increase the aesthetic appeal of the vehicle.

Regarding claim 14, the modified Cobb discloses the system of claim 13, but Cobb fails to disclose of wherein the vest is removably associated with the vehicle surface for enabling changing of the vest to alter the texture of the vehicle surface, the appearance of the vehicle surface, or combinations thereof.

Hale discloses of wherein a vest (24) is removably associated with the vehicle surface (col. 2, lines 28-32) for enabling changing of the vest to alter the texture of the vehicle surface, the appearance of the vehicle surface, or combinations thereof (abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include in the vest of Cobb a removable vest as taught by Hale in order to provide a variety of options.

Claims 1-23 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(4), and thus have industrial applicability because the subject matter claimed can be made or used in industry.

1. WO2017144948 - SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR ALTERING THE COLOR, APPEARANCE, OR FEEL OF ELECTRONIC OR ELECTRICAL DEVICE

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Applicants

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[View all](#)

Title

[EN] SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR ALTERING THE COLOR, APPEARANCE, OR FEEL OF ELECTRONIC OR ELECTRICAL DEVICE

[FR] SYSTÈMES ET PROCÉDÉS PERMETTANT DE MODIFIER LA COULEUR, L'ASPECT OU LE TOUCHER D'UN DISPOSITIF ÉLECTRONIQUE OU ÉLECTRIQUE

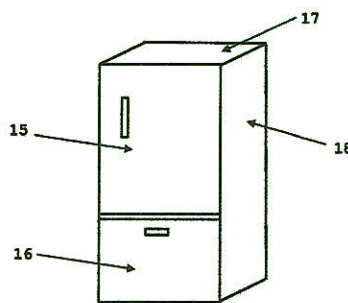


Figure 1A

Abstract

[EN] Systems and methods for altering the appearance and/or texture of a surface of a gadget, device or appliance [e.g., an electronic device or electrical appliance or a household appliance], include installing a vest relative to the said surface area such that an exterior side of the vest, spaced from the said surface, defines a fluid-tight space between the said surface and the exterior side of the vest. Visual media can be provided into and from the fluid-tight space using one or more ports, the exterior side being at least partially transparent or translucent such that the visible media within the fluid-tight space are visible through the exterior side of the vest, thereby allowing the repeatable alteration of the appearance of the said surface. Additionally, the vest could be a single or multi-layered vest, could define more than one fluid tight space in relation to the said surface and could also be detachable or replaceable.

[FR] L'invention concerne des systèmes et des procédés permettant de modifier l'aspect et/ou la texture d'une surface d'un gadget, d'un dispositif ou d'un appareil [par exemple un dispositif électronique ou un appareil électrique ou un appareil électroménager], le procédé consistant à installer une chemise sur ladite zone de surface de telle sorte qu'un côté extérieur de la chemise, espacé de ladite surface, définit un espace étanche aux fluides entre ladite surface et le côté extérieur de la chemise. Des supports visuels peuvent être logés dans l'espace étanche aux fluides et fournis à partir de celui-ci par un ou plusieurs orifices, le côté extérieur étant au moins partiellement transparent ou translucide de sorte que les supports visuels à l'intérieur de l'espace étanche aux fluides sont visibles à travers le côté extérieur de la chemise, ce qui permet de modifier de manière répétée l'aspect de la surface. En outre, la chemise peut être une chemise à une ou plusieurs couches, peut définir plus d'un espace étanche aux fluides par rapport à ladite surface et peut être amovible ou remplaçable.

[Latest bibliographic data on file with the International Bureau](#)

DSS-PCT003

1/5

PCT REQUEST

Print Out (Original in Electronic Form)

0	For receiving Office use only	
0-1	International Application No.	PCT/IB2016/050993
0-2	International Filing Date	24 February 2016 (24.02.2016)
0-3	Name of receiving Office and "PCT International Application"	RO/IB
0-4	Form PCT/RO/101 PCT Request	
0-4-1	Prepared Using	ePCT-Filing Version 3.2.008 MT/FOP 20151028/0.20.5.24
0-5	Petition The undersigned requests that the present international application be processed according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty	
0-6	Receiving Office (specified by the applicant)	International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization (RO/IB)
0-7	Applicant's or agent's file reference	DSS-PCT003
I	Title of Invention	SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR ALTERING THE COLOR, APPEARANCE, OR FEEL OF ELECTRONIC OR ELECTRICAL DEVICE
II	Applicant	
II-1	This person is	Applicant and inventor
II-2	Applicant for	All designated States
II-4	Name (LAST, First)	DEVATHI, Srinivas S
II-5	Address	63, 11th B Cross, 3rd Main, Prashanthnagar 560079 Bangalore India
II-6	State of nationality	IN
II-7	State of residence	IN
II-8	Telephone No.	91-9035894251
II-10	e-mail	sdevathi@satyainnovations.com
II-10(a)	E-mail authorization The receiving Office, the International Searching Authority, the International Bureau and the International Preliminary Examining Authority are authorized to use this e-mail address, if the Office or Authority so wishes, to send notifications issued in respect of this international application:	as advance copies followed by paper notifications

DSS-PCT003

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PCT REQUEST

Print Out (Original in Electronic Form)

V	DESIGNATIONS		
V-1	The filing of this request constitutes under Rule 4.9(a), the designation of all Contracting States bound by the PCT on the international filing date, for the grant of every kind of protection available and, where applicable, for the grant of both regional and national patents.		
VI-1	Priority Claim	NONE	
VII-1	International Searching Authority Chosen	Indian Patent Office (ISA/IN)	
VIII	Declarations	Number of declarations	
VIII-1	Declaration as to the identity of the inventor	1	
VIII-2	Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to apply for and be granted a patent	1	
VIII-3	Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to claim the priority of the earlier application	-	
VIII-4	Declaration of inventorship (only for the purposes of the designation of the United States of America)	-	
VIII-5	Declaration as to non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty	-	

DSS-PCT003

3/5

PCT REQUEST

Print Out (Original in Electronic Form)

VIII-1-1	Declaration: Identity of the Inventor Declaration as to the identity of the inventor (Rules 4.17(f) and 51bis.1(a)(i))	In relation to this international application
	Name (LAST, First) Address	DEVATHI, Srinivas S of 63, 11th B Cross, 3rd Main, Prashan- thnagar 560079 Bangalore India is the inventor of the subject matter for which protection is sought by way of this international application

DSS-PCT003

4/5

PCT REQUEST

Print Out (Original in Electronic Form)

VIII-2-1	Declaration: Entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to apply for and be granted a patent (Rules 4.17(ii) and 51bis.1(a)(ii)), in a case where the declaration under Rule 4.17(iv) is not appropriate: Name (LAST, First)	In relation to this international application DEVATHI, Srinivas S is entitled to apply for and be granted a patent by virtue of the following:
VIII-2-1(i)		DEVATHI, Srinivas S of 63, 11th B Cross, 3rd Main, Prashanthnagar 560079 Bangalore India is the inventor of the subject matter for which protection is sought by way of this international application

DSS-PCT003

5/5

PCT REQUEST

Print Out (Original in Electronic Form)

IX	Check list	Number of sheets	Electronic file(s) attached
IX-1	Request (including declaration sheets)	5	✓
IX-2	Description	23	✓
IX-3	Claims	15	✓
IX-4	Abstract	1	✓
IX-5	Drawings	4	✓
IX-7	TOTAL	48	
	Accompanying Items	Paper document(s) attached	Electronic file(s) attached
IX-8	Fee calculation sheet	-	✓
IX-20	Figure of the drawings which should accompany the abstract	1A	
IX-21	Language of filing of the international application	English	
IX-22	The receiving Office is requested to make this international application available to the Priority Document Access Service (DAS) (provided that an international application number and international filing date is accorded to this purported international application.)	Yes	
X-1	Signature of applicant, agent or common representative	/Srinivas S Devathi/	
X-1-1	Name (LAST, First)	DEVATHI, Srinivas S	
X-1-3	Capacity (if such capacity is not obvious from reading the request)		

FOR RECEIVING OFFICE USE ONLY

10-1	Date of actual receipt of the purported international application	24 February 2016 (24.02.2016)
10-2	Drawings:	
10-2-1	Received	
10-2-2	Not received	
10-3	Corrected date of actual receipt due to later but timely received papers or drawings completing the purported international application	
10-4	Date of timely receipt of the required corrections under PCT Article 11(2)	
10-5	International Searching Authority	ISA/IN
10-6	Transmittal of search copy delayed until search fee is paid	

FOR INTERNATIONAL BUREAU USE ONLY

11-1	Date of receipt of the record copy by the International Bureau	
------	--	--

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference DSS-PCT003	FOR FURTHER ACTION	see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.
International application No. PCT/IB2016/050993	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 24-02-2016	(Earliest) Priority Date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 24-02-2016
Applicant DEVATHI, SRINIVAS S		

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of:

- the international application in the language in which it was filed.
- a translation of the international application into _____ which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b)).

b. This international search report has been established taking into account the **rectification of an obvious mistake** authorized by or notified to this Authority under Rule 91 (Rule 43.6bis(a)).

c. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (see Box No. II).

3. **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box No. III).

4. With regard to the **title**,

- the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
- the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

- the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
- the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2, by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the **drawings**,

a. the figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 1A

- as suggested by the applicant.
- as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.
- as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

b. none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/IB2016/050993
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Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
Following are the group of inventions which are not related to
single general inventive concept and lacks unity of invention as per
Rules 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3 of PCT.

Group-1: 1-21,
Group-2: 22-33,

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
1-21

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

— A —

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/IB2016/050993
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER B60J10/00, F17C13/00 Version=2016.01		
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) B60J, F17C		
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 practicable, search terms used) Patseer, IPO Internal Database		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US8910998B1 (Srinivas S. Devathi) December 16, 2014 Whole document, especially line number 57-67, Column-6; Figure 2-8B.	1-21
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international 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) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "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 invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to 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 documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art "&" document member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search 28-06-2016	Date of mailing of the international search report 28-06-2016	
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Indian Patent Office Plot No.32, Sector 14, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075 Facsimile No.	Authorized officer Sagar B. Pol Telephone No. +91-1125300200	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/IB2016/050993

Continuation of Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Box III)

Group-3: 34-36,

Group-4: 37-38,

Group-5: 39-59,

Group-6: 60-71,

Group-7: 72-74,

Group-8: 75-76.

The feature "A vest which is foldable, stretchable and can be secured on exterior surface of object; fluid tight space is maintained between surface of object and the vest" is the common technical feature among group of inventions mentioned above.

In view of document D1: US8910998B1 (Published on Dec 16, 2014) the said common technical feature is not novel. There is no special technical feature (STF) common to all the group of inventions. Hence, application lacks unity.

1. WO2017144949 - SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR ALTERING THE COLOR, APPEARANCE, OR FEEL OF FURNITURE, DECORATIVE ARTICLE OR WALL



PCT Biblio. Data Description Claims Drawings National Phase Notices Documents

PermaLink Machine translation

Publication Number

WO/2017/144949

Publication Date

31.08.2017

International Application No.

PCT/IB2016/050994

International Filing Date

24.02.2016

IPC

A47B 96/20 2006.1 B60R 13/00 2006.1

CPC

B44C 5/005 B60R 13/00

Applicants

DEVATHI, Srinivas S [IN]/[IN]

Inventors

DEVATHI, Srinivas S

Priority Data

Publication Language

English [en]

Filing Language

English [en]

Designated States

View all

Title

[EN] SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR ALTERING THE COLOR, APPEARANCE, OR FEEL OF FURNITURE, DECORATIVE ARTICLE OR WALL

[FR] SYSTÈMES ET PROCÉDÉS PERMETTANT DE MODIFIER LA COULEUR, L'ASPECT OU LE TOUCHER D'UN MOBILIER, D'UN ARTICLE DE DÉCORATION OU D'UN MUR

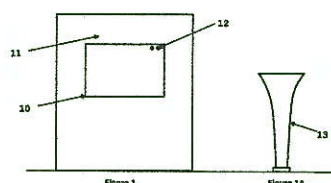


Figure 2



Figure 3A

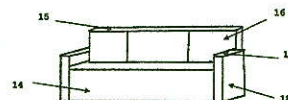


Figure 3B

Abstract

[EN] Systems and methods for altering the appearance and/or texture of a surface of a furniture, decorative article or wall [e.g., house or office furniture (sofa, table, chair, other), house or office decorative articles (vase, other), house or office building walls (interior or exterior)], include installing a vest relative to the said surface area such that an exterior side of the vest, spaced from the said surface, defines a fluid-tight space between the said surface and the exterior side of the vest. Visual media can be provided into and from the fluid-tight space using one or more ports, the exterior side being at least partially transparent or translucent such that the visible media within the fluid-tight space are visible through the exterior side of the vest, thereby allowing the repeatable alteration of the appearance of the said surface. Additionally, the vest could be a single or multi-layered vest, could define more than one fluid tight space in relation to the said surface and could also be detachable or replaceable. Such a vest with multiple fluid tight spaces defined in relation to the said surface, could also provide thermal insulation or protection for people living in regions of extreme weather conditions.

[FR] L'invention concerne des systèmes et des procédés permettant de modifier l'aspect et/ou la texture d'une surface d'un mobilier, d'un article de décoration ou d'une mur [par ex. mobilier d'intérieur ou de bureau (canapé, table, chaise ou autre), articles de décoration d'intérieur ou de bureau (vase ou autre), murs (intérieurs ou extérieurs) de constructions d'habitations ou d'immeubles de bureaux], les procédés consistant à mettre en place une chemise par rapport à ladite surface de telle sorte qu'un côté extérieur de la chemise, espacé de ladite surface, définit un espace étanche aux fluides entre ladite surface et le côté extérieur de la chemise. Des supports visuels peuvent être logés dans l'espace étanche aux fluides et fournis à partir de celui-ci par un ou plusieurs orifices, le côté extérieur étant au moins partiellement transparent ou translucide de sorte que les supports visuels à l'intérieur de l'espace étanche aux fluides sont visibles à travers le côté extérieur de la chemise, ce qui permet de modifier de manière répétée l'aspect de la surface. En outre, la chemise peut être une chemise à une ou plusieurs couches, peut définir plus d'un espace étanche aux fluides par rapport à ladite surface et peut être amovible ou remplaçable. Une telle chemise comportant plusieurs espaces étanches aux fluides définis par rapport à ladite surface peut également offrir une isolation thermique ou une protection aux personnes vivant dans des régions aux conditions climatiques extrêmes.

Latest bibliographic data on file with the International Bureau



AA

DSS-PCT004

1/5

PCT REQUEST

Print Out (Original in Electronic Form)

0	For receiving Office use only	
0-1	International Application No.	PCT/IB2016/050994
0-2	International Filing Date	24 February 2016 (24.02.2016)
0-3	Name of receiving Office and "PCT International Application"	RO/IB
0-4	Form PCT/RO/101 PCT Request	
0-4-1	Prepared Using	ePCT-Filing Version 3.2.008 MT/FOP 20151028/0.20.5.24
0-5	Petition The undersigned requests that the present international application be processed according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty	
0-6	Receiving Office (specified by the applicant)	International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization (RO/IB)
0-7	Applicant's or agent's file reference	DSS-PCT004
I	Title of Invention	SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR ALTERING THE COLOR, APPEARANCE, OR FEEL OF FURNITURE, DECORATIVE ARTICLE OR WALL
II	Applicant	
II-1	This person is	Applicant and inventor
II-2	Applicant for	All designated States
II-4	Name (LAST, First)	DEVATHI, Srinivas S
II-5	Address	63, 11th B Cross, 3rd Main, Prashanthnagar 560079 Bangalore India
II-6	State of nationality	IN
II-7	State of residence	IN
II-8	Telephone No.	91-9035894251
II-10	e-mail	sdevathi@satyainnovations.com
II-10(a)	E-mail authorization The receiving Office, the International Searching Authority, the International Bureau and the International Preliminary Examining Authority are authorized to use this e-mail address, if the Office or Authority so wishes, to send notifications issued in respect of this international application:	as advance copies followed by paper notifications

DSS-PCT004

2/5

PCT REQUEST

Print Out (Original in Electronic Form)

V	DESIGNATIONS		
V-1	The filing of this request constitutes under Rule 4.9(a), the designation of all Contracting States bound by the PCT on the international filing date, for the grant of every kind of protection available and, where applicable, for the grant of both regional and national patents.		
VI-1	Priority Claim	NONE	
VII-1	International Searching Authority Chosen	Indian Patent Office (ISA/IN)	
VIII	Declarations	Number of declarations	
VIII-1	Declaration as to the identity of the inventor	1	
VIII-2	Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to apply for and be granted a patent	1	
VIII-3	Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to claim the priority of the earlier application	-	
VIII-4	Declaration of inventorship (only for the purposes of the designation of the United States of America)	-	
VIII-5	Declaration as to non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty	-	

DSS-PCT004

3/5

PCT REQUEST

Print Out (Original in Electronic Form)

VIII-1-1	Declaration: Identity of the Inventor Declaration as to the identity of the inventor (Rules 4.17(i) and 51bis.1(a)(i))	In relation to this international application
	Name (LAST, First) Address	DEVATHI, Srinivas S of 63, 11th B Cross, 3rd Main, Prashan- thnagar 560079 Bangalore India is the inventor of the subject matter for which protection is sought by way of this international application

DSS-PCT004

4/5

PCT REQUEST

Print Out (Original in Electronic Form)

VIII-2-1	Declaration: Entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to apply for and be granted a patent (Rules 4.17(ii) and 51 bis.1(a)(ii)), in a case where the declaration under Rule 4.17(iv) is not appropriate: Name (LAST, First)	In relation to this international application DEVATHI, Srinivas S is entitled to apply for and be granted a patent by virtue of the following:
VIII-2-1(i)		DEVATHI, Srinivas S of 63, 11th B Cross, 3rd Main, Prashan- thnagar 560079 Bangalore India is the inventor of the subject matter for which protection is sought by way of this international application

AL

DSS-PCT004

5/5

PCT REQUEST

Print Out (Original in Electronic Form)

IX	Check list	Number of sheets	Electronic file(s) attached
IX-1	Request (including declaration sheets)	5	✓
IX-2	Description	27	✓
IX-3	Claims	27	✓
IX-4	Abstract	1	✓
IX-5	Drawings	7	✓
IX-7	TOTAL	67	
	Accompanying Items	Paper document(s) attached	Electronic file(s) attached
IX-8	Fee calculation sheet	-	✓
IX-20	Figure of the drawings which should accompany the abstract	1	
IX-21	Language of filing of the international application	English	
IX-22	The receiving Office is requested to make this international application available to the Priority Document Access Service (DAS) (provided that an international application number and international filing date is accorded to this purported international application.)	Yes	
X-1	Signature of applicant, agent or common representative	/Srinivas S Devathi/	
X-1-1	Name (LAST, First)	DEVATHI, Srinivas S	
X-1-3	Capacity (if such capacity is not obvious from reading the request)		

FOR RECEIVING OFFICE USE ONLY

10-1	Date of actual receipt of the purported international application	24 February 2016 (24.02.2016)
10-2	Drawings:	
10-2-1	Received	
10-2-2	Not received	
10-3	Corrected date of actual receipt due to later but timely received papers or drawings completing the purported international application	
10-4	Date of timely receipt of the required corrections under PCT Article 11(2)	
10-5	International Searching Authority	ISA/IN
10-6	Transmittal of search copy delayed until search fee is paid	

FOR INTERNATIONAL BUREAU USE ONLY

11-1	Date of receipt of the record copy by the International Bureau	
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference DSS-PCT004	FOR FURTHER ACTION	see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.
International application No. PCT/IB2016/050994	International filing date (day/month/year) 24-02-2016	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 24-02-2016
Applicant DEVATHI, SRINIVAS S		

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of 5 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of:

the international application in the language in which it was filed.

a translation of the international application into _____ which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b)).

b. This international search report has been established taking into account the **rectification of an obvious mistake** authorized by or notified to this Authority under Rule 91 (Rule 43.6bis(a)).

c. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (see Box No. II).

3. **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box No. III).

4. With regard to the **title**,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2, by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the **drawings**,

a. the figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 1

as suggested by the applicant.

as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

b. none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/IB2016/050994

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

- 1. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

- 2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

- 3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
Following are the group of inventions which are not related to single general inventive concept and lacks unity of invention as per Rules 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3 of PCT.

- Group-1:1-21, Group-2:22-33,
- Group-3:34-36, Group-4:37-38,
- Group-5:39-59, Group-6:60-71,
- Group-7:72-74, Group-8:75-76,

- 1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
- 2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
- 3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
1-21, 77-97, 115-136
- 4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/IB2016/050994
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER A47B96/20, B60R13/00 Version=2016.01														
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) A47B96/20, B60R13/00														
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 practicable, search terms used) Patseer, IPO Internal Database														
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT														
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.												
X	US8910998B1 (Srinivas S. Devathi) 16 December 2014 Whole document, especially lines 57-67, Column-6; Figures 2-8B.	1-21, 77- 97, 115-136												
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.														
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"><tr><td style="width: 50%; border: none;">* Special categories of cited documents:</td><td style="width: 50%; border: none;"></td></tr><tr><td style="border: none;">"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</td><td style="border: none;">"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 invention</td></tr><tr><td style="border: none;">"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date</td><td style="border: none;">"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</td></tr><tr><td style="border: none;">"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)</td><td style="border: none;">"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 documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</td></tr><tr><td style="border: none;">"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</td><td style="border: none;">"&" document member of the same patent family</td></tr><tr><td style="border: none;">"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</td><td style="border: none;"></td></tr></table>			* Special categories of cited documents:		"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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 invention	"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone	"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)	"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 documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art	"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family	"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	
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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family													
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed														
Date of the actual completion of the international search 19-08-2016	Date of mailing of the international search report 19-08-2016													
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Indian Patent Office Plot No.32, Sector 14, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075 Facsimile No.	Authorized officer Pratap Chandra Barad Telephone No. +91-1125300200													

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Information on patent family members

International application No.
PCT/IB2016/050994

Citation	Pub.Date	Family	Pub.Date
US 8910998 B1	16-12-2014	US 20150273564 A1 WO 2015147900 A1	01-10-2015 01-10-2015

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/IB2016/050994

Continuation of Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Box III)

Group-9:77-97, Group-10:98-109,

Group-11:110-112, Group-12:113-114,

Group-13:115-136, Group-14:137-143.

The feature "A vest which is foldable, stretchable and can be secured on exterior surface of object; fluid tight space is maintained between surface of object and the vest" is the common technical feature among group of inventions mentioned above. In view of document D1:US8910998B1 (Published on 16 December 2014) the said common technical feature is not novel. There is no special technical feature (STF) common to all the group of inventions. Hence, application lacks unity.

Patented Invention PCT/us2014/046619

The sale of my invention 'Systems and methods for altering the color, appearance, or feel of a vehicle surface' patent rights recognized by PCT/us2014/046619, also include the patent rights for other sector applications of the 'Systems and methods of the invention', claimed in PCT/IB2016/050993, PCT/IB2016/050994, and PCT/IB2016/050995. A PCT international application, is a patent application filed under the provisions of Patent Cooperation Treaty. The Patent Cooperation Treaty is signed by 157 World countries, as of August 2024.

- My invention title. Systems and methods for altering the color, appearance, or feel of a vehicle surface.
- Patent Cooperation Treaty PCT international application number given to my invention. PCT/us2014/046619.
- PCT international application filing date. 15-7-2014, with Receiving Office, RO, US PTO, and the International Searching Authority, ISA, US PTO.
- This PCT international application is claiming priority of my invention priority patent application 14/227,859, filed on 27-3-2014, with US PTO. US PTO issued patent grant for priority patent application 14/227,859, with patent number 'us 8,910,998 B1', with patent date 16-12-2014.

Using this PCT international application, PCT/us2014/046619, for my patented invention, I file 15 National and 2 Regional patent applications, for protection of my patented invention rights across 61 World countries. The 61 countries are listed in no particular order, include Nigeria, Canada, Mexico, Japan, Korea, Australia, New Zealand, Brazil, China, South Africa, Thailand, Philippines, India,

Malaysia, Indonesia, Eurasean countries corresponding to EAPO regional application that provides patent rights protection in 8 countries Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan, and European countries corresponding to EPO regional application that provides patent rights protection in 38 countries Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and United Kingdom. For my patented invention, the list of countries for entering national stage were chosen by 'Automotive industry' manufacturing data. Patented invention 'Systems and methods' claims in PCT/us2014/046619 are for Automotive Sector application, an exact replica of priority patent application 14/227,859, the patent number 'us 8,910,998 B1'.

- For my invention title. Systems and methods for altering the color, appearance, or feel of furniture, decorative article, or wall.
- Patent Cooperation Treaty PCT international application number given to my invention. PCT/IB2016/050994.
- PCT international application filing date. 24-2-2016, with Receiving Office, RO, IB, International Bureau, World Intellectual Property Organization, WIPO, and the International Searching Authority, ISA, India Patent and Trademark Office, IPI, Intellectual Property INDIA.
- By valuation, the HIGHEST valued application of my Invention 'Systems and Methods' is the exemplary 'Thermal Insulation application', for homes, offices, industrial, and other buildings, across the 62 countries, by virtue of the 'International Search Report' issued by the ISA, rejecting the claims citing the direct prior art of my patent grant 'us 8,910,998 B1'.

This exemplary 'Thermal Insulation application' will deliver an estimated 75% of all the 'heating, and cooling costs', energy costs incurred by the 62 World countries, who would realize the savings by aggressive investment, transition, Inventive system installation plan for

all the buildings within their country within a decade or two. The 62 countries realized 'energy savings' over the next 100 years period, and my claim of 10% of this 'energy savings' is a 'Significantly, Extremely High' contributor to the sale price of my invention. Further, several countries among the 62 countries experience extreme weather conditions through a portion of the year, or all through the year. Hence this is the highest valued application of my Invention 'Systems and Methods'.

Based on a conservative estimate, here is the sale price by the patent applications, the sale price including sale of all sector applications of the invention. The wealth will be deposited in my bank account in INDIA, in a World neutral currency 'EARTHLINGS', according to the payment plans built into the 62 sale agreements. These sale agreements will be executed in the Honorable High court of Karnataka, upon the orders of the Honorable court, after my Introduction of Macro Economic reform Project Earthling(c) to 193 World countries at WIPO assembly, the reform is implemented and LIVE, and the organization of GEC, Global Earthling Council, the designated signatory and Payor, for the 62 sale agreements, to be executed one each with each of the 62 countries.

2 Regional and 15 National Application / Patent Numbers along with their chosen conservative 'Sale price', sorted in descending order by sale price, are given in the table here. The priority usa patent listed at the end of the table, exception to sorted order.

REGIONAL/ NATIONAL	REGION NAME / COUNTRY NAME	APPLICATION NUMBER.	SALE PRICE
Regional	Europe (38 countries)	14886695.7 2014886695	30.5 T
National	Japan	100099759 2017502572	12 T
National	Korea	10-2016-7026408	7.5 T
National	China	201480079105.9	7.5 T
National	Canada	29,44,200	3 T
National	India	6623/CHE/2014	2.25 T
National	Australia	2014388300	2 T
National	Brazil	BR 11 2016 022393 4	1.5 T
National	Mexico	MX/A/2016/01257 0	1.5 T
Regional	Eurasia (8 countries)	201691898	0.55 T
National	South Africa	2016/07380	0.45 T
National	New Zealand	725679	0.4 T
National	Philippines	PH/1/2016/50221 34	0.3 T
National	Malaysia	PL 2016703531	0.3 T
National	Indonesia	P00201607230	0.3 T
National	Thailand	1601005662	0.3 T
National	Nigeria	F/P/2016/328. Also the patent number.	0.15 T
National	USA	14/227,859 Priority patent us 8,910,998 B1	22.5 T
Total sale price by conservative estimate for Invention Patent rights across 62 countries			93 Trillion Earthlings

My invention sale price by patent applications. All sectors included in sale price.

The sale price of 62 sale agreements, by each country is given here. These are the sale agreements that will be executed at the Honorable High court of Karnataka.

Country name	Full control of 90% of the 'Economic Value' handed over to the country, Buyer	10% of the 'Economic Value', sale proceeds received by me, Seller	Name of the sale agreement	Name of the Leader
	Monetary Value handed over in Earthlings	Sale Price in Earthlings		
USA, upon elimination of their fraud	20,25,00,00,00,00,000	2,25,00,00,00,00,000	Srinivas - Katha agreement	Kathi Vidal (aspto Dir)
Germany	13,50,00,00,00,00,000	1,50,00,00,00,00,000	Srinivas - Olaf agreement	Olaf Scholz
Japan	10,80,00,00,00,00,000	1,20,00,00,00,00,000	Srinivas - Fumio agreement	Fumio Kishida
Korea	6,75,00,00,00,00,000	75,00,00,00,00,000	Srinivas - Yoon agreement	Yoon Suk-yeol
China	6,75,00,00,00,00,000	75,00,00,00,00,000	Srinivas - Xi agreement	Xi Jinping
UK	2,70,00,00,00,00,000	30,00,00,00,00,000	Srinivas - Rishi agreement	Rishi Sunak
Canada	2,70,00,00,00,00,000	30,00,00,00,00,000	Srinivas - Justin agreement	Justin Trudeau
France	2,21,84,39,40,20,115	24,87,15,48,91,124	Srinivas - Emmanuel agreement	Emmanuel Macron
India	2,02,50,00,00,00,000	22,50,00,00,00,000	Srinivas - Narendra agreement	Narendra Damodar Modi
Australia	1,80,00,00,00,00,000	20,00,00,00,00,000	Srinivas - Anthony agreement	Anthony Albanese
Italy	1,67,13,75,50,11,946	18,57,08,38,90,216	Srinivas - Giorgia agreement	Giorgia Meloni
Brazil	1,35,00,00,00,00,000	15,00,00,00,00,000	Srinivas - Lula agreement	Lula Da Silva
Mexico	1,35,00,00,00,00,000	15,00,00,00,00,000	Srinivas - Andres agreement	Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador
Spain	1,14,93,78,01,04,717	12,77,08,66,78,302	Srinivas - Pedro agreement	Pedro Sanchez
Netherlands	73,63,24,85,89,714	8,18,13,87,32,190	Srinivas - Mark agreement	Mark Rutte
Turkey	61,77,36,21,12,796	6,86,37,35,68,088	Srinivas - Recep agreement	Recep Tayyip Erdogan
Switzerland	56,85,69,33,81,212	6,31,74,37,09,024	Srinivas - Viktor agreement	Viktor Rossi
Poland	47,20,87,56,98,159	5,24,54,17,44,240	Srinivas - Donald agreement	Donald Tusk
Sweden	44,40,81,43,93,227	4,93,42,38,21,470	Srinivas - Ulf agreement	Ulf Kristersson
Belgium	42,85,55,60,97,365	4,76,17,28,99,707	Srinivas - Alexander agreement	Alexander De Croo
Russian Federation	40,95,26,71,46,692	4,55,02,96,82,966	Srinivas - Vladimir agreement	Vladimir Putin
South Africa	40,50,00,00,00,000	4,50,00,00,00,000	Srinivas - Cyril agreement	Cyril Ramaphosa
Austria	36,72,82,37,72,714	4,08,09,15,30,302	Srinivas - Karl agreement	Karl Nehammer
New Zealand	36,00,00,00,00,000	4,00,00,00,00,000	Srinivas - Christopher agreement	Christopher Luxon
Norway	35,03,69,57,89,482	3,89,29,95,32,165	Srinivas - Jonas agreement	Jonas Gahr Store
Ireland	30,82,49,57,07,731	3,42,49,95,23,081	Srinivas - Leo agreement	Leo Varadkar
Denmark	28,47,26,57,73,405	3,15,25,17,52,601	Srinivas - Mette agreement	Mette Frederiksen
Philippines	27,00,00,00,00,000	3,00,00,00,00,000	Srinivas - Ferdinand agreement	Ferdinand Bangsong Marcos
Malaysia	27,00,00,00,00,000	3,00,00,00,00,000	Srinivas - Anwar agreement	Anwar Ibrahim
Indonesia	27,00,00,00,00,000	3,00,00,00,00,000	Srinivas - Joko agreement	Joko Widodo
Thailand	27,00,00,00,00,000	3,00,00,00,00,000	Srinivas - Srettha agreement	Srettha Thavisin
Finland	22,07,87,53,17,555	2,45,31,94,79,728	Srinivas - Petteri agreement	Petteri Orpo
Czechia	19,76,29,74,75,271	2,19,58,86,08,363	Srinivas - Petr agreement	Petr Fiala
Romania	19,30,57,82,79,194	2,14,50,86,97,688	Srinivas - Marcel agreement	Marcel Ciolacu
Portugal	19,17,89,32,77,497	2,13,09,92,53,055	Srinivas - Luis agreement	Luis Montenegro
Greece	17,57,15,86,84,839	1,95,23,76,31,649	Srinivas - Kyrakos agreement	Kyrakos Mitsotakis
Nigeria	13,50,00,00,00,000	1,50,00,00,00,000	Srinivas - Bola agreement	Bola Tinubu
Hungary	12,54,82,39,00,370	1,39,42,48,77,819	Srinivas - Viktor agreement	Viktor Orban
Slovakia	8,58,06,70,27,098	95,34,07,80,789	Srinivas - Robert agreement	Robert Fico
Luxembourg	5,60,00,97,82,656	62,22,33,09,184	Srinivas - Luc agreement	Luc Frieden
Bulgaria	5,24,91,24,62,206	58,32,36,06,912	Srinivas - Nikolai agreement	Nikolai Denkov
Croatia	4,90,04,07,96,169	54,44,89,77,352	Srinivas - Andrej agreement	Andrej Plenkovic
Slovenia	4,37,08,45,40,674	48,56,49,48,964	Srinivas - Robert agreement	Robert Golob
Lithuania	4,29,15,43,09,842	47,68,38,22,205	Srinivas - Ingrida agreement	Ingrida Simionyte
Kazakhstan	4,21,34,54,06,502	46,81,61,56,278	Srinivas - Oljas agreement	Oljas Bektenov
Serbia	4,07,04,83,26,364	45,22,75,91,818	Srinivas - Ivica agreement	Ivica Dacic
Latvia	2,80,85,10,95,580	31,20,56,77,264	Srinivas - Evika agreement	Evika Silina
Estonia	2,44,06,94,25,012	27,11,88,25,101	Srinivas - Kaja agreement	Kaja Kallas
Iceland	2,08,58,52,69,323	23,17,61,41,036	Srinivas - Katrin agreement	Katrin Jakobsdottir
Cyprus	1,97,20,58,39,592	21,91,17,59,955	Srinivas - Nikos agreement	Nikos Christodoulides
Belarus	1,47,40,75,19,618	16,37,86,13,291	Srinivas - Roman agreement	Roman Golovchenko
Albania	1,21,36,17,79,257	13,48,46,42,140	Srinivas - Edi agreement	Edi Rama
Malta	1,17,19,52,31,086	13,02,16,92,410	Srinivas - Robert agreement	Robert Abela
Azerbaijan	1,15,97,31,98,982	12,88,59,10,998	Srinivas - Ali agreement	Ali Asadov
North Macedonia	1,02,12,47,40,871	11,34,71,93,386	Srinivas - Talat agreement	Talat Xhatari
Turkmenistan	1,00,70,69,15,742	11,18,96,59,527	Srinivas - Serdar agreement	Serdar Berdimuhamedov
Monaco	51,57,81,51,753	5,73,09,05,750	Srinivas - Pierre agreement	Pierre Dartout
Liechtenstein	50,71,19,47,701	5,63,68,83,078	Srinivas - Daniel agreement	Daniel Risch
Armenia	30,71,78,26,650	3,41,30,91,850	Srinivas - Nikol agreement	Nikol Pashinyan
Kyrgyzstan	19,99,51,23,548	2,22,16,80,394	Srinivas - Sadyr agreement	Sadyr Japarov
Tajikistan	18,58,68,42,266	2,06,52,04,696	Srinivas - Kokhir agreement	Kokhir Rasulzoda
San Marino	13,61,17,96,611	1,51,24,21,846	Srinivas - Alessandro agreement	Alessandro Rossi
Total	83,70,00,00,00,000	9,30,00,00,00,000		

REMARKS: I, Srinivas S. Devathi, inventor and seller of intellectual property rights to your territory for invention US 8,910,998 B1 recognized worldwide by PCT international application PCT US2014/046619, would sign the sale agreement as seller through the Indian court proceeding. In different countries, powers, role and responsibilities bestowed to their government Prime Minister, and President are different. I have listed the one who would exercise executive and legislative powers to head and govern the country from information available online. Upon elimination of worldwide fraud by USPTO, and upon the orders of Indian court, I would like to structure and coordinate the execution of these sale agreements by co-ordinating with the divisions of Indian Ministry of External Affairs say within a span of four months, in year 2025 or 2026. Upon Indian court orders, Legal and Treaties division of MEA India would join me in the court proceeding, to participate and assist the Honorable court with the required legal documentation, legal verification of the buyer, payor, co-ordinate the leaders visits to the Honorable court in India, and get the 62 sale agreements executed. The sale includes the claims in PCT international applications PCT/IB2016/050993, PCT/IB2016/050994, and PCT/IB2016/050995.

The 62 sale agreements that will be executed at Honorable High court. Sorted descending by sale price.

The sale price valuation by country, and total sale price to my Invention 'Systems and Methods' listed here, are driven just by the exemplary 'Thermal Insulation' application. However, since all the applications are from the same Invention 'Systems and Methods', the sale agreements would include the sale of all the Invention applications, across all sectors. I am waiting for Union of INDIA, to provide their

independent evaluation of the sale price. The sector data capture and valuations of furniture, decorative article, walls, electronic devises, electrical appliances, and fashion accessory, across 62 countries, were not conducted by me. They are small in comparison to the valuation of exemplary 'Thermal Insulation' application. The sale includes all these sectors. Automotive industry, and application for 'walls, odd walls' at homes and offices are also sizeable contributors to the sale price, which are also included in the sale agreements.

- For my invention title. Systems and methods for altering the color, appearance, or feel of Electronic or Electrical devise.
- Patent Cooperation Treaty PCT international application number given to my invention. PCT/IB2016/050993.
- PCT international application filing date 24-2-2016, with Receiving Office, RO, IB International Bureau, World Intellectual Property Organization, WIPO, and the International Searching Authority, ISA, India Patent and Trademark Office, IPI, Intellectual Property INDIA.
- Sectors included in the 62 sale agreements, by virtue of the 'International Search Report' issued by the ISA, rejecting the claims citing the direct prior art of my patent grant 'us 8,910,998 B1'. Valuation of these sectors and their contribution to the sale price is low, and not factored in.
- For my invention title. Systems and methods for altering the color, appearance, or feel of fashion accessory.
- Patent Cooperation Treaty PCT international application number given to my invention. PCT/IB2016/050995.
- PCT international application filing date 24-2-2016, with Receiving Office, RO, IB International Bureau, World Intellectual Property Organization, WIPO, and the International Searching Authority, ISA, India Patent and Trademark Office, IPI, Intellectual Property INDIA.
- Sector included in the 62 sale agreements, by virtue of the 'International Search Report' issued by the ISA, rejecting the claims citing the direct prior art of my patent grant 'us 8,910,998 B1'.

Valuation of this sector and the contribution to the sale price is miniscule and negligible, and not factored in.

Expression of the range	10% of the 100 years projected economic activity of my invention across 62 World countries. In EARTHLINGS.
Conservative	<u>93 Trillion (Chosen)</u>
Conservative-Realistic	94 Trillion – 125 Trillion
Realistic	125 Trillion – 150 Trillion
Aggressive-Realistic	150 Trillion – 250 Trillion
Aggressive	250 Trillion – 300 Trillion

Sale price of my invention, cumulated total of 62 countries, by expression.

World Intellectual Property Organization, WIPO publications for the PCT international applications PCT/us2014/046619, PCT/IB2016/050994, PCT/IB2016/050993, and PCT/IB2016/050995, are WO/2015/147900, WO/2017/144949, WO/2017/144948, and WO/2017/144950 respectively. The WIPO publications to access, read in detail, all the legal documents, and ISR'S of the PCT international applications, are searchable at the WIPO Patentscope database, at weblink

[< https://www.wipo.int/patentscope/en/ <](https://www.wipo.int/patentscope/en/)

<https://www.wipo.int/patentscope/en/>>, click on the button 'Access PATENTSCOPE', in the Patentscope search window, choose Field ID/Number, and key in the PCT application number, or publication ID. The WIPO publications links for the for PCT International applications are

[< https://patentscope.wipo.int/search/en/detail.jsf? docId=WO2015147900& cid=P21-M0PKEL-60229-1 <](https://patentscope.wipo.int/search/en/detail.jsf?docId=WO2015147900& cid=P21-M0PKEL-60229-1)

[> https://patentscope.wipo.int/search/en/detail.jsf? docId=WO2015147900& cid=P21-M0PKEL-60229-1>](https://patentscope.wipo.int/search/en/detail.jsf?docId=WO2015147900& cid=P21-M0PKEL-60229-1),

[< https://patentscope.wipo.int/search/en/detail.jsf? docId=WO2017144949& cid=P21-M0PKH5-62596-1 <](https://patentscope.wipo.int/search/en/detail.jsf?docId=WO2017144949& cid=P21-M0PKH5-62596-1)

[> https://patentscope.wipo.int/search/en/detail.jsf? docId=WO2017144949& cid=P21-M0PKH5-62596-1>](https://patentscope.wipo.int/search/en/detail.jsf?docId=WO2017144949& cid=P21-M0PKH5-62596-1),

[< https://patentscope.wipo.int/search/en/detail.jsf? docId=WO2017144948& cid=P21-M0PKI7-63741-1 <](https://patentscope.wipo.int/search/en/detail.jsf?docId=WO2017144948& cid=P21-M0PKI7-63741-1)

<https://patentscope.wipo.int/search/en/detail.jsf?docId=WO2017144948& cid=P21-M0PKI7-63741-1> , and
<https://patentscope.wipo.int/search/en/detail.jsf?docId=WO2017144950& cid=P21-M0PKJQ-65141-1> <
<https://patentscope.wipo.int/search/en/detail.jsf?docId=WO2017144950& cid=P21-M0PKJQ-65141-1> > .

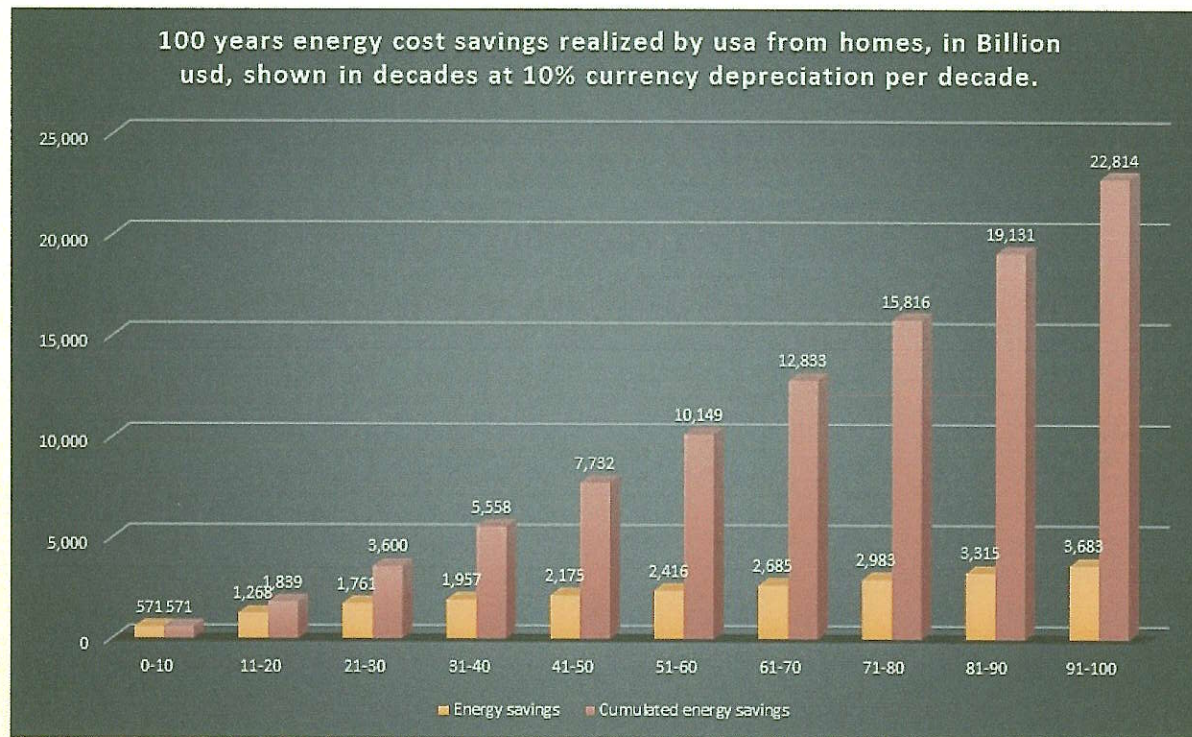
Srinivas S. Devathi, 2024.

Inventor and Author

Transitioning the World into New World Order.

SrinivasDevathi.com, ProjectEarthling.com, Earthlingcurrency.com,
coolcartechnology.com

Thermal insulation exemplary application of patent us 8,910,998 B1, reference to PCT international application PCT/IB2016/050994. Energy cost savings for one country usa. Energy cost data for usa from above page used. Cumulated energy savings from homes across usa, over 100 years timeline = 22.814 Trillion. Cumulated energy savings from usa, over 100 years timeline = 45.628 Trillion. Double the value considering offices, industrial, other buildings.

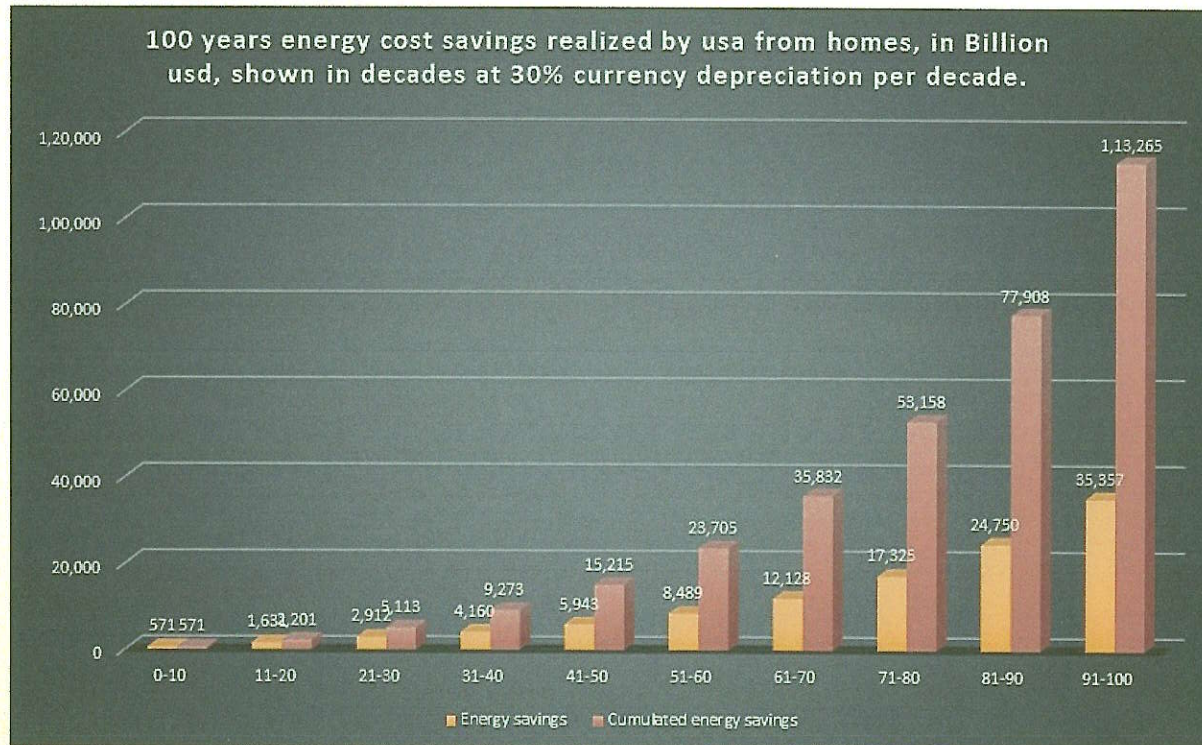


- The total annual energy cost indicated in the data table for 116 million homes in usa is 190.24 Billion usd.
- TI factors. Steady fast conversion, 100% in 20 years. Savings 0-10, at 40%, 11-20, at 80%.
- High efficiency 75% energy savings considered. Decades after year 20, 75% value from data table 142.68 Billion usd used.
- This graph showing Medium currency depreciation at 10% for 10 years.
- Double the savings and cumulated savings, considering offices, industrial, other buildings.

29 March 2024

100 years energy cost savings for usa at low currency depreciation.

Thermal insulation exemplary application of patent us 8,910,998 B1, reference to PCT international application PCT/IB2016/050994. Energy cost savings for one country usa. Energy cost data for usa from above page used. Cumulated energy savings from homes across usa, over 100 years timeline = 113.265 Trillion. Cumulated energy savings from usa, over 100 years timeline = 226.53 Trillion. Double the value considering offices, industrial, other buildings.



- The total annual energy cost indicated in the data table for 116 million homes in usa is 190.24 Billion usd.
- TI factors. Steady fast conversion, 100% in 20 years. Savings 0-10, at 40%, 11-20, at 80%.
- High efficiency 75% energy savings considered. Decades after year 20, 75% value from data table 142.68 Billion usd used.
- This graph showing Medium currency depreciation at 30% for 10 years.
- Double the savings and cumulated savings, considering offices, industrial, other buildings.

29 March 2024

100 years energy cost savings for usa at medium currency depreciation.

1. WO2017144950 - SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR ALTERING THE COLOR, APPEARANCE, OR FEEL OF FASHION ACCESSORY



PCT Biblio. Data Description Claims Drawings National Phase Notices Documents

PermaLink Machine translation

Publication Number
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CPC

A41D 27/08 A43B 1/0072 A43B 23/24
A43B 3/0078 A43B 3/242

Applicants

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Inventors

DEVATHI, Srinivas S

Priority Data

Publication Language

English [en]

Filing Language

English [en]

Designated States

View all

Title

[EN] SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR ALTERING THE COLOR, APPEARANCE, OR FEEL OF FASHION ACCESSORY
[FR] SYSTÈMES ET PROCÉDÉS PERMETTANT DE MODIFIER LA COULEUR, L'ASPECT OU LE TOUCHER D'UN ACCESSOIRE DE MODE

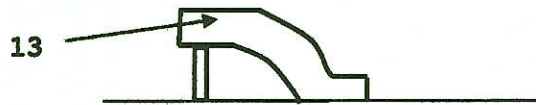


Figure 1B

Abstract

[EN] Systems and methods for altering the appearance and/or texture of a surface of a fashion accessory [e.g., garments, shoes, mannequin, bags, other], include installing a vest relative to the said surface area such that an exterior side of the vest, spaced from the said surface, defines a fluid-tight space between the said surface and the exterior side of the vest. Visual media can be provided into and from the fluid-tight space using one or more ports, the exterior side being at least partially transparent or translucent such that the visible media within the fluid-tight space are visible through the exterior side of the vest, thereby allowing the repeatable alteration of the appearance of the said surface. Additionally, the vest could be a single or multi-layered vest, could define more than one fluid tight space in relation to the said surface and could also be detachable or replaceable. In general, the same principle could be extended for altering the appearance and/or texture of at least a portion of any surface of any object.

[FR] L'invention concerne des systèmes et des procédés permettant de modifier l'aspect et/ou la texture d'une surface d'un accessoire de mode [par ex. des vêtements, des chaussures, un mannequin, des sacs ou autres], les procédés consistant à mettre en place une chemise par rapport à ladite surface, de telle sorte qu'un côté extérieur de la chemise, espacé de ladite surface, définit un espace étanche aux fluides entre ladite surface et le côté extérieur de la chemise. Des supports visuels peuvent être logés dans l'espace étanche aux fluides et fournis à partir de celui-ci par un ou plusieurs orifices, le côté extérieur étant au moins partiellement transparent ou translucide de sorte que les supports visuels à l'intérieur de l'espace étanche aux fluides sont visibles à travers le côté extérieur de la chemise, ce qui permet de modifier de manière répétée l'aspect de la surface. En outre, la chemise peut être une chemise à une ou plusieurs couches, peut définir plus d'un espace étanche aux fluides par rapport à ladite surface et peut être amovible ou remplaçable. En règle générale, le même principe peut être étendu afin de modifier l'aspect et/ou la texture d'au moins une partie de toute surface de tout objet.

Latest bibliographic data on file with the International Bureau



DSS-PCT005

1/5

PCT REQUEST

Print Out (Original in Electronic Form)

0	For receiving Office use only	
0-1	International Application No.	PCT/IB2016/050995
0-2	International Filing Date	24 February 2016 (24.02.2016)
0-3	Name of receiving Office and "PCT International Application"	RO/IB
0-4	Form PCT/RO/101 PCT Request	
0-4-1	Prepared Using	ePCT-Filing Version 3.2.008 MT/FOP 20151028/0.20.5.24
0-5	Petition The undersigned requests that the present international application be processed according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty	
0-6	Receiving Office (specified by the applicant)	International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization (RO/IB)
0-7	Applicant's or agent's file reference	DSS-PCT005
I	Title of Invention	SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR ALTERING THE COLOR, APPEARANCE, OR FEEL OF FASHION ACCESSORY
II	Applicant	
II-1	This person is	Applicant and inventor
II-2	Applicant for	All designated States
II-4	Name (LAST, First)	DEVATHI, Srinivas S
II-5	Address	63, 11th B Cross, 3rd Main, Prashanthnagar 560079 Bangalore India
II-6	State of nationality	IN
II-7	State of residence	IN
II-8	Telephone No.	91-9035894251
II-10	e-mail	sdevathi@satyainnovations.com
II-10(a)	E-mail authorization The receiving Office, the International Searching Authority, the International Bureau and the International Preliminary Examining Authority are authorized to use this e-mail address, if the Office or Authority so wishes, to send notifications issued in respect of this international application:	as advance copies followed by paper notifications

DSS-PCT005

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PCT REQUEST

Print Out (Original in Electronic Form)

V	DESIGNATIONS		
V-1	The filing of this request constitutes under Rule 4.9(a), the designation of all Contracting States bound by the PCT on the international filing date, for the grant of every kind of protection available and, where applicable, for the grant of both regional and national patents.		
VI-1	Priority Claim	NONE	
VII-1	International Searching Authority Chosen	Indian Patent Office (ISA/IN)	
VIII	Declarations	Number of declarations	
VIII-1	Declaration as to the identity of the inventor	1	
VIII-2	Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to apply for and be granted a patent	1	
VIII-3	Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to claim the priority of the earlier application	-	
VIII-4	Declaration of inventorship (only for the purposes of the designation of the United States of America)	-	
VIII-5	Declaration as to non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty	-	

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PCT REQUEST

Print Out (Original in Electronic Form)

VIII-1-1	Declaration: Identity of the Inventor Declaration as to the identity of the inventor (Rules 4.17(i) and 51bis.1(a)(i))	In relation to this international application
	Name (LAST, First) Address	DEVATHI, Srinivas S of 63, 11th B Cross, 3rd Main, Prashan- thnagar 560079 Bangalore India is the inventor of the subject matter for which protection is sought by way of this international application

DSS-PCT005

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PCT REQUEST

Print Out (Original in Electronic Form)

VIII-2-1	Declaration: Entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to apply for and be granted a patent (Rules 4.17(ii) and 51bis.1(a)(ii)), in a case where the declaration under Rule 4.17(iv) is not appropriate: Name (LAST, First)	In relation to this international application DEVATHI, Srinivas S is entitled to apply for and be granted a patent by virtue of the following:
VIII-2-1(i)		DEVATHI, Srinivas S of 63, 11th B Cross, 3rd Main, Prashan- thnagar 560079 Bangalore India is the inventor of the subject matter for which protection is sought by way of this international application

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PCT REQUEST

Print Out (Original in Electronic Form)

IX	Check list	Number of sheets	Electronic file(s) attached
IX-1	Request (including declaration sheets)	5	✓
IX-2	Description	23	✓
IX-3	Claims	15	✓
IX-4	Abstract	1	✓
IX-5	Drawings	4	✓
IX-7	TOTAL	48	
	Accompanying Items	Paper document(s) attached	Electronic file(s) attached
IX-8	Fee calculation sheet	-	✓
IX-20	Figure of the drawings which should accompany the abstract	1B	
IX-21	Language of filing of the international application	English	
IX-22	The receiving Office is requested to make this international application available to the Priority Document Access Service (DAS) (provided that an international application number and international filing date is accorded to this purported international application.)	Yes	
X-1	Signature of applicant, agent or common representative	/Srinivas S Devathi/	
X-1-1	Name (LAST, First)	DEVATHI, Srinivas S	
X-1-3	Capacity (if such capacity is not obvious from reading the request)		

FOR RECEIVING OFFICE USE ONLY

10-1	Date of actual receipt of the purported international application	24 February 2016 (24.02.2016)
10-2	Drawings:	
10-2-1	Received	
10-2-2	Not received	
10-3	Corrected date of actual receipt due to later but timely received papers or drawings completing the purported international application	
10-4	Date of timely receipt of the required corrections under PCT Article 11(2)	
10-5	International Searching Authority	ISA/IN
10-6	Transmittal of search copy delayed until search fee is paid	

FOR INTERNATIONAL BUREAU USE ONLY

11-1	Date of receipt of the record copy by the International Bureau	
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference DSS-PCT005	FOR FURTHER ACTION	see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.
International application No. PCT/IB2016/050995	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 24-02-2016	(Earliest) Priority Date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 24-02-2016
Applicant DEVATHI, SRINIVAS S		

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of:

- the international application in the language in which it was filed.
- a translation of the international application into _____ which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b)).

b. This international search report has been established taking into account the **rectification of an obvious mistake** authorized by or notified to this Authority under Rule 91 (Rule 43.6bis(a)).

c. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (see Box No. II).

3. **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box No. III).

4. With regard to the **title**,

- the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
- the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

- the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
- the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2, by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the **drawings**,

- a. the figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 1B
 - as suggested by the applicant.
 - as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.
 - as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.
- b. none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/IB2016/050995

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

Following are the group of inventions which are not related to

single general inventive concept and lacks unity of invention as per Rules 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3 of PCT.

Group-1: 1-21,

Group-2: 22-33,

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
1-21

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/IB2016/050995
--

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER B60J10/00, F17C13/00 Version=2016.01 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) B60J, F17C 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 practicable, search terms used) Patseer, IPO Internal Database		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US8910998B1 (Srinivas S. Devathi) December 16, 2014 Whole document	1-21
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international 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) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "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 invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to 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 documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art "&" document member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search 16-08-2016		Date of mailing of the international search report 16-08-2016
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Indian Patent Office Plot No.32, Sector 14, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075 Facsimile No.		Authorized officer Arun Kumar Pardhan Telephone No. +91-1125300200

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/IB2016/050995

Continuation of Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Box III)

Group-3: 34-36,

Group-4: 37-38,

Group-5: 39-59,

Group-6: 60-71,

Group-7: 72-74,

Group-8: 75-76.

The feature "A vest which is foldable, stretchable and can be secured on exterior surface of object; fluid tight space is maintained between surface of object and the vest" is the common technical feature among group of inventions mentioned above. In view of document D1: US8910998B1 (Published on Dec 16, 2014) the said common technical feature is not novel. There is no special technical feature (STF) common to all the group of inventions. Hence, application lacks unity.

Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)

Done at Washington on June 19, 1970,
amended on September 28, 1979,
modified on February 3, 1984, and on October 3, 2001



Patent Cooperation Treaty

Editor's Note: For details concerning amendments and modifications to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), and for access to decisions of the Assembly of the International Patent Cooperation Union (PCT Assembly) concerning their entry into force and transitional arrangements, reference should be made to the relevant reports of the PCT Assembly available from the International Bureau or via the WIPO website at: www.wipo.int/pct/en/meetings/assemblies/reports.htm.

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Patent Cooperation Treaty

Patent Cooperation Treaty

Done at Washington on June 19, 1970,
amended on September 28, 1979,
modified on February 3, 1984, and on October 3, 2001

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Patent Cooperation Treaty

The Contracting States,

Desiring to make a contribution to the progress of science and technology,

Desiring to perfect the legal protection of inventions,

Desiring to simplify and render more economical the obtaining of protection for inventions where protection is sought in several countries,

Desiring to facilitate and accelerate access by the public to the technical information contained in documents describing new inventions,

Desiring to foster and accelerate the economic development of developing countries through the adoption of measures designed to increase the efficiency of their legal systems, whether national or regional, instituted for the protection of inventions by providing easily accessible information on the availability of technological solutions applicable to their special needs and by facilitating access to the ever expanding volume of modern technology,

Convinced that cooperation among nations will greatly facilitate the attainment of these aims,

Have concluded the present Treaty.

Patent Cooperation Treaty

INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS

Article 1

Establishment of a Union

(1) The States party to this Treaty (hereinafter called “the Contracting States”) constitute a Union for cooperation in the filing, searching, and examination, of applications for the protection of inventions, and for rendering special technical services. The Union shall be known as the International Patent Cooperation Union.

(2) No provision of this Treaty shall be interpreted as diminishing the rights under the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property of any national or resident of any country party to that Convention.

Article 2

Definitions

For the purposes of this Treaty and the Regulations and unless expressly stated otherwise:

(i) “application” means an application for the protection of an invention; references to an “application” shall be construed as references to applications for patents for inventions, inventors’ certificates, utility certificates, utility models, patents or certificates of addition, inventors’ certificates of addition, and utility certificates of addition;

(ii) references to a “patent” shall be construed as references to patents for inventions, inventors’ certificates, utility certificates, utility models, patents or certificates of addition, inventors’ certificates of addition, and utility certificates of addition;

(iii) “national patent” means a patent granted by a national authority;

(iv) “regional patent” means a patent granted by a national or an intergovernmental authority having the power to grant patents effective in more than one State;

(v) “regional application” means an application for a regional patent;

(vi) references to a “national application” shall be construed as references to applications for national patents and regional patents, other than applications filed under this Treaty;

(vii) “international application” means an application filed under this Treaty;

Patent Cooperation Treaty

(viii) references to an “application” shall be construed as references to international applications and national applications;

(ix) references to a “patent” shall be construed as references to national patents and regional patents;

(x) references to “national law” shall be construed as references to the national law of a Contracting State or, where a regional application or a regional patent is involved, to the treaty providing for the filing of regional applications or the granting of regional patents;

(xi) “priority date,” for the purposes of computing time limits, means:

(a) where the international application contains a priority claim under Article 8, the filing date of the application whose priority is so claimed;

(b) where the international application contains several priority claims under Article 8, the filing date of the earliest application whose priority is so claimed;

(c) where the international application does not contain any priority claim under Article 8, the international filing date of such application;

(xii) “national Office” means the government authority of a Contracting State entrusted with the granting of patents; references to a “national Office” shall be construed as referring also to any intergovernmental authority which several States have entrusted with the task of granting regional patents, provided that at least one of those States is a Contracting State, and provided that the said States have authorized that authority to assume the obligations and exercise the powers which this Treaty and the Regulations provide for in respect of national Offices;

(xiii) “designated Office” means the national Office of or acting for the State designated by the applicant under Chapter I of this Treaty;

(xiv) “elected Office” means the national Office of or acting for the State elected by the applicant under Chapter II of this Treaty;

(xv) “receiving Office” means the national Office or the intergovernmental organization with which the international application has been filed;

(xvi) “Union” means the International Patent Cooperation Union;

(xvii) “Assembly” means the Assembly of the Union;

(xviii) “Organization” means the World Intellectual Property Organization;

(xix) “International Bureau” means the International Bureau of the Organization and, as long as it subsists, the United International Bureaux for the Protection of Intellectual Property (BIRPI);

Patent Cooperation Treaty

(xx) “Director General” means the Director General of the Organization and, as long as BIRPI subsists, the Director of BIRPI.

CHAPTER I
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION AND INTERNATIONAL SEARCH

Article 3
The International Application

(1) Applications for the protection of inventions in any of the Contracting States may be filed as international applications under this Treaty.

(2) An international application shall contain, as specified in this Treaty and the Regulations, a request, a description, one or more claims, one or more drawings (where required), and an abstract.

(3) The abstract merely serves the purpose of technical information and cannot be taken into account for any other purpose, particularly not for the purpose of interpreting the scope of the protection sought.

(4) The international application shall:

- (i) be in a prescribed language;
- (ii) comply with the prescribed physical requirements;
- (iii) comply with the prescribed requirement of unity of invention;
- (iv) be subject to the payment of the prescribed fees.

Article 4
The Request

(1) The request shall contain:

(i) a petition to the effect that the international application be processed according to this Treaty;

(ii) the designation of the Contracting State or States in which protection for the invention is desired on the basis of the international application (“designated States”); if for any designated State a regional patent is available and the applicant wishes to obtain a regional patent rather than a national patent, the request shall so indicate; if, under a treaty concerning a regional patent, the applicant cannot limit his application to certain of the States party to that treaty, designation of one of those States and the indication of the wish to obtain the regional patent shall be treated as designation of all the States party to that treaty; if, under the national law of the designated State, the designation of that State has the effect of an application for a regional patent, the

Patent Cooperation Treaty

designation of the said State shall be treated as an indication of the wish to obtain the regional patent;

(iii) the name of and other prescribed data concerning the applicant and the agent (if any);

(iv) the title of the invention;

(v) the name of and other prescribed data concerning the inventor where the national law of at least one of the designated States requires that these indications be furnished at the time of filing a national application. Otherwise, the said indications may be furnished either in the request or in separate notices addressed to each designated Office whose national law requires the furnishing of the said indications but allows that they be furnished at a time later than that of the filing of a national application.

(2) Every designation shall be subject to the payment of the prescribed fee within the prescribed time limit.

(3) Unless the applicant asks for any of the other kinds of protection referred to in Article 43, designation shall mean that the desired protection consists of the grant of a patent by or for the designated State. For the purposes of this paragraph, Article 2(ii) shall not apply.

(4) Failure to indicate in the request the name and other prescribed data concerning the inventor shall have no consequence in any designated State whose national law requires the furnishing of the said indications but allows that they be furnished at a time later than that of the filing of a national application. Failure to furnish the said indications in a separate notice shall have no consequence in any designated State whose national law does not require the furnishing of the said indications.

Article 5
The Description

The description shall disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for the invention to be carried out by a person skilled in the art.

Article 6
The Claims

The claim or claims shall define the matter for which protection is sought. Claims shall be clear and concise. They shall be fully supported by the description.

Article 7
The Drawings

(1) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (2)(ii), drawings shall be required when they are necessary for the understanding of the invention.

(2) Where, without being necessary for the understanding of the invention, the nature of the invention admits of illustration by drawings:

(i) the applicant may include such drawings in the international application when filed,

(ii) any designated Office may require that the applicant file such drawings with it within the prescribed time limit.

Article 8
Claiming Priority

(1) The international application may contain a declaration, as prescribed in the Regulations, claiming the priority of one or more earlier applications filed in or for any country party to the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property.

(2)(a) Subject to the provisions of subparagraph (b), the conditions for, and the effect of, any priority claim declared under paragraph (1) shall be as provided in Article 4 of the Stockholm Act of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property.

(b) The international application for which the priority of one or more earlier applications filed in or for a Contracting State is claimed may contain the designation of that State. Where, in the international application, the priority of one or more national applications filed in or for a designated State is claimed, or where the priority of an international application having designated only one State is claimed, the conditions for, and the effect of, the priority claim in that State shall be governed by the national law of that State.

Article 9
The Applicant

(1) Any resident or national of a Contracting State may file an international application.

(2) The Assembly may decide to allow the residents and the nationals of any country party to the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property which is not party to this Treaty to file international applications.

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(3) The concepts of residence and nationality, and the application of those concepts in cases where there are several applicants or where the applicants are not the same for all the designated States, are defined in the Regulations.

Article 10
The Receiving Office

The international application shall be filed with the prescribed receiving Office, which will check and process it as provided in this Treaty and the Regulations.

Article 11
Filing Date and Effects of the International Application

(1) The receiving Office shall accord as the international filing date the date of receipt of the international application, provided that that Office has found that, at the time of receipt:

(i) the applicant does not obviously lack, for reasons of residence or nationality, the right to file an international application with the receiving Office,

(ii) the international application is in the prescribed language,

(iii) the international application contains at least the following elements:

(a) an indication that it is intended as an international application,

(b) the designation of at least one Contracting State,

(c) the name of the applicant, as prescribed,

(d) a part which on the face of it appears to be a description,

(e) a part which on the face of it appears to be a claim or claims.

(2)(a) If the receiving Office finds that the international application did not, at the time of receipt, fulfill the requirements listed in paragraph (1), it shall, as provided in the Regulations, invite the applicant to file the required correction.

(b) If the applicant complies with the invitation, as provided in the Regulations, the receiving Office shall accord as the international filing date the date of receipt of the required correction.

(3) Subject to Article 64(4), any international application fulfilling the requirements listed in items (i) to (iii) of paragraph (1) and accorded an international filing date shall have the effect of a regular national application in each designated State as of the international filing date, which date shall be considered to be the actual filing date in each designated State.

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(4) Any international application fulfilling the requirements listed in items (i) to (iii) of paragraph (1) shall be equivalent to a regular national filing within the meaning of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property.

Article 12

Transmittal of the International Application to the International Bureau and the International Searching Authority

(1) One copy of the international application shall be kept by the receiving Office ("home copy"), one copy ("record copy") shall be transmitted to the International Bureau, and another copy ("search copy") shall be transmitted to the competent International Searching Authority referred to in Article 16, as provided in the Regulations.

(2) The record copy shall be considered the true copy of the international application.

(3) The international application shall be considered withdrawn if the record copy has not been received by the International Bureau within the prescribed time limit.

Article 13

Availability of Copy of the International Application to Designated Offices

(1) Any designated Office may ask the International Bureau to transmit to it a copy of the international application prior to the communication provided for in Article 20, and the International Bureau shall transmit such copy to the designated Office as soon as possible after the expiration of one year from the priority date.

(2)(a) The applicant may, at any time, transmit a copy of his international application to any designated Office.

(b) The applicant may, at any time, ask the International Bureau to transmit a copy of his international application to any designated Office, and the International Bureau shall transmit such copy to the designated Office as soon as possible.

(c) Any national Office may notify the International Bureau that it does not wish to receive copies as provided for in subparagraph (b), in which case that subparagraph shall not be applicable in respect of that Office.

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Article 14
Certain Defects in the International Application

(1)(a) The receiving Office shall check whether the international application contains any of the following defects, that is to say:

- (i) it is not signed as provided in the Regulations;
- (ii) it does not contain the prescribed indications concerning the applicant;
- (iii) it does not contain a title;
- (iv) it does not contain an abstract;
- (v) it does not comply to the extent provided in the Regulations with the prescribed physical requirements.

(b) If the receiving Office finds any of the said defects, it shall invite the applicant to correct the international application within the prescribed time limit, failing which that application shall be considered withdrawn and the receiving Office shall so declare.

(2) If the international application refers to drawings which, in fact, are not included in that application, the receiving Office shall notify the applicant accordingly and he may furnish them within the prescribed time limit and, if he does, the international filing date shall be the date on which the drawings are received by the receiving Office. Otherwise, any reference to the said drawings shall be considered non-existent.

(3)(a) If the receiving Office finds that, within the prescribed time limits, the fees prescribed under Article 3(4)(iv) have not been paid, or no fee prescribed under Article 4(2) has been paid in respect of any of the designated States, the international application shall be considered withdrawn and the receiving Office shall so declare.

(b) If the receiving Office finds that the fee prescribed under Article 4(2) has been paid in respect of one or more (but less than all) designated States within the prescribed time limit, the designation of those States in respect of which it has not been paid within the prescribed time limit shall be considered withdrawn and the receiving Office shall so declare.

(4) If, after having accorded an international filing date to the international application, the receiving Office finds, within the prescribed time limit, that any of the requirements listed in items (i) to (iii) of Article 11(1) was not complied with at that date, the said application shall be considered withdrawn and the receiving Office shall so declare.



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Article 15
The International Search

(1) Each international application shall be the subject of international search.

(2) The objective of the international search is to discover relevant prior art.

(3) International search shall be made on the basis of the claims, with due regard to the description and the drawings (if any).

(4) The International Searching Authority referred to in Article 16 shall endeavor to discover as much of the relevant prior art as its facilities permit, and shall, in any case, consult the documentation specified in the Regulations.

(5)(a) If the national law of the Contracting State so permits, the applicant who files a national application with the national Office of or acting for such State may, subject to the conditions provided for in such law, request that a search similar to an international search (“international-type search”) be carried out on such application.

(b) If the national law of the Contracting State so permits, the national Office of or acting for such State may subject any national application filed with it to an international-type search.

(c) The international-type search shall be carried out by the International Searching Authority referred to in Article 16 which would be competent for an international search if the national application were an international application and were filed with the Office referred to in subparagraphs (a) and (b). If the national application is in a language which the International Searching Authority considers it is not equipped to handle, the international-type search shall be carried out on a translation prepared by the applicant in a language prescribed for international applications and which the International Searching Authority has undertaken to accept for international applications. The national application and the translation, when required, shall be presented in the form prescribed for international applications.

Article 16
The International Searching Authority

(1) International search shall be carried out by an International Searching Authority, which may be either a national Office or an intergovernmental organization, such as the International Patent Institute, whose tasks include the establishing of documentary search reports on prior art with respect to inventions which are the subject of applications.

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(2) If, pending the establishment of a single International Searching Authority, there are several International Searching Authorities, each receiving Office shall, in accordance with the provisions of the applicable agreement referred to in paragraph (3)(b), specify the International Searching Authority or Authorities competent for the searching of international applications filed with such Office.

(3)(a) International Searching Authorities shall be appointed by the Assembly. Any national Office and any intergovernmental organization satisfying the requirements referred to in subparagraph (c) may be appointed as International Searching Authority.

(b) Appointment shall be conditional on the consent of the national Office or intergovernmental organization to be appointed and the conclusion of an agreement, subject to approval by the Assembly, between such Office or organization and the International Bureau. The agreement shall specify the rights and obligations of the parties, in particular, the formal undertaking by the said Office or organization to apply and observe all the common rules of international search.

(c) The Regulations prescribe the minimum requirements, particularly as to manpower and documentation, which any Office or organization must satisfy before it can be appointed and must continue to satisfy while it remains appointed.

(d) Appointment shall be for a fixed period of time and may be extended for further periods.

(e) Before the Assembly makes a decision on the appointment of any national Office or intergovernmental organization, or on the extension of its appointment, or before it allows any such appointment to lapse, the Assembly shall hear the interested Office or organization and seek the advice of the Committee for Technical Cooperation referred to in Article 56 once that Committee has been established.

Article 17

Procedure before the International Searching Authority

(1) Procedure before the International Searching Authority shall be governed by the provisions of this Treaty, the Regulations, and the agreement which the International Bureau shall conclude, subject to this Treaty and the Regulations, with the said Authority.

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(2)(a) If the International Searching Authority considers

- (i) that the international application relates to a subject matter which the International Searching Authority is not required, under the Regulations, to search, and in the particular case decides not to search, or
- (ii) that the description, the claims, or the drawings, fail to comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that a meaningful search could not be carried out,

the said Authority shall so declare and shall notify the applicant and the International Bureau that no international search report will be established.

(b) If any of the situations referred to in subparagraph (a) is found to exist in connection with certain claims only, the international search report shall so indicate in respect of such claims, whereas, for the other claims, the said report shall be established as provided in Article 18.

(3)(a) If the International Searching Authority considers that the international application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention as set forth in the Regulations, it shall invite the applicant to pay additional fees. The International Searching Authority shall establish the international search report on those parts of the international application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims ("main invention") and, provided the required additional fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit, on those parts of the international application which relate to inventions in respect of which the said fees were paid.

(b) The national law of any designated State may provide that, where the national Office of that State finds the invitation, referred to in subparagraph (a), of the International Searching Authority justified and where the applicant has not paid all additional fees, those parts of the international application which consequently have not been searched shall, as far as effects in that State are concerned, be considered withdrawn unless a special fee is paid by the applicant to the national Office of that State.

Article 18

The International Search Report

(1) The international search report shall be established within the prescribed time limit and in the prescribed form.

(2) The international search report shall, as soon as it has been established, be transmitted by the International Searching Authority to the applicant and the International Bureau.

(3) The international search report or the declaration referred to in Article 17(2)(a) shall be translated as provided in the Regulations. The translations shall be prepared by or under the responsibility of the International Bureau.

Article 19

Amendment of the Claims before the International Bureau

(1) The applicant shall, after having received the international search report, be entitled to one opportunity to amend the claims of the international application by filing amendments with the International Bureau within the prescribed time limit. He may, at the same time, file a brief statement, as provided in the Regulations, explaining the amendments and indicating any impact that such amendments might have on the description and the drawings.

(2) The amendments shall not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed.

(3) If the national law of any designated State permits amendments to go beyond the said disclosure, failure to comply with paragraph (2) shall have no consequence in that State.

Article 20

Communication to Designated Offices

(1)(a) The international application, together with the international search report (including any indication referred to in Article 17(2)(b)) or the declaration referred to in Article 17(2)(a), shall be communicated to each designated Office, as provided in the Regulations, unless the designated Office waives such requirement in its entirety or in part.

(b) The communication shall include the translation (as prescribed) of the said report or declaration.

(2) If the claims have been amended by virtue of Article 19(1), the communication shall either contain the full text of the claims both as filed and as amended or shall contain the full text of the claims as filed and specify the amendments, and shall include the statement, if any, referred to in Article 19(1).

(3) At the request of the designated Office or the applicant, the International Searching Authority shall send to the said Office or the applicant, respectively, copies of the documents cited in the international search report, as provided in the Regulations.

Article 21
International Publication

(1) The International Bureau shall publish international applications.

(2)(a) Subject to the exceptions provided for in subparagraph (b) and in Article 64(3), the international publication of the international application shall be effected promptly after the expiration of 18 months from the priority date of that application.

(b) The applicant may ask the International Bureau to publish his international application any time before the expiration of the time limit referred to in subparagraph (a). The International Bureau shall proceed accordingly, as provided in the Regulations.

(3) The international search report or the declaration referred to in Article 17(2)(a) shall be published as prescribed in the Regulations.

(4) The language and form of the international publication and other details are governed by the Regulations.

(5) There shall be no international publication if the international application is withdrawn or is considered withdrawn before the technical preparations for publication have been completed.

(6) If the international application contains expressions or drawings which, in the opinion of the International Bureau, are contrary to morality or public order, or if, in its opinion, the international application contains disparaging statements as defined in the Regulations, it may omit such expressions, drawings, and statements, from its publications, indicating the place and number of words or drawings omitted, and furnishing, upon request, individual copies of the passages omitted.

Article 22
Copy, Translation, and Fee, to Designated Offices

(1) The applicant shall furnish a copy of the international application (unless the communication provided for in Article 20 has already taken place) and a translation thereof (as prescribed), and pay the national fee (if any), to

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each designated Office not later than at the expiration of 30¹ months from the priority date. Where the national law of the designated State requires the indication of the name of and other prescribed data concerning the inventor but allows that these indications be furnished at a time later than that of the filing of a national application, the applicant shall, unless they were contained in the request, furnish the said indications to the national Office of or acting for the State not later than at the expiration of 30¹ months from the priority date.

(2) Where the International Searching Authority makes a declaration, under Article 17(2)(a), that no international search report will be established, the time limit for performing the acts referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article shall be the same as that provided for in paragraph (1).

(3) Any national law may, for performing the acts referred to in paragraphs (1) or (2), fix time limits which expire later than the time limit provided for in those paragraphs.

Article 23

Delaying of National Procedure

(1) No designated Office shall process or examine the international application prior to the expiration of the applicable time limit under Article 22.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1), any designated Office may, on the express request of the applicant, process or examine the international application at any time.

Article 24

Possible Loss of Effect in Designated States

(1) Subject, in case (ii) below, to the provisions of Article 25, the effect of the international application provided for in Article 11(3) shall cease in any designated State with the same consequences as the withdrawal of any national application in that State:

(i) if the applicant withdraws his international application or the designation of that State;

¹ *Editor's Note:* The 30-month time limit, as in force from April 1, 2002, does not apply in respect of any designated Office which has notified the International Bureau of incompatibility with the national law applied by that Office. The 20-month time limit, as in force until March 31, 2002, continues to apply after that date in respect of any such designated Office for as long as Article 22(1), as modified, continues not to be compatible with the applicable national law. Information received by the International Bureau concerning any such incompatibility is published in the Gazette and on the WIPO website at: www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/reservations/res_incomp.html.

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(ii) if the international application is considered withdrawn by virtue of Articles 12(3), 14(1)(b), 14(3)(a), or 14(4), or if the designation of that State is considered withdrawn by virtue of Article 14(3)(b);

(iii) if the applicant fails to perform the acts referred to in Article 22 within the applicable time limit.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1), any designated Office may maintain the effect provided for in Article 11(3) even where such effect is not required to be maintained by virtue of Article 25(2).

Article 25

Review by Designated Offices

(1)(a) Where the receiving Office has refused to accord an international filing date or has declared that the international application is considered withdrawn, or where the International Bureau has made a finding under Article 12(3), the International Bureau shall promptly send, at the request of the applicant, copies of any document in the file to any of the designated Offices named by the applicant.

(b) Where the receiving Office has declared that the designation of any given State is considered withdrawn, the International Bureau shall promptly send, at the request of the applicant, copies of any document in the file to the national Office of such State.

(c) The request under subparagraphs (a) or (b) shall be presented within the prescribed time limit.

(2)(a) Subject to the provisions of subparagraph (b), each designated Office shall, provided that the national fee (if any) has been paid and the appropriate translation (as prescribed) has been furnished within the prescribed time limit, decide whether the refusal, declaration, or finding, referred to in paragraph (1) was justified under the provisions of this Treaty and the Regulations, and, if it finds that the refusal or declaration was the result of an error or omission on the part of the receiving Office or that the finding was the result of an error or omission on the part of the International Bureau, it shall, as far as effects in the State of the designated Office are concerned, treat the international application as if such error or omission had not occurred.

(b) Where the record copy has reached the International Bureau after the expiration of the time limit prescribed under Article 12(3) on account of any error or omission on the part of the applicant, the provisions of subparagraph (a) shall apply only under the circumstances referred to in Article 48(2).

Article 26

Opportunity to Correct before Designated Offices

No designated Office shall reject an international application on the grounds of non-compliance with the requirements of this Treaty and the Regulations without first giving the applicant the opportunity to correct the said application to the extent and according to the procedure provided by the national law for the same or comparable situations in respect of national applications.

Article 27

National Requirements

(1) No national law shall require compliance with requirements relating to the form or contents of the international application different from or additional to those which are provided for in this Treaty and the Regulations.

(2) The provisions of paragraph (1) neither affect the application of the provisions of Article 7(2) nor preclude any national law from requiring, once the processing of the international application has started in the designated Office, the furnishing:

(i) when the applicant is a legal entity, of the name of an officer entitled to represent such legal entity,

(ii) of documents not part of the international application but which constitute proof of allegations or statements made in that application, including the confirmation of the international application by the signature of the applicant when that application, as filed, was signed by his representative or agent.

(3) Where the applicant, for the purposes of any designated State, is not qualified according to the national law of that State to file a national application because he is not the inventor, the international application may be rejected by the designated Office.

(4) Where the national law provides, in respect of the form or contents of national applications, for requirements which, from the viewpoint of applicants, are more favorable than the requirements provided for by this Treaty and the Regulations in respect of international applications, the national Office, the courts and any other competent organs of or acting for the designated State may apply the former requirements, instead of the latter requirements, to international applications, except where the applicant insists that the requirements provided for by this Treaty and the Regulations be applied to his international application.

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(5) Nothing in this Treaty and the Regulations is intended to be construed as prescribing anything that would limit the freedom of each Contracting State to prescribe such substantive conditions of patentability as it desires. In particular, any provision in this Treaty and the Regulations concerning the definition of prior art is exclusively for the purposes of the international procedure and, consequently, any Contracting State is free to apply, when determining the patentability of an invention claimed in an international application, the criteria of its national law in respect of prior art and other conditions of patentability not constituting requirements as to the form and contents of applications.

(6) The national law may require that the applicant furnish evidence in respect of any substantive condition of patentability prescribed by such law.

(7) Any receiving Office or, once the processing of the international application has started in the designated Office, that Office may apply the national law as far as it relates to any requirement that the applicant be represented by an agent having the right to represent applicants before the said Office and/or that the applicant have an address in the designated State for the purpose of receiving notifications.

(8) Nothing in this Treaty and the Regulations is intended to be construed as limiting the freedom of any Contracting State to apply measures deemed necessary for the preservation of its national security or to limit, for the protection of the general economic interests of that State, the right of its own residents or nationals to file international applications.

Article 28

**Amendment of the Claims, the Description,
and the Drawings, before Designated Offices**

(1) The applicant shall be given the opportunity to amend the claims, the description, and the drawings, before each designated Office within the prescribed time limit. No designated Office shall grant a patent, or refuse the grant of a patent, before such time limit has expired except with the express consent of the applicant.

(2) The amendments shall not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed unless the national law of the designated State permits them to go beyond the said disclosure.

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(3) The amendments shall be in accordance with the national law of the designated State in all respects not provided for in this Treaty and the Regulations.

(4) Where the designated Office requires a translation of the international application, the amendments shall be in the language of the translation.

Article 29
Effects of the International Publication

(1) As far as the protection of any rights of the applicant in a designated State is concerned, the effects, in that State, of the international publication of an international application shall, subject to the provisions of paragraphs (2) to (4), be the same as those which the national law of the designated State provides for the compulsory national publication of unexamined national applications as such.

(2) If the language in which the international publication has been effected is different from the language in which publications under the national law are effected in the designated State, the said national law may provide that the effects provided for in paragraph (1) shall be applicable only from such time as:

(i) a translation into the latter language has been published as provided by the national law, or

(ii) a translation into the latter language has been made available to the public, by laying open for public inspection as provided by the national law, or

(iii) a translation into the latter language has been transmitted by the applicant to the actual or prospective unauthorized user of the invention claimed in the international application, or

(iv) both the acts described in (i) and (iii), or both the acts described in (ii) and (iii), have taken place.

(3) The national law of any designated State may provide that, where the international publication has been effected, on the request of the applicant, before the expiration of 18 months from the priority date, the effects provided for in paragraph (1) shall be applicable only from the expiration of 18 months from the priority date.

(4) The national law of any designated State may provide that the effects provided for in paragraph (1) shall be applicable only from the date on which a copy of the international application as published under Article 21 has been received in the national Office of or acting for such State. The said Office shall publish the date of receipt in its gazette as soon as possible.

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Article 30

Confidential Nature of the International Application

(1)(a) Subject to the provisions of subparagraph (b), the International Bureau and the International Searching Authorities shall not allow access by any person or authority to the international application before the international publication of that application, unless requested or authorized by the applicant.

(b) The provisions of subparagraph (a) shall not apply to any transmittal to the competent International Searching Authority, to transmittals provided for under Article 13, and to communications provided for under Article 20.

(2)(a) No national Office shall allow access to the international application by third parties, unless requested or authorized by the applicant, before the earliest of the following dates:

(i) date of the international publication of the international application,

(ii) date of the receipt of the communication of the international application under Article 20,

(iii) date of the receipt of a copy of the international application under Article 22.

(b) The provisions of subparagraph (a) shall not prevent any national Office from informing third parties that it has been designated, or from publishing that fact. Such information or publication may, however, contain only the following data: identification of the receiving Office, name of the applicant, international filing date, international application number, and title of the invention.

(c) The provisions of subparagraph (a) shall not prevent any designated Office from allowing access to the international application for the purposes of the judicial authorities.

(3) The provisions of paragraph (2)(a) shall apply to any receiving Office except as far as transmittals provided for under Article 12(1) are concerned.

(4) For the purposes of this Article, the term "access" covers any means by which third parties may acquire cognizance, including individual communication and general publication, provided, however, that no national Office shall generally publish an international application or its translation before the international publication or, if international publication has not taken place by the expiration of 20 months from the priority date, before the expiration of 20 months from the said priority date.

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CHAPTER II
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION

Article 31
Demand for International Preliminary Examination

(1) On the demand of the applicant, his international application shall be the subject of an international preliminary examination as provided in the following provisions and the Regulations.

(2)(a) Any applicant who is a resident or national, as defined in the Regulations, of a Contracting State bound by Chapter II, and whose international application has been filed with the receiving Office of or acting for such State, may make a demand for international preliminary examination.

(b) The Assembly may decide to allow persons entitled to file international applications to make a demand for international preliminary examination even if they are residents or nationals of a State not party to this Treaty or not bound by Chapter II.

(3) The demand for international preliminary examination shall be made separately from the international application. The demand shall contain the prescribed particulars and shall be in the prescribed language and form.

(4)(a) The demand shall indicate the Contracting State or States in which the applicant intends to use the results of the international preliminary examination ("elected States"). Additional Contracting States may be elected later. Election may relate only to Contracting States already designated under Article 4.

(b) Applicants referred to in paragraph (2)(a) may elect any Contracting State bound by Chapter II. Applicants referred to in paragraph (2)(b) may elect only such Contracting States bound by Chapter II as have declared that they are prepared to be elected by such applicants.

(5) The demand shall be subject to the payment of the prescribed fees within the prescribed time limit.

(6)(a) The demand shall be submitted to the competent International Preliminary Examining Authority referred to in Article 32.

(b) Any later election shall be submitted to the International Bureau.

(7) Each elected Office shall be notified of its election.

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Article 32

The International Preliminary Examining Authority

(1) International preliminary examination shall be carried out by the International Preliminary Examining Authority.

(2) In the case of demands referred to in Article 31(2)(a), the receiving Office, and, in the case of demands referred to in Article 31(2)(b), the Assembly, shall, in accordance with the applicable agreement between the interested International Preliminary Examining Authority or Authorities and the International Bureau, specify the International Preliminary Examining Authority or Authorities competent for the preliminary examination.

(3) The provisions of Article 16(3) shall apply, *mutatis mutandis*, in respect of International Preliminary Examining Authorities.

Article 33

The International Preliminary Examination

(1) The objective of the international preliminary examination is to formulate a preliminary and non-binding opinion on the questions whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non-obvious), and to be industrially applicable.

(2) For the purposes of the international preliminary examination, a claimed invention shall be considered novel if it is not anticipated by the prior art as defined in the Regulations.

(3) For the purposes of the international preliminary examination, a claimed invention shall be considered to involve an inventive step if, having regard to the prior art as defined in the Regulations, it is not, at the prescribed relevant date, obvious to a person skilled in the art.

(4) For the purposes of the international preliminary examination, a claimed invention shall be considered industrially applicable if, according to its nature, it can be made or used (in the technological sense) in any kind of industry. "Industry" shall be understood in its broadest sense, as in the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property.

(5) The criteria described above merely serve the purposes of international preliminary examination. Any Contracting State may apply additional or different criteria for the purpose of deciding whether, in that State, the claimed invention is patentable or not.

(6) The international preliminary examination shall take into consideration all the documents cited in the international search report. It may take into

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consideration any additional documents considered to be relevant in the particular case.

Article 34

Procedure before the International Preliminary Examining Authority

(1) Procedure before the International Preliminary Examining Authority shall be governed by the provisions of this Treaty, the Regulations, and the agreement which the International Bureau shall conclude, subject to this Treaty and the Regulations, with the said Authority.

(2)(a) The applicant shall have a right to communicate orally and in writing with the International Preliminary Examining Authority.

(b) The applicant shall have a right to amend the claims, the description, and the drawings, in the prescribed manner and within the prescribed time limit, before the international preliminary examination report is established. The amendment shall not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed.

(c) The applicant shall receive at least one written opinion from the International Preliminary Examining Authority unless such Authority considers that all of the following conditions are fulfilled:

- (i) the invention satisfies the criteria set forth in Article 33(1),
- (ii) the international application complies with the requirements of this Treaty and the Regulations in so far as checked by that Authority,
- (iii) no observations are intended to be made under Article 35(2), last sentence.

(d) The applicant may respond to the written opinion.

(3)(a) If the International Preliminary Examining Authority considers that the international application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention as set forth in the Regulations, it may invite the applicant, at his option, to restrict the claims so as to comply with the requirement or to pay additional fees.

(b) The national law of any elected State may provide that, where the applicant chooses to restrict the claims under subparagraph (a), those parts of the international application which, as a consequence of the restriction, are not to be the subject of international preliminary examination shall, as far as effects in that State are concerned, be considered withdrawn unless a special fee is paid by the applicant to the national Office of that State.

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(c) If the applicant does not comply with the invitation referred to in subparagraph (a) within the prescribed time limit, the International Preliminary Examining Authority shall establish an international preliminary examination report on those parts of the international application which relate to what appears to be the main invention and shall indicate the relevant facts in the said report. The national law of any elected State may provide that, where its national Office finds the invitation of the International Preliminary Examining Authority justified, those parts of the international application which do not relate to the main invention shall, as far as effects in that State are concerned, be considered withdrawn unless a special fee is paid by the applicant to that Office.

(4)(a) If the International Preliminary Examining Authority considers

- (i) that the international application relates to a subject matter on which the International Preliminary Examining Authority is not required, under the Regulations, to carry out an international preliminary examination, and in the particular case decides not to carry out such examination, or
- (ii) that the description, the claims, or the drawings, are so unclear, or the claims are so inadequately supported by the description, that no meaningful opinion can be formed on the novelty, inventive step (non-obviousness), or industrial applicability, of the claimed invention,

the said Authority shall not go into the questions referred to in Article 33(1) and shall inform the applicant of this opinion and the reasons therefor.

(b) If any of the situations referred to in subparagraph (a) is found to exist in, or in connection with, certain claims only, the provisions of that subparagraph shall apply only to the said claims.

Article 35

The International Preliminary Examination Report

(1) The international preliminary examination report shall be established within the prescribed time limit and in the prescribed form.

(2) The international preliminary examination report shall not contain any statement on the question whether the claimed invention is or seems to be patentable or unpatentable according to any national law. It shall state, subject to the provisions of paragraph (3), in relation to each claim, whether the claim appears to satisfy the criteria of novelty, inventive step (non-obviousness), and industrial applicability, as defined for the purposes of the international preliminary examination in Article 33(1) to (4). The statement shall be accompanied by the citation of the documents believed to support the stated

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conclusion with such explanations as the circumstances of the case may require. The statement shall also be accompanied by such other observations as the Regulations provide for.

(3)(a) If, at the time of establishing the international preliminary examination report, the International Preliminary Examining Authority considers that any of the situations referred to in Article 34(4)(a) exists, that report shall state this opinion and the reasons therefor. It shall not contain any statement as provided in paragraph (2).

(b) If a situation under Article 34(4)(b) is found to exist, the international preliminary examination report shall, in relation to the claims in question, contain the statement as provided in subparagraph (a), whereas, in relation to the other claims, it shall contain the statement as provided in paragraph (2).

Article 36
Transmittal, Translation, and Communication,
of the International Preliminary Examination Report

(1) The international preliminary examination report, together with the prescribed annexes, shall be transmitted to the applicant and to the International Bureau.

(2)(a) The international preliminary examination report and its annexes shall be translated into the prescribed languages.

(b) Any translation of the said report shall be prepared by or under the responsibility of the International Bureau, whereas any translation of the said annexes shall be prepared by the applicant.

(3)(a) The international preliminary examination report, together with its translation (as prescribed) and its annexes (in the original language), shall be communicated by the International Bureau to each elected Office.

(b) The prescribed translation of the annexes shall be transmitted within the prescribed time limit by the applicant to the elected Offices.

(4) The provisions of Article 20(3) shall apply, *mutatis mutandis*, to copies of any document which is cited in the international preliminary examination report and which was not cited in the international search report.

Article 37
Withdrawal of Demand or Election

(1) The applicant may withdraw any or all elections.

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(2) If the election of all elected States is withdrawn, the demand shall be considered withdrawn.

(3)(a) Any withdrawal shall be notified to the International Bureau.

(b) The elected Offices concerned and the International Preliminary Examining Authority concerned shall be notified accordingly by the International Bureau.

(4)(a) Subject to the provisions of subparagraph (b), withdrawal of the demand or of the election of a Contracting State shall, unless the national law of that State provides otherwise, be considered to be withdrawal of the international application as far as that State is concerned.

(b) Withdrawal of the demand or of the election shall not be considered to be withdrawal of the international application if such withdrawal is effected prior to the expiration of the applicable time limit under Article 22; however, any Contracting State may provide in its national law that the aforesaid shall apply only if its national Office has received, within the said time limit, a copy of the international application, together with a translation (as prescribed), and the national fee.

Article 38

Confidential Nature of the International Preliminary Examination

(1) Neither the International Bureau nor the International Preliminary Examining Authority shall, unless requested or authorized by the applicant, allow access within the meaning, and with the proviso, of Article 30(4) to the file of the international preliminary examination by any person or authority at any time, except by the elected Offices once the international preliminary examination report has been established.

(2) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (1) and Articles 36(1) and (3) and 37(3)(b), neither the International Bureau nor the International Preliminary Examining Authority shall, unless requested or authorized by the applicant, give information on the issuance or nonissuance of an international preliminary examination report and on the withdrawal or nonwithdrawal of the demand or of any election.

Article 39

Copy, Translation, and Fee, to Elected Offices

(1)(a) If the election of any Contracting State has been effected prior to the expiration of the 19th month from the priority date, the provisions of Article 22 shall not apply to such State and the applicant shall furnish a copy of the

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international application (unless the communication under Article 20 has already taken place) and a translation thereof (as prescribed), and pay the national fee (if any), to each elected Office not later than at the expiration of 30 months from the priority date.

(b) Any national law may, for performing the acts referred to in subparagraph (a), fix time limits which expire later than the time limit provided for in that subparagraph.

(2) The effect provided for in Article 11(3) shall cease in the elected State with the same consequences as the withdrawal of any national application in that State if the applicant fails to perform the acts referred to in paragraph (1)(a) within the time limit applicable under paragraph (1)(a) or (b).

(3) Any elected Office may maintain the effect provided for in Article 11(3) even where the applicant does not comply with the requirements provided for in paragraph (1)(a) or (b).

Article 40

Delaying of National Examination and Other Processing

(1) If the election of any Contracting State has been effected prior to the expiration of the 19th month from the priority date, the provisions of Article 23 shall not apply to such State and the national Office of or acting for that State shall not proceed, subject to the provisions of paragraph (2), to the examination and other processing of the international application prior to the expiration of the applicable time limit under Article 39.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1), any elected Office may, on the express request of the applicant, proceed to the examination and other processing of the international application at any time.

Article 41

**Amendment of the Claims, the Description,
and the Drawings, before Elected Offices**

(1) The applicant shall be given the opportunity to amend the claims, the description, and the drawings, before each elected Office within the prescribed time limit. No elected Office shall grant a patent, or refuse the grant of a patent, before such time limit has expired, except with the express consent of the applicant.

(2) The amendments shall not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, unless the national law of the elected State permits them to go beyond the said disclosure.

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(3) The amendments shall be in accordance with the national law of the elected State in all respects not provided for in this Treaty and the Regulations.

(4) Where an elected Office requires a translation of the international application, the amendments shall be in the language of the translation.

Article 42

Results of National Examination in Elected Offices

No elected Office receiving the international preliminary examination report may require that the applicant furnish copies, or information on the contents, of any papers connected with the examination relating to the same international application in any other elected Office.

CHAPTER III
COMMON PROVISIONS

Article 43

Seeking Certain Kinds of Protection

In respect of any designated or elected State whose law provides for the grant of inventors' certificates, utility certificates, utility models, patents or certificates of addition, inventors' certificates of addition, or utility certificates of addition, the applicant may indicate, as prescribed in the Regulations, that his international application is for the grant, as far as that State is concerned, of an inventor's certificate, a utility certificate, or a utility model, rather than a patent, or that it is for the grant of a patent or certificate of addition, an inventor's certificate of addition, or a utility certificate of addition, and the ensuing effect shall be governed by the applicant's choice. For the purposes of this Article and any Rule thereunder, Article 2(ii) shall not apply.

Article 44

Seeking Two Kinds of Protection

In respect of any designated or elected State whose law permits an application, while being for the grant of a patent or one of the other kinds of protection referred to in Article 43, to be also for the grant of another of the said kinds of protection, the applicant may indicate, as prescribed in the Regulations, the two kinds of protection he is seeking, and the ensuing effect shall be governed by the applicant's indications. For the purposes of this Article, Article 2(ii) shall not apply.

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Article 45
Regional Patent Treaties

(1) Any treaty providing for the grant of regional patents (“regional patent treaty”), and giving to all persons who, according to Article 9, are entitled to file international applications the right to file applications for such patents, may provide that international applications designating or electing a State party to both the regional patent treaty and the present Treaty may be filed as applications for such patents.

(2) The national law of the said designated or elected State may provide that any designation or election of such State in the international application shall have the effect of an indication of the wish to obtain a regional patent under the regional patent treaty.

Article 46
Incorrect Translation of the International Application

If, because of an incorrect translation of the international application, the scope of any patent granted on that application exceeds the scope of the international application in its original language, the competent authorities of the Contracting State concerned may accordingly and retroactively limit the scope of the patent, and declare it null and void to the extent that its scope has exceeded the scope of the international application in its original language.

Article 47
Time Limits

(1) The details for computing time limits referred to in this Treaty are governed by the Regulations.

(2)(a) All time limits fixed in Chapters I and II of this Treaty may, outside any revision under Article 60, be modified by a decision of the Contracting States.

(b) Such decisions shall be made in the Assembly or through voting by correspondence and must be unanimous.

(c) The details of the procedure are governed by the Regulations.

Article 48
Delay in Meeting Certain Time Limits

(1) Where any time limit fixed in this Treaty or the Regulations is not met because of interruption in the mail service or unavoidable loss or delay in the

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mail, the time limit shall be deemed to be met in the cases and subject to the proof and other conditions prescribed in the Regulations.

(2)(a) Any Contracting State shall, as far as that State is concerned, excuse, for reasons admitted under its national law, any delay in meeting any time limit.

(b) Any Contracting State may, as far as that State is concerned, excuse, for reasons other than those referred to in subparagraph (a), any delay in meeting any time limit.

Article 49

Right to Practice before International Authorities

Any attorney, patent agent, or other person, having the right to practice before the national Office with which the international application was filed, shall be entitled to practice before the International Bureau and the competent International Searching Authority and competent International Preliminary Examining Authority in respect of that application.

CHAPTER IV
TECHNICAL SERVICES

Article 50

Patent Information Services

(1) The International Bureau may furnish services by providing technical and any other pertinent information available to it on the basis of published documents, primarily patents and published applications (referred to in this Article as "the information services").

(2) The International Bureau may provide these information services either directly or through one or more International Searching Authorities or other national or international specialized institutions, with which the International Bureau may reach agreement.

(3) The information services shall be operated in a way particularly facilitating the acquisition by Contracting States which are developing countries of technical knowledge and technology, including available published know-how.

(4) The information services shall be available to Governments of Contracting States and their nationals and residents. The Assembly may decide to make these services available also to others.

(5)(a) Any service to Governments of Contracting States shall be furnished at cost, provided that, when the Government is that of a Contracting State which

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is a developing country, the service shall be furnished below cost if the difference can be covered from profit made on services furnished to others than Governments of Contracting States or from the sources referred to in Article 51(4).

(b) The cost referred to in subparagraph (a) is to be understood as cost over and above costs normally incident to the performance of the services of a national Office or the obligations of an International Searching Authority.

(6) The details concerning the implementation of the provisions of this Article shall be governed by decisions of the Assembly and, within the limits to be fixed by the Assembly, such working groups as the Assembly may set up for that purpose.

(7) The Assembly shall, when it considers it necessary, recommend methods of providing financing supplementary to those referred to in paragraph (5).

Article 51
Technical Assistance

(1) The Assembly shall establish a Committee for Technical Assistance (referred to in this Article as "the Committee").

(2)(a) The members of the Committee shall be elected among the Contracting States, with due regard to the representation of developing countries.

(b) The Director General shall, on his own initiative or at the request of the Committee, invite representatives of intergovernmental organizations concerned with technical assistance to developing countries to participate in the work of the Committee.

(3)(a) The task of the Committee shall be to organize and supervise technical assistance for Contracting States which are developing countries in developing their patent systems individually or on a regional basis.

(b) The technical assistance shall comprise, among other things, the training of specialists, the loaning of experts, and the supply of equipment both for demonstration and for operational purposes.

(4) The International Bureau shall seek to enter into agreements, on the one hand, with international financing organizations and intergovernmental organizations, particularly the United Nations, the agencies of the United Nations, and the Specialized Agencies connected with the United Nations concerned with technical assistance, and, on the other hand, with the

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Governments of the States receiving the technical assistance, for the financing of projects pursuant to this Article.

(5) The details concerning the implementation of the provisions of this Article shall be governed by decisions of the Assembly and, within the limits to be fixed by the Assembly, such working groups as the Assembly may set up for that purpose.

Article 52

Relations with Other Provisions of the Treaty

Nothing in this Chapter shall affect the financial provisions contained in any other Chapter of this Treaty. Such provisions are not applicable to the present Chapter or to its implementation.

CHAPTER V

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Article 53

Assembly

(1)(a) The Assembly shall, subject to Article 57(8), consist of the Contracting States.

(b) The Government of each Contracting State shall be represented by one delegate, who may be assisted by alternate delegates, advisors, and experts.

(2)(a) The Assembly shall:

(i) deal with all matters concerning the maintenance and development of the Union and the implementation of this Treaty;

(ii) perform such tasks as are specifically assigned to it under other provisions of this Treaty;

(iii) give directions to the International Bureau concerning the preparation for revision conferences;

(iv) review and approve the reports and activities of the Director General concerning the Union, and give him all necessary instructions concerning matters within the competence of the Union;

(v) review and approve the reports and activities of the Executive Committee established under paragraph (9), and give instructions to such Committee;

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(vi) determine the program and adopt the triennial² budget of the Union, and approve its final accounts;

(vii) adopt the financial regulations of the Union;

(viii) establish such committees and working groups as it deems appropriate to achieve the objectives of the Union;

(ix) determine which States other than Contracting States and, subject to the provisions of paragraph (8), which intergovernmental and international non-governmental organizations shall be admitted to its meetings as observers;

(x) take any other appropriate action designed to further the objectives of the Union and perform such other functions as are appropriate under this Treaty.

(b) With respect to matters which are of interest also to other Unions administered by the Organization, the Assembly shall make its decisions after having heard the advice of the Coordination Committee of the Organization.

(3) A delegate may represent, and vote in the name of, one State only.

(4) Each Contracting State shall have one vote.

(5)(a) One-half of the Contracting States shall constitute a quorum.

(b) In the absence of the quorum, the Assembly may make decisions but, with the exception of decisions concerning its own procedure, all such decisions shall take effect only if the quorum and the required majority are attained through voting by correspondence as provided in the Regulations.

(6)(a) Subject to the provisions of Articles 47(2)(b), 58(2)(b), 58(3) and 61(2)(b), the decisions of the Assembly shall require two-thirds of the votes cast.

(b) Abstentions shall not be considered as votes.

(7) In connection with matters of exclusive interest to States bound by Chapter II, any reference to Contracting States in paragraphs (4), (5), and (6), shall be considered as applying only to States bound by Chapter II.

(8) Any intergovernmental organization appointed as International Searching or Preliminary Examining Authority shall be admitted as observer to the Assembly.

(9) When the number of Contracting States exceeds forty, the Assembly shall establish an Executive Committee. Any reference to the Executive

² *Editor's Note:* Since 1980, the program and budget of the Union have been biennial.

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Committee in this Treaty and the Regulations shall be construed as references to such Committee once it has been established.

(10) Until the Executive Committee has been established, the Assembly shall approve, within the limits of the program and triennial³ budget, the annual programs and budgets prepared by the Director General.

(11)(a) The Assembly shall meet in every second calendar year in ordinary session upon convocation by the Director General and, in the absence of exceptional circumstances, during the same period and at the same place as the General Assembly of the Organization.

(b) The Assembly shall meet in extraordinary session upon convocation by the Director General, at the request of the Executive Committee, or at the request of one-fourth of the Contracting States.

(12) The Assembly shall adopt its own rules of procedure.

Article 54
Executive Committee

(1) When the Assembly has established an Executive Committee, that Committee shall be subject to the provisions set forth hereinafter.

(2)(a) The Executive Committee shall, subject to Article 57(8), consist of States elected by the Assembly from among States members of the Assembly.

(b) The Government of each State member of the Executive Committee shall be represented by one delegate, who may be assisted by alternate delegates, advisors, and experts.

(3) The number of States members of the Executive Committee shall correspond to one-fourth of the number of States members of the Assembly. In establishing the number of seats to be filled, remainders after division by four shall be disregarded.

(4) In electing the members of the Executive Committee, the Assembly shall have due regard to an equitable geographical distribution.

(5)(a) Each member of the Executive Committee shall serve from the close of the session of the Assembly which elected it to the close of the next ordinary session of the Assembly.

(b) Members of the Executive Committee may be re-elected but only up to a maximum of two-thirds of such members.

³ *Editor's Note:* Since 1980, the program and budget of the Union have been biennial.

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(c) The Assembly shall establish the details of the rules governing the election and possible re-election of the members of the Executive Committee.

(6)(a) The Executive Committee shall:

(i) prepare the draft agenda of the Assembly;

(ii) submit proposals to the Assembly in respect of the draft program and biennial budget of the Union prepared by the Director General;

(iii) *[deleted]*

(iv) submit, with appropriate comments, to the Assembly the periodical reports of the Director General and the yearly audit reports on the accounts;

(v) take all necessary measures to ensure the execution of the program of the Union by the Director General, in accordance with the decisions of the Assembly and having regard to circumstances arising between two ordinary sessions of the Assembly;

(vi) perform such other functions as are allocated to it under this Treaty.

(b) With respect to matters which are of interest also to other Unions administered by the Organization, the Executive Committee shall make its decisions after having heard the advice of the Coordination Committee of the Organization.

(7)(a) The Executive Committee shall meet once a year in ordinary session upon convocation by the Director General, preferably during the same period and at the same place as the Coordination Committee of the Organization.

(b) The Executive Committee shall meet in extraordinary session upon convocation by the Director General, either on his own initiative or at the request of its Chairman or one-fourth of its members.

(8)(a) Each State member of the Executive Committee shall have one vote.

(b) One-half of the members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

(c) Decisions shall be made by a simple majority of the votes cast.

(d) Abstentions shall not be considered as votes.

(e) A delegate may represent, and vote in the name of, one State only.

(9) Contracting States not members of the Executive Committee shall be admitted to its meetings as observers, as well as any intergovernmental organization appointed as International Searching or Preliminary Examining Authority.

(10) The Executive Committee shall adopt its own rules of procedure.

Article 55
International Bureau

(1) Administrative tasks concerning the Union shall be performed by the International Bureau.

(2) The International Bureau shall provide the secretariat of the various organs of the Union.

(3) The Director General shall be the chief executive of the Union and shall represent the Union.

(4) The International Bureau shall publish a Gazette and other publications provided for by the Regulations or required by the Assembly.

(5) The Regulations shall specify the services that national Offices shall perform in order to assist the International Bureau and the International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authorities in carrying out their tasks under this Treaty.

(6) The Director General and any staff member designated by him shall participate, without the right to vote, in all meetings of the Assembly, the Executive Committee and any other committee or working group established under this Treaty or the Regulations. The Director General, or a staff member designated by him, shall be *ex officio* secretary of these bodies.

(7)(a) The International Bureau shall, in accordance with the directions of the Assembly and in cooperation with the Executive Committee, make the preparations for the revision conferences.

(b) The International Bureau may consult with intergovernmental and international non-governmental organizations concerning preparations for revision conferences.

(c) The Director General and persons designated by him shall take part, without the right to vote, in the discussions at revision conferences.

(8) The International Bureau shall carry out any other tasks assigned to it.

Article 56
Committee for Technical Cooperation

(1) The Assembly shall establish a Committee for Technical Cooperation (referred to in this Article as “the Committee”).

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(2)(a) The Assembly shall determine the composition of the Committee and appoint its members, with due regard to an equitable representation of developing countries.

(b) The International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authorities shall be *ex officio* members of the Committee. In the case where such an Authority is the national Office of a Contracting State, that State shall not be additionally represented on the Committee.

(c) If the number of Contracting States so allows, the total number of members of the Committee shall be more than double the number of *ex officio* members.

(d) The Director General shall, on his own initiative or at the request of the Committee, invite representatives of interested organizations to participate in discussions of interest to them.

(3) The aim of the Committee shall be to contribute, by advice and recommendations:

(i) to the constant improvement of the services provided for under this Treaty,

(ii) to the securing, so long as there are several International Searching Authorities and several International Preliminary Examining Authorities, of the maximum degree of uniformity in their documentation and working methods and the maximum degree of uniformly high quality in their reports, and

(iii) on the initiative of the Assembly or the Executive Committee, to the solution of the technical problems specifically involved in the establishment of a single International Searching Authority.

(4) Any Contracting State and any interested international organization may approach the Committee in writing on questions which fall within the competence of the Committee.

(5) The Committee may address its advice and recommendations to the Director General or, through him, to the Assembly, the Executive Committee, all or some of the International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authorities, and all or some of the receiving Offices.

(6)(a) In any case, the Director General shall transmit to the Executive Committee the texts of all the advice and recommendations of the Committee. He may comment on such texts.

(b) The Executive Committee may express its views on any advice, recommendation, or other activity of the Committee, and may invite the Committee to study and report on questions falling within its competence. The

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Executive Committee may submit to the Assembly, with appropriate comments, the advice, recommendations and report of the Committee.

(7) Until the Executive Committee has been established, references in paragraph (6) to the Executive Committee shall be construed as references to the Assembly.

(8) The details of the procedure of the Committee shall be governed by the decisions of the Assembly.

Article 57
Finances

(1)(a) The Union shall have a budget.

(b) The budget of the Union shall include the income and expenses proper to the Union and its contribution to the budget of expenses common to the Unions administered by the Organization.

(c) Expenses not attributable exclusively to the Union but also to one or more other Unions administered by the Organization shall be considered as expenses common to the Unions. The share of the Union in such common expenses shall be in proportion to the interest the Union has in them.

(2) The budget of the Union shall be established with due regard to the requirements of coordination with the budgets of the other Unions administered by the Organization.

(3) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (5), the budget of the Union shall be financed from the following sources:

(i) fees and charges due for services rendered by the International Bureau in relation to the Union;

(ii) sale of, or royalties on, the publications of the International Bureau concerning the Union;

(iii) gifts, bequests, and subventions;

(iv) rents, interests, and other miscellaneous income.

(4) The amounts of fees and charges due to the International Bureau and the prices of its publications shall be so fixed that they should, under normal circumstances, be sufficient to cover all the expenses of the International Bureau connected with the administration of this Treaty.

(5)(a) Should any financial year close with a deficit, the Contracting States shall, subject to the provisions of subparagraphs (b) and (c), pay contributions to cover such deficit.

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(b) The amount of the contribution of each Contracting State shall be decided by the Assembly with due regard to the number of international applications which has emanated from each of them in the relevant year.

(c) If other means of provisionally covering any deficit or any part thereof are secured, the Assembly may decide that such deficit be carried forward and that the Contracting States should not be asked to pay contributions.

(d) If the financial situation of the Union so permits, the Assembly may decide that any contributions paid under subparagraph (a) be reimbursed to the Contracting States which have paid them.

(e) A Contracting State which has not paid, within two years of the due date as established by the Assembly, its contribution under subparagraph (b) may not exercise its right to vote in any of the organs of the Union. However, any organ of the Union may allow such a State to continue to exercise its right to vote in that organ so long as it is satisfied that the delay in payment is due to exceptional and unavoidable circumstances.

(6) If the budget is not adopted before the beginning of a new financial period, it shall be at the same level as the budget of the previous year, as provided in the financial regulations.

(7)(a) The Union shall have a working capital fund which shall be constituted by a single payment made by each Contracting State. If the fund becomes insufficient, the Assembly shall arrange to increase it. If part of the fund is no longer needed, it shall be reimbursed.

(b) The amount of the initial payment of each Contracting State to the said fund or of its participation in the increase thereof shall be decided by the Assembly on the basis of principles similar to those provided for under paragraph (5)(b).

(c) The terms of payment shall be fixed by the Assembly on the proposal of the Director General and after it has heard the advice of the Coordination Committee of the Organization.

(d) Any reimbursement shall be proportionate to the amounts paid by each Contracting State, taking into account the dates at which they were paid.

(8)(a) In the headquarters agreement concluded with the State on the territory of which the Organization has its headquarters, it shall be provided that, whenever the working capital fund is insufficient, such State shall grant advances. The amount of these advances and the conditions on which they are granted shall be the subject of separate agreements, in each case, between such

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State and the Organization. As long as it remains under the obligation to grant advances, such State shall have an *ex officio* seat in the Assembly and on the Executive Committee.

(b) The State referred to in subparagraph (a) and the Organization shall each have the right to denounce the obligation to grant advances, by written notification. Denunciation shall take effect three years after the end of the year in which it has been notified.

(9) The auditing of the accounts shall be effected by one or more of the Contracting States or by external auditors, as provided in the financial regulations. They shall be designated, with their agreement, by the Assembly.

Article 58
Regulations

(1) The Regulations annexed to this Treaty provide Rules:

(i) concerning matters in respect of which this Treaty expressly refers to the Regulations or expressly provides that they are or shall be prescribed,

(ii) concerning any administrative requirements, matters, or procedures,

(iii) concerning any details useful in the implementation of the provisions of this Treaty.

(2)(a) The Assembly may amend the Regulations.

(b) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (3), amendments shall require three-fourths of the votes cast.

(3)(a) The Regulations specify the Rules which may be amended

(i) only by unanimous consent, or

(ii) only if none of the Contracting States whose national Office acts as an International Searching or Preliminary Examining Authority dissents, and, where such Authority is an intergovernmental organization, if the Contracting State member of that organization authorized for that purpose by the other member States within the competent body of such organization does not dissent.

(b) Exclusion, for the future, of any such Rules from the applicable requirement shall require the fulfillment of the conditions referred to in subparagraph (a)(i) or (a)(ii), respectively.

(c) Inclusion, for the future, of any Rule in one or the other of the requirements referred to in subparagraph (a) shall require unanimous consent.

(4) The Regulations provide for the establishment, under the control of the Assembly, of Administrative Instructions by the Director General.