PTO/98/86 (08-08)

Approved for use through 08/31/2013, Care 0831-2033 U.S. Patent and Trademani Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCIE. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no censors are required to respond to a collection of information university distribute a visid CARR control number REISSUE PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL Attorney Docket No. DMC-10-1220RE Address to: First Named Inventor Lisa A. Hendrickson Mail Stop Reissue Original Patent Number 7,814,575 Commissioner for Patents Oncinal Patent Issue Date P.O. Box 1460 10/19/2010 (Month/Day/Year) Alexendria, VA 22313-1460 Express Mail Label No. APPLICATION FOR REISSUE OF: (Check applicable box) **Utility Patent** Design Patent Plant Patent APPLICATION ELEMENTS (37 CFR 1,173) ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS 1. 2 W Fee Transmittal Form (PTO/88/86) Statement of status and support for all changes to the claims. See 37 CFR 1.173(c). Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27, Specification and Claims in double column copy of patent formet Foreign Priority Claim (35 U.S.C. 119). (amended, if appropriate) (# applicable) Drawing(s) (proposed amendments, if appropriate) 12 🗸 Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) PTO/SB/06 or PTO/1443 Reissue Cath/Declaration (original or copy) (97 C.F.R. 1,175) (PTC/SB/51 or 52) Copies of citations attached Power of Attorney English Translation of Relasue Cath/Declaration Original U.S. Patent currently assigned? [V] Yes (if applicable) (If Yes, check applicable box(es)) Preliminary Amendment Whiten Consert of all Assignees (PTQ/Stl/53) Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 500) 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement (PTO/SS/98) (Should be specifically itemized) CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, Computer Program (Appendix) og jarge table Landstabe Table on CD 9. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, items a. - c. are required)) J Compider Readable Form (CRF) b. Specification Sequence Listing on: CD-ROM (2 copies) or CD-R (2 copies); or 29080 Statements verifying identity of above copies 17. CORRESPONDENCE ACORESS 35811 The address associated with Customer Number: 6383 Correspondence address below Name Address City Zip Code

This collection of information is insquired by 37 CFR 1,173. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTC to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1,11 and 1.14. This objection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete. including gathering, and summitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will very depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form end/or suggestions for nectuony this burden, should be sent to the Chief information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commence, P.O. Box 1460, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, DO NOT SEND PEES OR COMPLETED PORMS TO THIS ACCURATE SEND TO Mish Stop Reliasus, Commissioner for Petents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. Hyou need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Telephone

Country

Signature

Name (Print/Type)

Michael L. Cruz

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Date

Registration No. (Attorney/Agem) | 52783

June 15, 2011

Privacy Act Statement

The **Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579)** requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

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- A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
- 4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
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- A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal
 agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to
 the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
- 7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
- 8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspection or an issued patent.
- A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit : Customer No. 035811

Examiner :

Serial No. : Docket No.: DMC-10-1220RE

Filed : Herewith Reissue of Patent : 7,814,575

Issued : October 19, 2010
Inventor : Lisa A. Hendrickson
: James H. Gardner, III

: Richard Adelman

Title : BELLY COVERING

: GARMENT Date: June 15, 2011

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop REISSUE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following is a Preliminary Amendment being filed with a reissue application relating to U.S. Patent No. 7,814,575 ("the '575 Patent").

Accompanying this Preliminary Amendment is a Reissue Application Oath and Consent by Assignce, an Information Disclosure Statement and a copy of the issued '575 Patent.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the reissue filing fees of \$1728.00 to Deposit Account 50-2719. The Commissioner is also authorized to charge any insufficiency or credit any overpayment to the same account.

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either directly or indirectly through intervening structures, as well as both movable or rigid attachments or relationships, unless expressly described otherwise.

Although the invention has been described in terms of exemplary embodiments, it is not limited thereto. Rather, the 5 appended claims should be construed broadly, to include other variants and embodiments of the invention, which may be made by those skilled in the art without departing from the scope and range of equivalents of the invention.

What is claimed is:

- 1. A garment, comprising:
- a garment upper portion having a belly panel that is expansible to cover and fit over a growing abdomen during different stages of pregnancy;
- a garment lower portion having a first torso encircling circumference that recedes downward to make way for expansion of the belly panel; and
- the garment upper portion having a second torso encircling circumference defining an upper edge of the belly panel 20 that encircles a wearer's torso just beneath the wearer's breast area configured to hold the garment up and in place about the torso in a position of a location of maximum girth of the abdomen thereby substantially covering the wearer's entire pregnant abdomen during all 25 stages of pregnancy.
- 2. The garment of claim 1, wherein the second torso encircling circumference is adjustable in girth in conformance with different body types.
- 3. The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment upper 30 portion comprises a seamless tubular structure that fits comfortably while being worn, and the belly panel comprises an expansible portion of the tubular structure.
- 4. The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment upper portion comprises a seamless tubular elastic fabric to stretch 35 elastically.
- 5. The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment upper portion comprises an elastic fabric that is contractible elastically to cover an abdomen during different stages of postpartum body changes.
- 6. The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment lower portion has a partial waistband extending from side seams of the garment lower portion and extending across a back side of the garment lower portion where the partial waistband widens above a wearer's pelvis.
- 7. The garment of claim 1, further comprising a series of belly cradling stitches or knitted tension in the belly panel, wherein the knitted tension or stitches extend along multiple paths arranged in an elliptical pattern that curves, so as to cradle a curved growing abdomen during various stages of pregnancy.
- 8. The garment of claim 1, further comprising a series of stitches or knitted tension in the backside of the garment upper portion to provide spinal and back support against the $_{55}$ wearer of the garment.
- 9. The garment of claim 8, wherein the series of stitches or knitted tension in the backside of the garment upper portion extends along a pattern of multiple stitch paths.
- 10. The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment upper 60 portion is foldable toward the garment lower portion to comprise a folded band on the garment lower portion.
- 11. The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment lower portion has a partial waistband extending from side seams of the garment lower portion wherein the partial waistband 65 portion comprises one of a pair of trousers and a skirt. tapers toward the side seams and widens above a wearer's pelvis across a back side of the garment lower portion.

12. The garment of claim 1, comprising:

knitted tension in the backside of the garment upper portion providing spinal column and back support for a wearer of the garment.

- 13. The garment of claim 1, comprising:
- a series of sewn supporting stitches in the backside of the garment upper portion providing spinal column and back support for a wearer of the garment.
- **14**. The garment of claim **1**, comprising:
- a series of sewn supporting stitches in the backside of the garment upper portion providing spinal column and back support for a wearer of the garment, wherein the stitches are arranged along multiple stitch paths grouped in a hyperbolic pattern, a curved pattern or a truncated, v-shaped pattern along an axis extending substantially vertically along a spinal supporting section of the fabric.
- 15. The garment of claim 1, wherein an edge margin of the garment upper portion is folded over and knitted to an inside of the fabric to provide a perimeter hem stitch.
- 16. The garment of claim 1, wherein an edge margin of the garment upper portion is folded over and sewn or knitted to an inside of the fabric to provide a perimeter hem stitch.
- 17. The garment of claim 1, wherein the second torso encircling circumference comprises stretchable fabric to adjust the girth in conformance with different body types.
- 18. The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment upper portion is a tubular structure, wherein the tubular structure is shaped and formed as a hyperboloid cylinder to fit a body type having a tapered torso.
- 19. The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment upper portion is a tubular structure, wherein the tubular structure is shaped and formed as a straight sided cylinder to fit a body type having a corresponding shaped torso.
- 20. The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment upper portion comprises a double layer tubular structure, and an inner layer of stretchable fabric between two layers of the double-layer tubular structure.
- 21. The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment upper portion comprises a fabric, and the fabric is doubled back on itself downward to form a double-layer tubular structure that extends downward for at least a portion of the garment upper portion, and the layers of the double-layer tubular structure are sewn together with a tubular perimeter drop stitch.
- 22. The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment upper portion comprises a fabric doubled back on itself downward to form a double-layer tubular structure that extends downward for at least a portion of the garment upper portion, the layer of the double-layer tubular structure are sewn together with a tubular perimeter drop stitch, and an edge margin of the garment upper portion is knitted to an inside of the fabric to provide a perimeter hem stitch.
- 23. The garment of claim 3, wherein the seamless tubular structure comprises a fabric doubled back on itself downward to form a double-layer tubular structure that extends downward for at least a portion of the garment upper portion, the layers of the double-layer tubular structure are sewn together with a tubular perimeter drop stitch, and an edge margin of the garment upper portion is folded over and sewn or knitted to an inside of the fabric to provide a perimeter hem stitch.
- 24. The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment upper portion is foldable toward the garment lower portion to provide a folded band on the garment lower portion to be worn as a garment bottom having no top.
- 25. The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment lower

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit

*

Customer No. 035811

Docket No.: DMC-10-1220RE

Examiner

Serial No.

: Herewith

Filed
Reissue of Patent

: 7,814,575

Issued Inventor : October 19, 2010 : Lisa A. Hendrickson

: James H. Gardner, III : Richard Adelman

Title

: BELLY COVERING

: GARMENT

Date: June 15, 2011

REISSUE APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Mail Stop REISSUE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Washington, D.C. 20231-1450

Sir:

The Applicants submit herewith the following documents in connection with the reissue application of Lisa A. Hendrickson, James H. Gardner, III and Richard Adelman entitled BELLY COVERING GARMENT:

- 1) a Preliminary Amendment;
- 2) an Information Disclosure Statement with Form PTO-1449 and a copy of each of the eight (8) non-US publications;
- 3) an executed Oath and Consent by Assignee to the Filing of the Reissue Application; and
 - 6) a copy of the issued patent.

It is respectfully requested that a reissue patent be granted to Destination Maternity Corporation, which is the assignee.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the reissue filing fee of \$1728.00 to deposit account 50-2719. The Commissioner is also authorized to charge any insufficiency or credit any overpayment to the same account.

An early and favorable action on the merits of the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard L. Cruz

Reg. No. 52,783 Attorney for Applicants

RLC/nn (215) 656-2446

I BELLY COVERING GARMENT

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a garment worn during different stages of pregnancy and different stages of postpartum body changes.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Garments intended to cover a wearer's body below the abdomen or belly during various stages of pregnancy have been manufactured as knits or woven fabrics. Some of the knits or woven fabric garments are constructed with an elastic belt or waist band which caused discomfort when tightened about the body. Some of the garments have stretchable fabric panels sewn into place with sewn seams. Such garments cause discomfort due to the presence of the sewn seams, urged by elastic stretching of the panels pressing against the torso. Moreover, women have complained that such garments are difficult to keep in place, as they gradually slip downward while they are being worn.

Denim jeans or trousers have been recycled by removing the waistband at the front of the jeans and replacing the same with an elastic band that cradles a growing abdomen. Alternatively, denim jeans or trousers are manufactured without a waistband at the front so that a separate band can be attached at the front.

Accordingly, a need exists for a garment that covers and fits a growing abdomen during different stages of pregnancy. Such a garment is required to stay up, and desirably would fit comfortably while being worn. Moreover, such a garment would stay up when worn over different body types.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

A purpose of the invention is to provide a garment that adapts to cover and fit a growing abdomen during pregnancy, wherein the garment stays up when worn.

A garment comprises a garment upper portion and a garment lower portion. The garment upper portion has a belly panel that is expansible to cover and fit over a growing abdomen during different stages of pregnancy. The garment lower portion has a first torso encircling circumference that recedes 45 downward to make way for expansion of the belly panel. The garment upper portion has a second torso encircling circumference to hold the garment up and in place over the torso.

An embodiment of the garment is adjustable to encircle different body types. Another embodiment of the invention provides a garment that fits comfortably while being worn.

An embodiment of the garment comprises an adjustable torso encircling circumference that is adjustable in girth to encircle different body types.

An embodiment of the upper portion of the garment comprises a seamless tubular elastic fabric to stretch elastically and fit different body types.

An embodiment of the abdomen covering area comprises an elastic fabric.

An embodiment of the abdomen covering area comprises an elastic fabric that is contractible elastically to cover an abdomen during different stages of post partum body changes.

According to an embodiment of the invention, an expansible tubular upper portion of the garment is seamless to fit comfortably while being worn.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a front view of a garment according to the present invention.

FIG. 1A is a view similar to FIG. 1, and discloses a body panel covering a growing abdomen.

FIG. 2 is a view of a backside portion of the garment disclosed by FIG. 1.

FIG. 3 is view of a front portion of another embodiment of $_{\rm 10}\,$ a garment.

FIG. 4 is view of a backside portion of another embodiment of a garment.

FIG. 5 is a view of a backside portion of yet another embodiment of a garment.

FIG. **6** is front view of a portion of another embodiment of a garment.

FIG. 7 is front view of a portion of yet another embodiment of a garment.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

FIG. 1 discloses a garment 100 for encircling a lower torso portion of a wearer of the garment 100. The garment 100 comprises a garment upper portion 102 and a garment lower portion 104. A lower end perimeter 106 of the garment upper portion 102 is attached to a corresponding upper end perimeter 108 of the garment lower portion 104. The garment lower portion 104 comprises, for example, a pair of trousers, such as, denim jeans. Alternatively, the garment lower portion 104 comprises a skirt depicted in FIG. 1 in phantom outline.

With reference to FIGS. 1 and 2, each leg of the pair of trousers is constructed with sewn seams. Outer side seams 110, 112 extend continuously from top to bottom of the trousers, or garment lower portion 104. Further, each leg is constructed with inner side seams 114, 116 joining a front center seam 118 of the trousers and a back side, curved center seam 200, FIG. 2, of the trousers. For example, the front center seam 106 defines a sewn "zipper less" fly front. The back side of the trousers, FIG. 2, is sewn with a back side perimeter seam 202 extending horizontally across the back side of the trousers from the outer side seams 110, 112 to the back side center seam 200. If pockets are desired, the legs of the trousers are constructed, for example, with a front pockets 120, 122 and back pockets 204, 206.

FIG. 2 discloses an embodiment of the trousers, or garment lower portion 104, having a partial waistband 208 joining and extending from the side seams 110, 112 of the trousers and extending across a back side of the trousers or garment lower portion 104. The waistband 208 is sewn onto the perimeter seam 202 on the back side. The waistband 208 tapers toward the side seams 110, 112 and widens across the back side, and has a center seam 210 to shape the waistband 208 with a curvature above a wearer's pelvis, and for torso coverage especially when sitting or bending.

In FIG. 1, the garment upper portion 102 has a belly panel 124 to provide an abdomen covering area. The belly panel 124 is expansible, for example, when made of a stretchable fabric, to cover and fit over a growing abdomen during different stages of pregnancy, FIG. 1A. The belly panel 124 has a bottom portion 128 that projects downward with a parabolic shape, especially when covering a growing abdomen, FIG. 1A. The perimeter 108 of the garment lower portion 104 provides a first torso encircling circumference 126 that recedes downward with a parabolic shape adjacent to and below the bottom portion 128 of the belly panel 124 to make way for expansion of the belly panel 124 when covering a growing abdomen during various stages of pregnancy. The

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parabolic shape includes a shallow curvature, or, alternatively includes a more pronounced curvature. The belly panel 124 extends at least partially under the abdomen of the garment wearer to meet and join the bottom portion 128 of the belly panel 124 with the parabolic receding circumference 126 of 5 the garment lower portion 104.

According to an embodiment of the invention, at least the belly panel **124** comprises a stretchable fabric that is woven or knitted with elastic, stretchable strands. The stretchable fabric is expansible by stretching elastically to cover and fit over the growing abdomen, FIG. **1A**. Further, the stretchable fabric is contractible elastically to cover a shrinking abdomen during different stages of post partum body changes. The belly panel **124** also has foreseeable alternative functions, for example, to cover an abdomen during different stages of torso weight gains and losses, or to fit over respective torsos of different body types.

In FIGS. 1 and 2, the garment upper portion has a top tubular perimeter hem 130 made by folding over a top edge margin of the stretchable fabric, and either tubular knitting or sewing the folded fabric to the inside surface of the fabric, and $\ ^{20}$ to create a top perimeter knitted hem stitch 132 as disclosed in FIG. 1. The perimeter of the garment upper portion 102 has a torso encircling circumference 134 to hold the garment 100 up and in place over the torso. Advantageously, the entire garment 100 is held up and in place. An embodiment of the 25 garment upper portion 102 comprises stretchable fabric to adjust the girth of the second torso encircling circumference 134 in conformance with different body types. According to an embodiment of the invention, the torso encircling circumference 134 extends along the upper end of the belly panel 30 124. In FIG. 1A, the belly panel 124 extends at least somewhat above the maximum girth of the abdomen, even during a later stage of pregnancy, such that the belly panel 124 positions the torso encircling circumference 134 at least somewhat above the location of maximum girth to resist slipping down over the abdomen.

An embodiment of the garment upper portion 102 comprises a tubular structure to encircle a torso of a wearer of the garment 100. The tubular structure comprises a stretchable fabric woven or knitted with elastic, stretchable strands. The belly panel 124 comprises a portion of the stretchable fabric. 40 The tubular structure is adaptable to cover and fit different body types by being elastically expansible and contractible. Different body types have different muscle mass distributions and spinal columns of different curvatures, which make the tubular structure conform to the different body types by 45 expanding and contracting in different locations and amounts when worn by the different body types. The tubular structure is elastically expansible to widen the tubular girth at selected locations and amounts where needed to fit a body type, and is elastically contractible to narrow the tubular girth at selected 50 locations and amounts where needed to fit the body type.

In FIGS. 1 and 2, the tubular structure is shaped and formed as a one-sheet hyperboloid cylinder to fit a body type having a tapered torso that tapers approximately from shoulder to waist. The perimeter profile of the one-sheet hyperboloid cylinder has hyperbolic shaped sides. Alternatively, the tubular structure is shaped and formed as a straight-sided cylinder, for example, as disclosed in FIG. 6. The perimeter profile of the straight sided cylinder has substantially straight sides.

Preferably, the stretchable fabric is woven or knitted to form a continuous, seamless tubular structure, such that the garment **100** is comfortable to wear due to the absence of seams that would tend to press against the torso.

FIG. 3 discloses an alternative embodiment in which the garment upper portion 102 is provided with belly cradling support in the form of a series of sewn stitches or knitted 65 tension at 300, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310, 312, and 314 in the belly panel 124. The knitted tension or stitches extend along

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multiple stitch paths grouped in an elliptical pattern that curves so as to cradle a curved growing abdomen, FIG. 1A, during various stages of pregnancy.

FIG. 4 discloses an alternative embodiment in which the backside of the garment upper portion 102 is provided with spinal column and back support for a wearer of the garment, in the form of a series of sewn supporting stitches or knitted tension at 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, 418 in the fabric, wherein the supporting knitted tension or stitches stiffen the fabric at the backside of the garment upper portion 102 to provide spinal and back support of the wearer of the garment 100. For example, the series of supporting stitches are arranged along multiple stitch paths grouped in a hyperbolic pattern or other curved pattern along an axis extending substantially vertically along a spinal supporting section of the fabric. FIG. 5 discloses an alternative pattern of supporting stitches 500, 502, 504, 506, 508, 510, 512, 514 in the fabric, wherein the supporting stitches are arranged along multiple stitch paths. For example, the stitch paths are shown as being grouped in a truncated, v-shaped pattern.

FIG. 6 discloses the garment upper portion 102 comprising a fabric woven or knitted to form a tubular structure, wherein the fabric of the tubular structure is doubled back on itself downward from the top circumference 134 thereof to form a double-layer tubular structure 600 that extends downward at least for a portion of the garment upper portion 102. The layers of the double-layer tubular structure 600 are sewn together with a tubular perimeter drop stitch 602. The layers are further sewn with a top, tubular perimeter hem stitch 132 as described in FIG. 1. In an alternative embodiment disclosed by FIG. 6, the fabric is doubled back over an inner tubular layer of stretchable fabric 604, shown in phantom outline by and between the stitches 132, 602, that is flatly layered and sewn in between the two tubular layers of the double layer fabric. The three tubular layers are sewn together with the top, tubular perimeter drop stitch 602 and the top, tubular perimeter hem stitch 132 as described in FIG. 1. The inner layer 604 of stretchable fabric provides the belly panel 124 with the capability for resilient expansion. In another embodiment, the double layer fabric comprises a stretch fabric woven or knitted with elastically stretchable and contractible yarns, providing the belly panel with the capability for resilient expansion.

FIG. 7 discloses that the garment 100 of FIG. 6 is convertible to comprise a bottom garment without a top, the garment upper portion 102 is foldable toward the garment lower portion 104 to provide a folded band 700 on the garment lower portion 104, which is to be worn solely as a garment bottom 104 having the folded band 700, and having no top. Each of the other embodiments of the garment 100 is similarly convertible by adding the stretchable fabric 604 to the upper garment portion 102 of the other embodiment of the garment 100, and folding the garment upper portion 102 toward the garment lower portion 104 to provide a folded band 700 on the garment lower portion 104 of the other embodiment of the garment 100.

This description of the exemplary embodiments is intended to be read in connection with the accompanying drawings, which are to be considered part of the entire written description. In the description, relative terms such as "lower," "upper," "horizontal," "vertical,", "above," "below," "up," "down," "top" and "bottom" as well as derivatives thereof (e.g., "horizontally," "downwardly," "upwardly," etc.) should be construed to refer to the orientation as then described or as shown in the drawing under discussion. These relative terms are for convenience of description and do not require that the apparatus be constructed or operated in a particular orientation. Terms concerning attachments, coupling and the like, such as "connected" and "interconnected," refer to a relationship wherein structures are secured or attached to one another



US007814575B2

(12) United States Patent Hendrickson et al.

(10) Patent No.: US 7,814,575 B2 (45) Date of Patent: Oct. 19, 2010

(54) BELLY COVERING GARMENT

(75) Inventors: Lisa A. Hendrickson, Mount Laurel, NJ

(US); James H. Gardner, III, Ambler, PA (US); Richard Adelman,

Greensboro, NC (US)

(73) Assignee: **Destination Maternity Corporation**,

Wilmington, DE (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this

patent is extended or adjusted under 35

U.S.C. 154(b) by 647 days.

(21) Appl. No.: 11/756,242

(22) Filed: May 31, 2007

(65) Prior Publication Data

US 2008/0295225 A1 Dec. 4, 2008

(51) **Int. Cl.** *A41D 13/00* (2006.01) *A41D 9/00* (2006.01)

See application file for complete search history.

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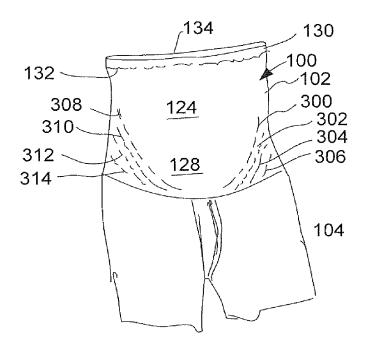
* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner—Gloria Hale (74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm—DLA Piper LLP (US)

(57) ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to a garment worn during different stages of pregnancy and different stages of postpartum body changes. A garment upper portion has a belly panel that is expansible to cover and fit over a growing abdomen during different stages of pregnancy, and a garment lower portion having a first torso encircling circumference that recedes downward to make way for expansion of the belly panel. The garment upper portion has a second torso encircling circumference to hold the garment up and in place over the torso.

25 Claims, 8 Drawing Sheets



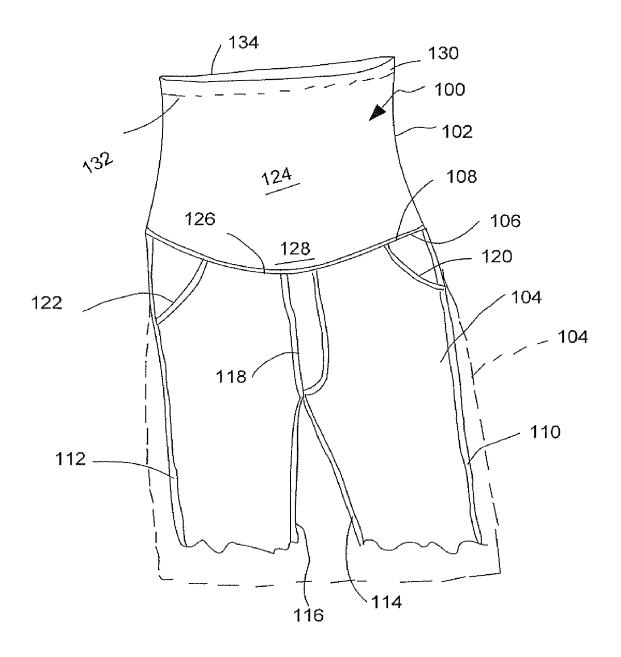


FIG. 1

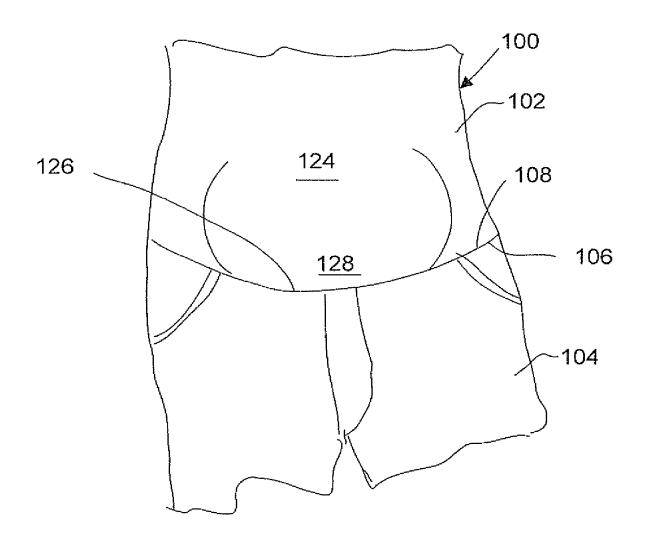


FIG. 1A

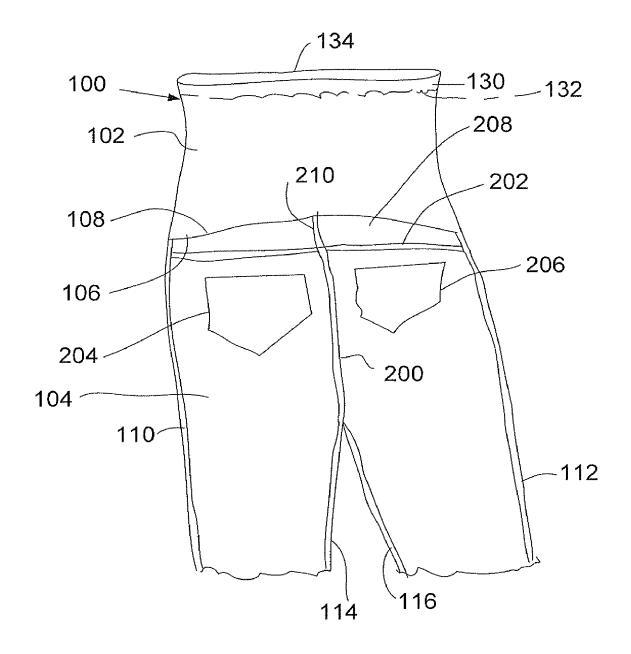


FIG. 2

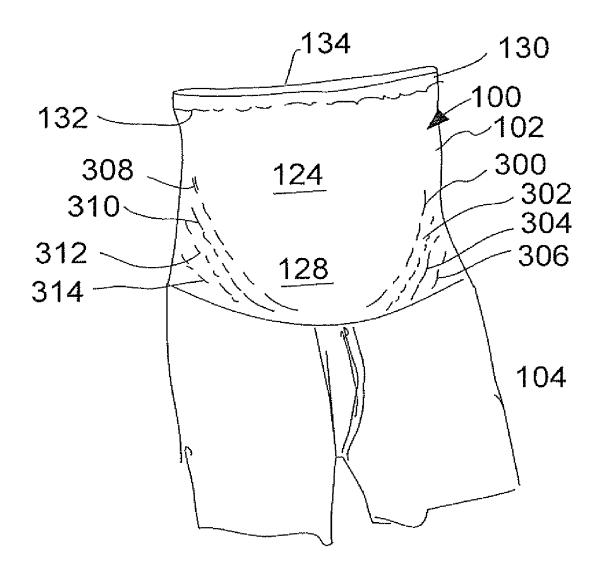


FIG. 3

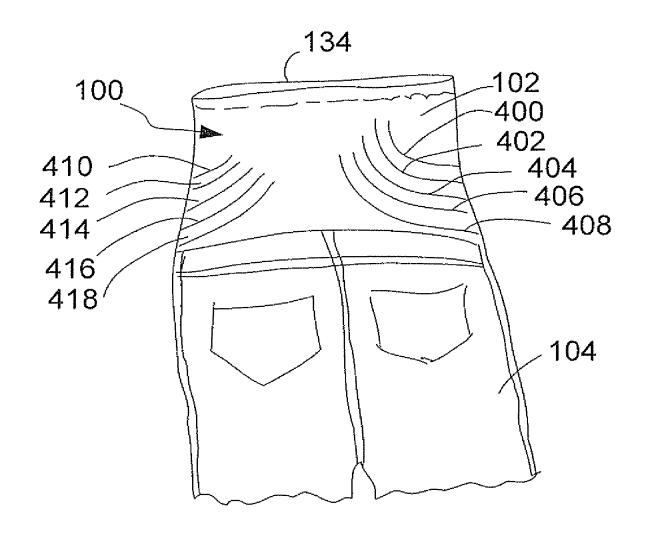


FIG. 4

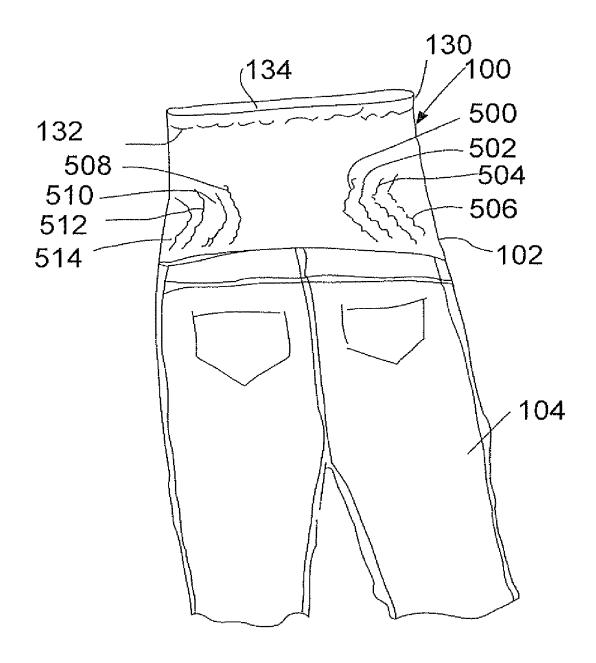


FIG. 5

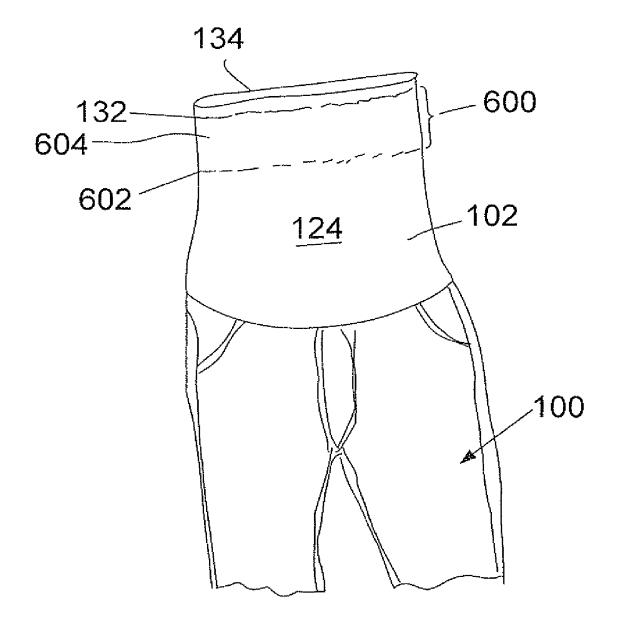


FIG. 6

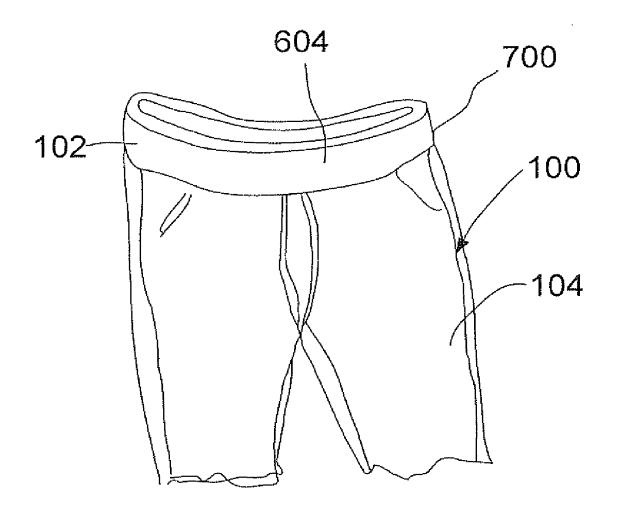


FIG. 7

Remarks

The claims as issued in the '575 Patent remain unchanged by this Preliminary Amendment. New Claims 26-29 are added. The newly added claims are directed to additional features of the contemplated invention. Support for the new claims can be found in the specification of the '575 Patent (and its originally filed application). No new matter is added by these amendments.

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.173(c), the following is an identification of the support for the added claims as found in the specification of the '575 Patent.

Newly Added Claim 26

26. The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment lower portion comprises denim jeans.

Column 2, lines 27-29 of the '575 Patent (for which reissue is sought) describes the claimed feature as follows: "The garment lower portion 104 comprises, for example, a pair of trousers, such as, denim jeans."

Newly Added Claim 27

27. The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment lower portion comprises a zipperless fly.

Column 2, lines 37-38 of the '575 Patent (for which reissue is sought) describes the claimed feature as follows: "For example, the front center seam 106 defines a sewn 'zipper less' fly front."

Newly Added Claim 28

28. The garment of claim 1, wherein the first torso-encircling circumference recedes downward with a parabolic shape, said parabolic shape including a shallow curvature.

Column 2, line 62 through column 3, line 2 of the '575 Patent (for which reissue is sought) describes the claimed feature as follows: "...the garment lower portion 104 provides a first torso encircling circumference 126 that recedes downward with a parabolic shape...The parabolic shape includes a shallow curvature..."

Newly Added Claim 29

29. The garment of claim 28, wherein the belly panel extends at least partially under the abdomen of the wearer to meet the parabolic receding circumference of the garment lower portion.

Column 3, lines 2-6 of the '575 Patent (for which reissue is sought) describes the claimed feature as follows: "The belly panel 124 extends at least partially under the abdomen of the garment wearer to meet and join the bottom portion 128 of the belly panel 124 with the parabolic receding circumference 126 of the garment lower portion 104."

Conclusion

As indicated above, there is support for each of the features of the claims as added by this Preliminary Amendment in the specification of US Patent No. 7,814,575 (for which reissue is now sought).

It is respectfully submitted that the claims as pending in this reissue application are in allowable form. Acceptance of all amendments and a notice of allowance are requested, followed by publication of the reissue patent.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard L. Cruz

Reg. No. 52,783 Attorney for Applicants

RLC/nn (215) 656-2446

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit

Examiner

Customer No. 035811

Scrial No. Filed

Docket No.: DMC-10-1220RE

Reissue of Patent

: Herewith : 7,814,575

Issued Inventor - : October 19, 2010 : Lisa A. Hendrickson

: James H. Gardner, III : Richard Adelman

Title

: BELLY COVERING

: GARMENT

Date: June 15, 2011

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT SUBMITTED WITH REISSUE APPLICATION

Mail Stop REISSUE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Washington, D.C. 20231-1450

Siri

The Applicants submit herewith Form PTO-1449 together with a copy of each of the eight (8) listed non-US publications. The documents are submitted under 37 CFR §1.56 and are believed related to this application.

The Applicants respectfully request that this Information Disclosure Statement be officially entered into the file and that appropriate notification be made that it was considered by the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted.

Richard L. Cruz

Reg. No. 52,783

Attorney for Applicants

RLC/nn (215) 656-2446

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit

Examiner

Customer No. 035811

Docket No.: DMC-10-1220RE

Serial No.

Filed

: Herewith

Reissue of Patent Issued

: 7,814,575 : October 19, 2010

Inventor

: Lisa A. Hendrickson : James H. Gardner, III : Richard Adelman

Title

: BELLY COVERING

: GARMENT

REISSUE APPLICATION OATH AND CONSENT BY THE ASSIGNEE (Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.172)

I, Ronald J. Masciantonio, a citizen of the United States, am the Senior Vice President and General Counsel of Destination Maternity Corporation ("DMC"), and as such, am authorized to act on behalf of DMC.

To the best of my knowledge and understanding, DMC is the sole assignee of the entire right, title, and interest in and to U.S. Patent No. 7,814,575 (the '575 Patent), issued on October 19, 2010.

Documentary evidence of a chain of title of the '575 Patent from the original owners to DMC is recorded in the assignment records of the US Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 019670, Frame 0495 which shows an assignment from the inventors to Mothers Work, Inc., and at Reel 023390, Frame 0079 which shows an assignment from Mothers Work, Inc. to Destination Maternity Corporation.

To the best of my knowledge and understanding, the inventors listed below to be the original and first inventors of the subject matter which is described and claimed in the '575 Patent, for which a reissue patent is sought, on the invention entitled BELLY COVERING GARMENT, the specification of which is attached hereto together with a Preliminary Amendment that includes newly added claims:

- 1. Lisa A. Hendrickson, a citizen of the United States, residing at 791 Comwallis Drive, Mount Laurel, New Jersey 08054;
- 2. James H. Gardner, III, a citizen of the United States, residing at 1329 Squire Drive, Ambler, Pennsylvania 19002; and

 Richard Adelman, a citizen of the United States, residing at 5 Sunfish Point, Greensboro, North Carolina 27455.

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims as amended by the newly added claims referred to above.

By this declaration, DMC, assignee of the '575 Patent, hereby consents to the filling of the present application for the reissue of U.S. Patent No. 7,814,575.

To the best of my knowledge and understanding, the original '575 Patent to be wholly or partly inoperative by the reason of the patentee claiming less than it had the right to claim. For instance, the issued claims of the '575 Patent fail to explicitly recite features such as a lower garment portion that comprises denim jeans and/or a zipperless fly. All errors being corrected in the reissue application up to the time of this declaration arose without deceptive intent.

Direct all communications about the application to the address associated with Customer No. 035811. Direct all telephone calls regarding the application to Richard L. Cruz at 215-656-2446.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine and imprisonment, or both, under 18 USC §1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this declaration is directed.

Monaid N Masciantonio,

Senior Vice President & General Counsel Destination Maternity Corporation

456 North 5th Street Philadelphia, PA 19123 6/15/11

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Privacy Act Statement

The **Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-**579) requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

- 1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether disclosure of these records is required by the Freedom of Information Act.
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- A record related to an international Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
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- 7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
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Electronic Patent /	Ap p	olication Fee	Transmi	ttal	
Application Number:					
Filing Date:					
itle of Invention: Belly Covering Garment					
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Lis	a A. Hendrickson			
Filer:	Pa	ul A. Taufer/Nancy	Nunez		
Attorney Docket Number:	DΜ	1C-10-1220RE			
Filed as Large Entity					
Reissue (Utility) Filing Fees					
Description		Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD(\$)
Basic Filing:					
Utility Reissue Basic		1014	1	330	330
Design and utility Reissue Basic		1114	1	540	540
Design and utility Reissue Basic		1314	1	650	650
Pages:					
Claims:					
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Miscellaneous-Filing:					
Petition:					

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Patent-Appeals-and-Interference:				
Post-Allowance-and-Post-Issuance:				
Extension-of-Time:				
Miscellaneous:				
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Electronic Ack	knowledgement Receipt
EFS ID:	10312468
Application Number:	13161138
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	4808
Title of Invention:	Belly Covering Garment
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Lisa A. Hendrickson
Customer Number:	35811
Filer:	Paul A. Taufer/Nancy Nunez
Filer Authorized By:	Paul A. Taufer
Attorney Docket Number:	DMC-10-1220RE
Receipt Date:	15-JUN-2011
Filing Date:	
Time Stamp:	16:48:48
Application Type:	Reissue (Utility)

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	yes
Payment Type	Deposit Account
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Deposit Account	502719
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New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111

If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

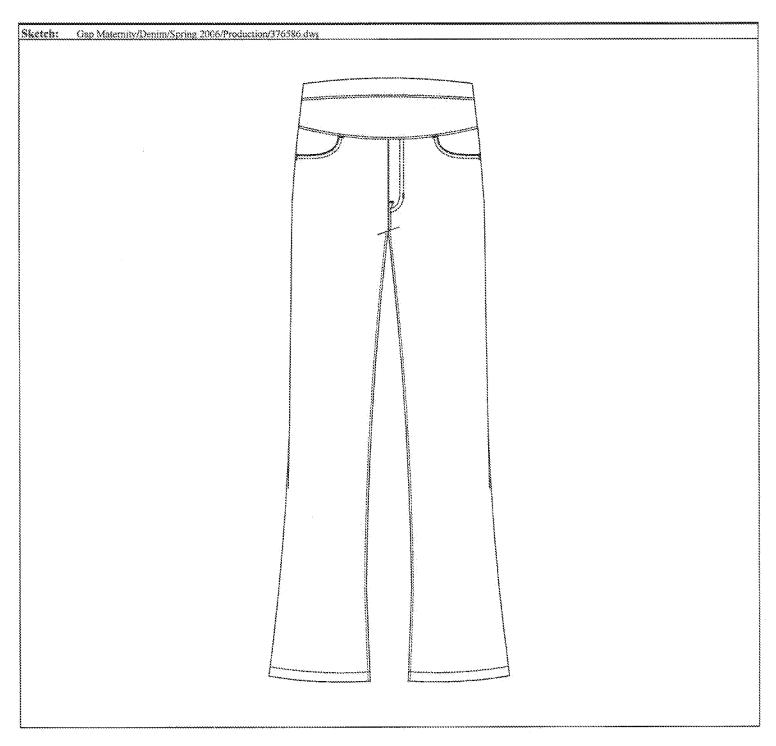
National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371

If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

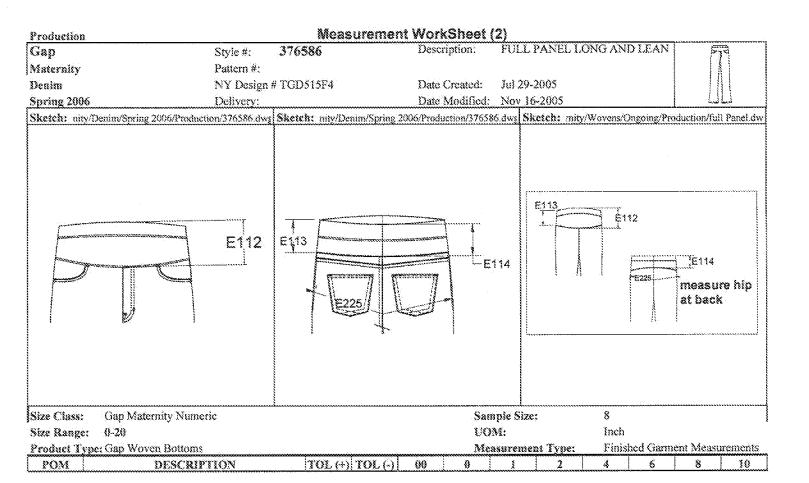
New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office

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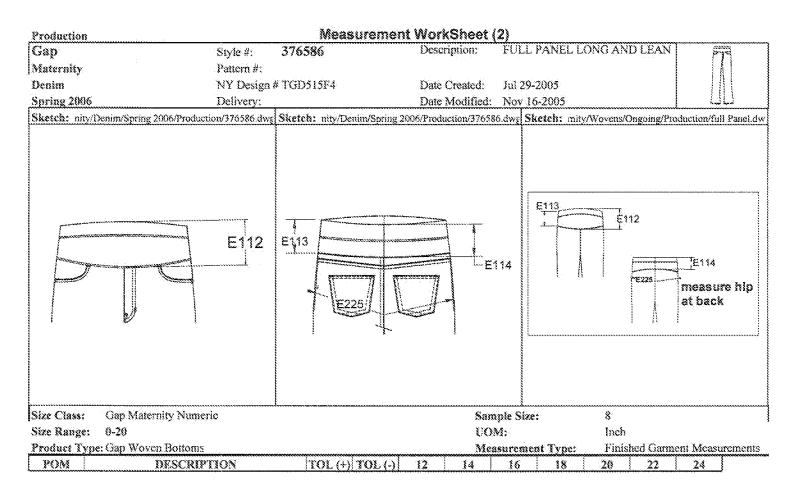
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Maternity	Pattern #:					
Benim	NY Design # TGD515F4		Date Created:	Jul 29-2005		
Spring 2006	Oelivery:		Date Modified:	Nov 16-2005		اللا
Comment:					BestSeller	
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Vendor	Status	Date	Ven	dor	Status	Date
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Sketch Page-Back
Description: Production FULL PANEL LONG AND LEAN Gap Style #: 376586 Maternity Pattern #: Date Created: Denim NY Design # TGD515F4 Jul 29-2005 Spring 2006 Comment: Delivery: Date Modified: Nov 16-2005 Sketch: Gap Maternity/Denim/Spring 2006/Production/376586 dwg



E112	*Panel Height at CF from Top Edge	1/4	1/4	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0
E113	*Panel Height at SS from Top Edge	1/4	1/4	0	0	0	Q.	0	0	4 1/2	0
B114	*Panel Height at CB from Top Edge	1/4	1/4	0	0	0	0	0	0	3 3/4	0



E112	*Panel Height at CF from Top Edge	1/4	1/4	0	0	0	0	0	0
E113	*Panel Height at SS from Top Edge	1/4	1/4	0.	0.	0	- 3	0	0
E114	*Panel Height at CB from Top Edge	1/4	1/4	0	0	0	0	0	0

Calculated Measurement (2) Production FULL PANEL LONG AND LEAN Gap Style #: 376586 Description: Maternity Pattern #: Date Created: Jul 29-2005 Denim NY Design # TGD515F4 Spring 2006 Delivery: Date Modified: Nov 16-2005

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E113	*Panel Height at SS from Top Edge	1/4	1/4	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4.1/2

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*Panel Height at CB from Top Edge

E114

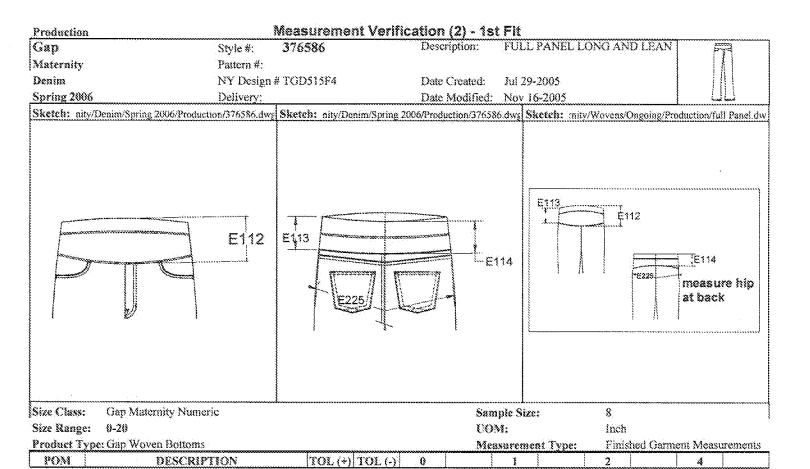
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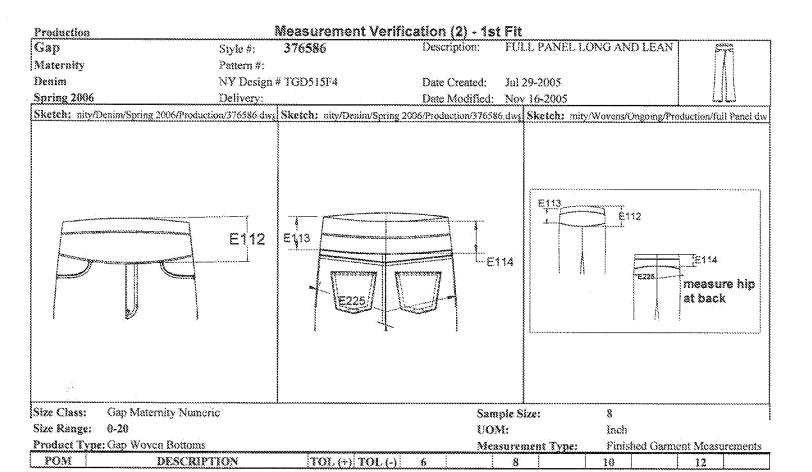
Calculated Measurement (2) Production FULL PANEL LONG AND LEAN Gap 376586 Description: Style #: Maternity Pattern #: Denim NY Design#TGD515F4 Date Created: Jul 29-2005 Spring 2006 Delivery: Date Modified: Nov 16-2005

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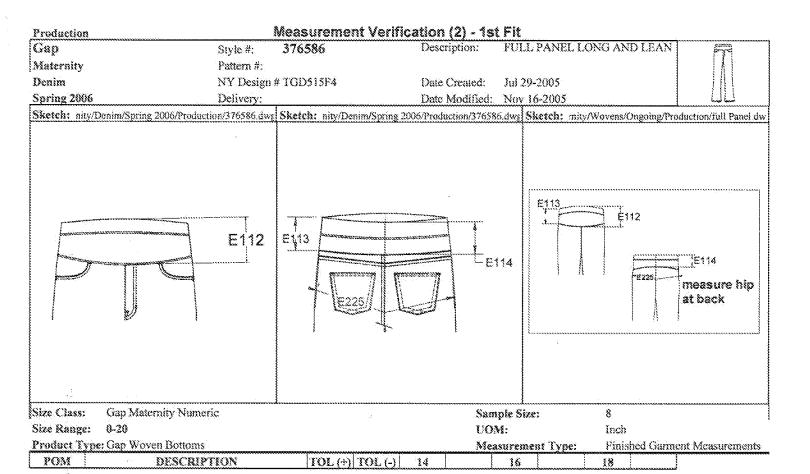
E112	*Panel Height at CF from Top Edge	1/4	1/4	9	9	9	9
E113	*Panel Height at SS from Top Edge	1/4	1/4	4.1/2	4 1/2	4.1/2	4 1/2
E114	*Panel Height at CB from Top Edge	1/4	1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4



E112	*Panel Height at CF from Top Edge	1/4	1/4	91	9	9:	9
E113	*Panel Height at SS from Top Edge	1/4	1/4	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
E114	*Panel Height at CB from Top Edge	1/4	1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4



E112	*Panel Height at CF from Top Edge	.1/4	1/4	9	.9	9	9
E113	*Panel Height at SS from Top Edge	1/4	1/4	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
E114	*Panel Height at CB from Top Edge	1/4	1/4	3 1/4	3.1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4



E112	*Panel Height at CF from Top Edge	1/4	3/4	9	9	9
E113	*Panel Height at SS from Top Edge	1/4	1/4	4.5	4,5	4.5
E114	*Panel Height at CB from Top Edge	1/4	1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4

Production

Calculated Measurement (2)

Gap Maternity

Style #: Pattern #: 313773

Description:

Roll Panel Modern Chine

Wavens

313773 NY Design # TGB014F5

Date Created:

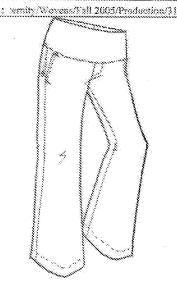
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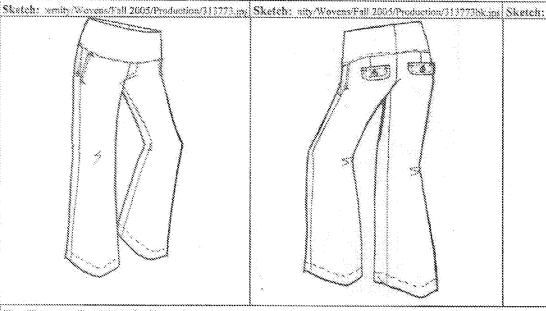
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Delivery:

Date Modified:

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Size Class:

Gap Materalty Numeric

Size Range:

0-20

Product Type: Gap Woven Bottom:

Sample Size:

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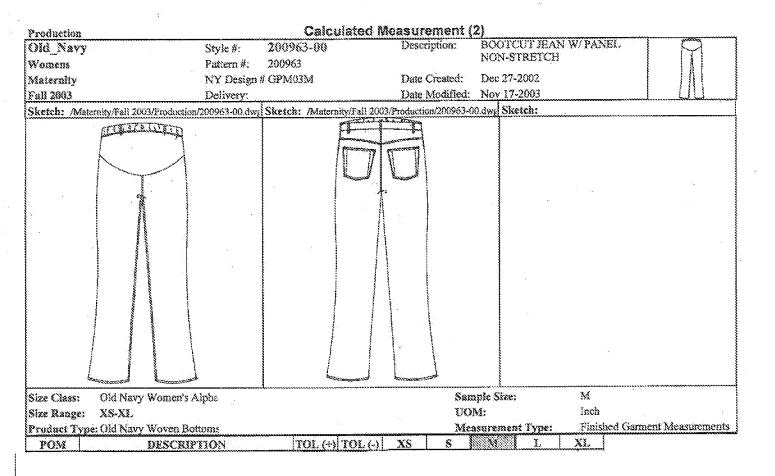
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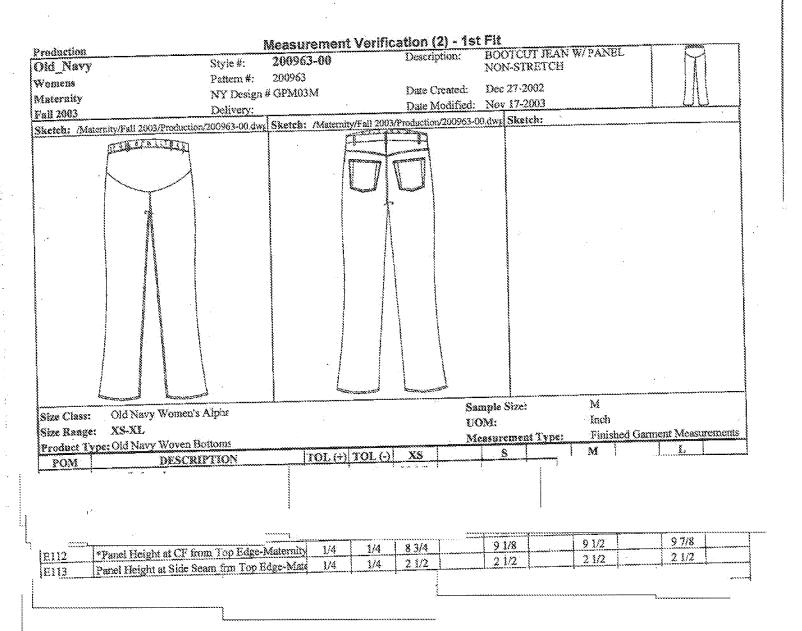
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Elia	*Proved Height at CB from Top Edge	1/4	1/4	6	6	6	6	6	6	ő	6	
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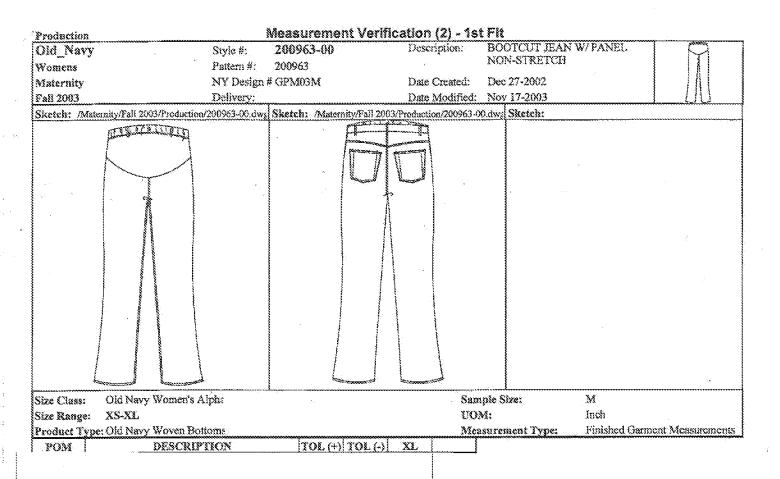
Sketch Page-Front Production BOOTCUT JEAN W/PANEL NON-STRETCH Old_Navy Description: Style#: 200963-00 Womens Pattern#: 200963 Maternity NY Design # GPM03M Date Created: Dec 27-2002 Fall 2003 Delivery: Date Modified: Nov 17-2003 Comment: BestSeller Vendor Status Date Vender Status Date TAINAN ENTERPRISES COLTD Final Mar 05-03 TÄINAN ENTERPRISES COLTD Final Nov 17-03 Sketch: Old Navy Womens/Maternity/Fall 2003/Production/200963-00 dws

Measurement WorkSheet (2) Production BOOTCUT JEAN W/ PANEL Description: Old_Navy Style#: 200963-00 NON-STRETCH Womens 200963 Pattern #: Date Created: Dec 27-2002 Maternity NY Design # GPM03M Date Modified: Nov 17-2003 Fall 2003 Delivery: Sketch: /Maternity/Fall 2003/Production/200963-00.dwg Sketch: /Maternity/Fall 2003/Production/200963-00.dwg Sketch: THE REAL PROPERTY. Old Navy Women's Alpha Sample Size: M Size Class: UOM: Inch Size Range: XS-XL Finished Garment Measurements Product Type: Old Navy Woven Bottoms Measurement Type: POM DESCRIPTION TOL (+) TOL (-) XS 3/8 3/8 3/8 - 3/8 9 1/2 E112 *Panel Height at CF from Top Edge-Maternity 3/4 2 1/2 0 Ø Ø. E113 Panel Height at Side Seam frm Top Edge-Mats 1/4 1/4 0 0



	E112	*Panel Height at CF from Top Edge-Maternity	1/4	1/4	8 3/4	9 1/8	9 1/2	9.7/8	10 1/4
	E113	Panel Height at Side Seam from Top Edge-Mate	§/4	1/4	2 1/2	2 1/2	2.1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2
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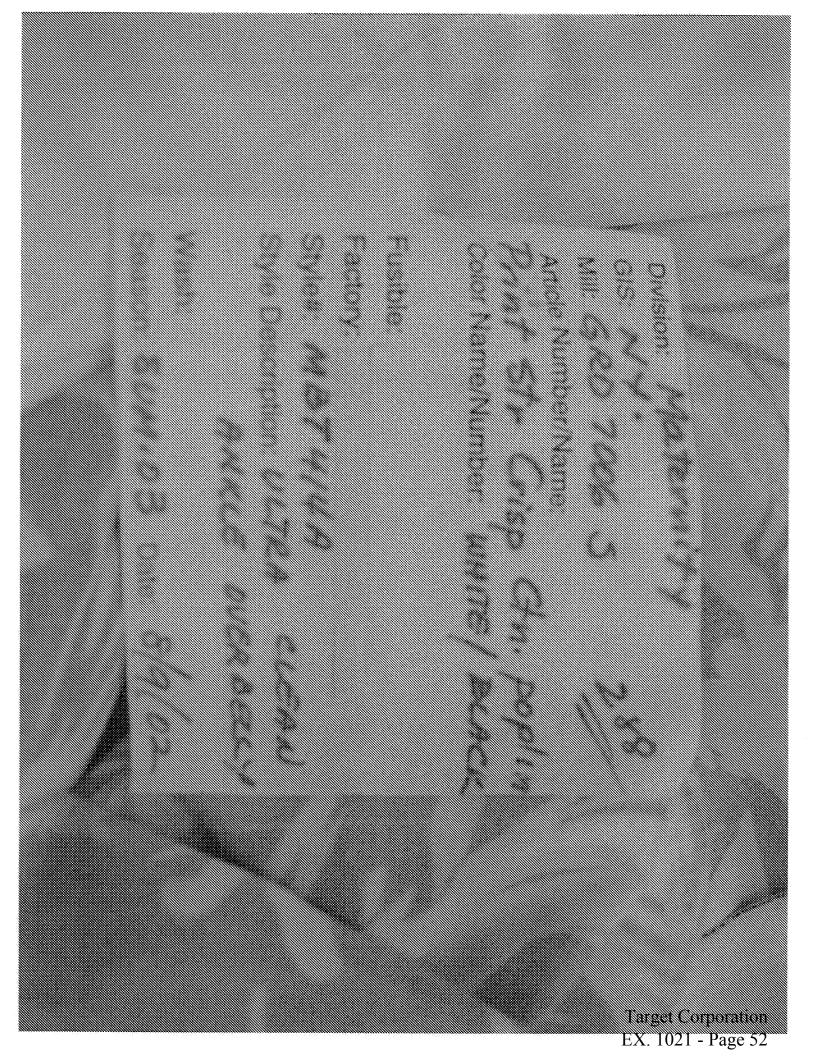


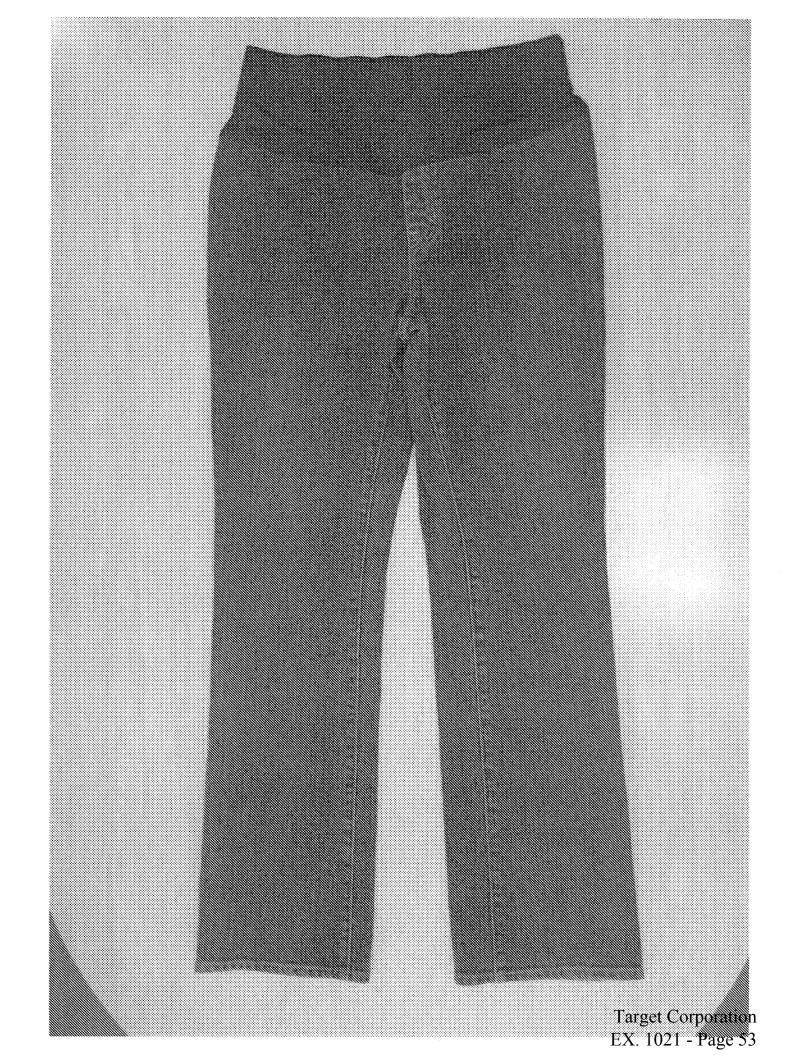


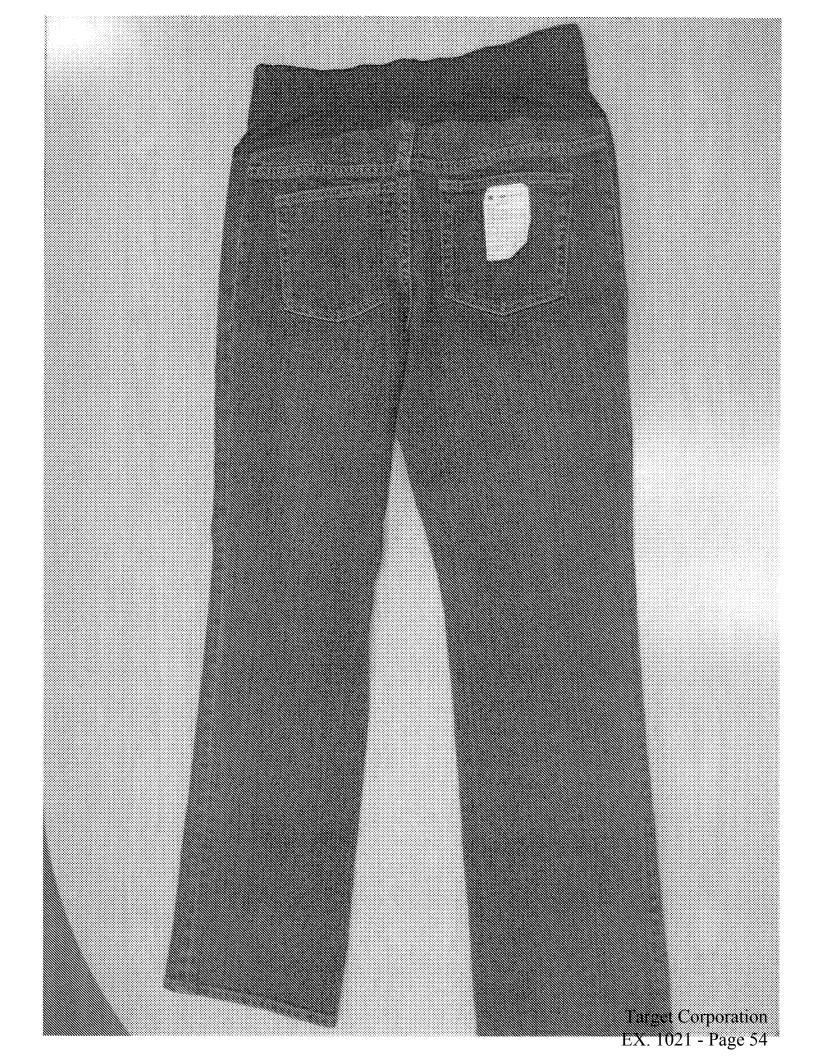
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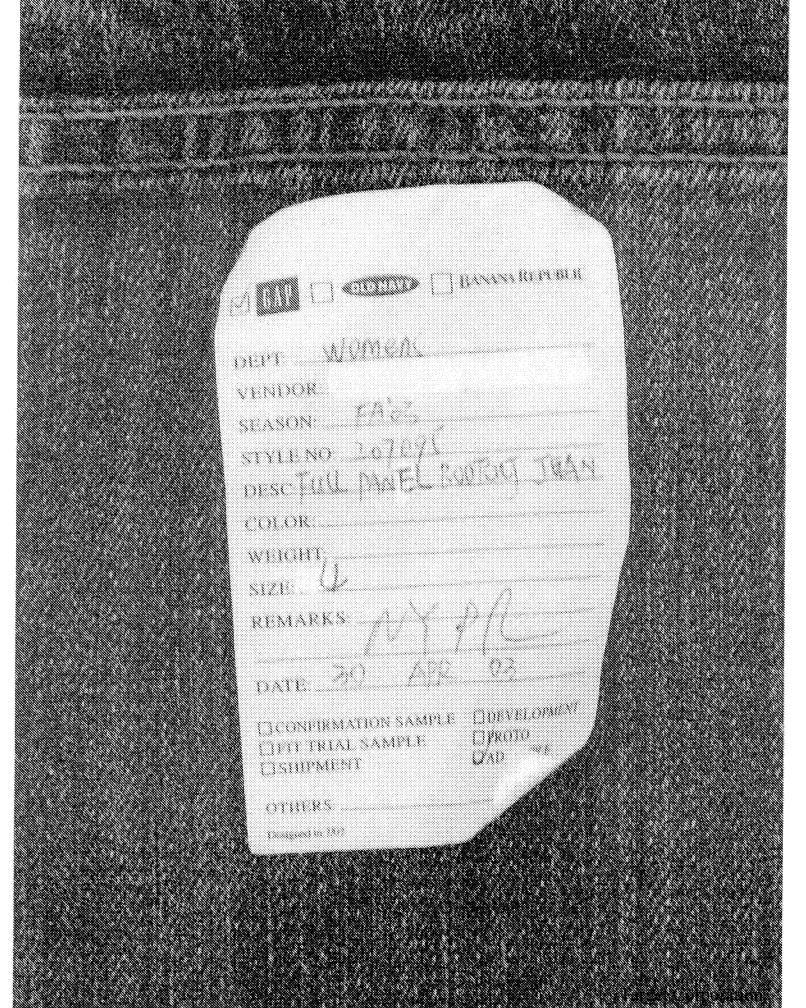


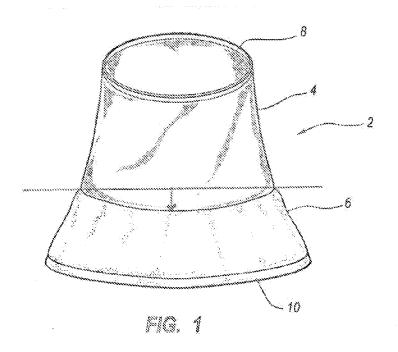












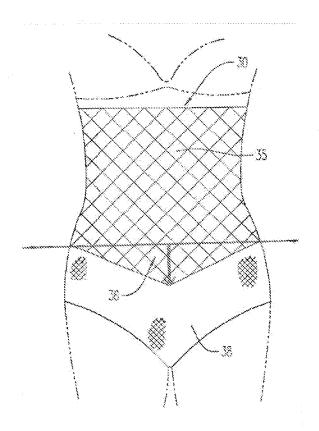
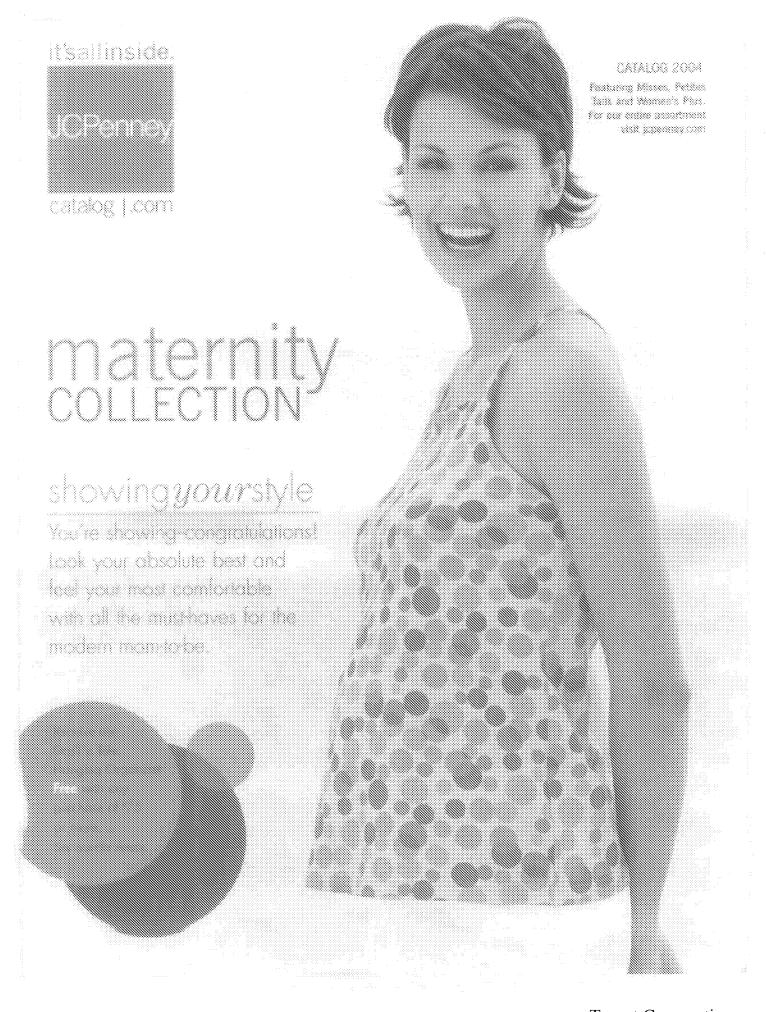


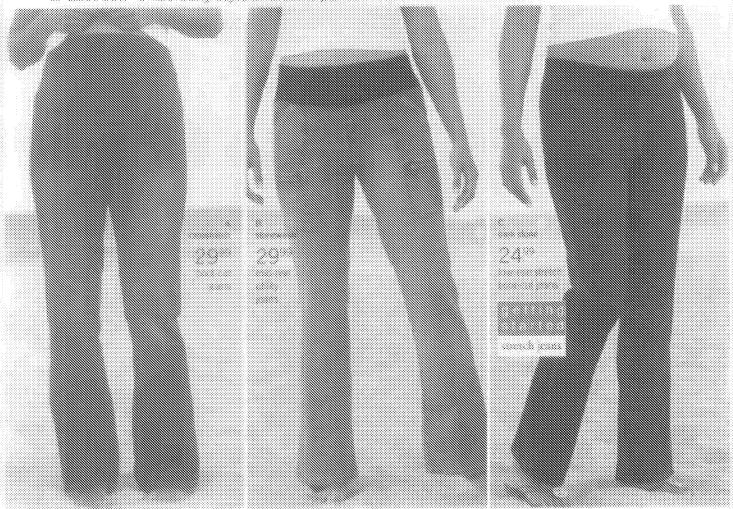
FIG. 3



Target Corporation EX. 1021 - Page 58

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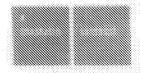
Your genes never had **it so good. Trace your denim options with low-rise**, mid-rise or boot cut. Underbelly style or classic panel. With or without stretch.



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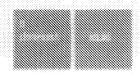


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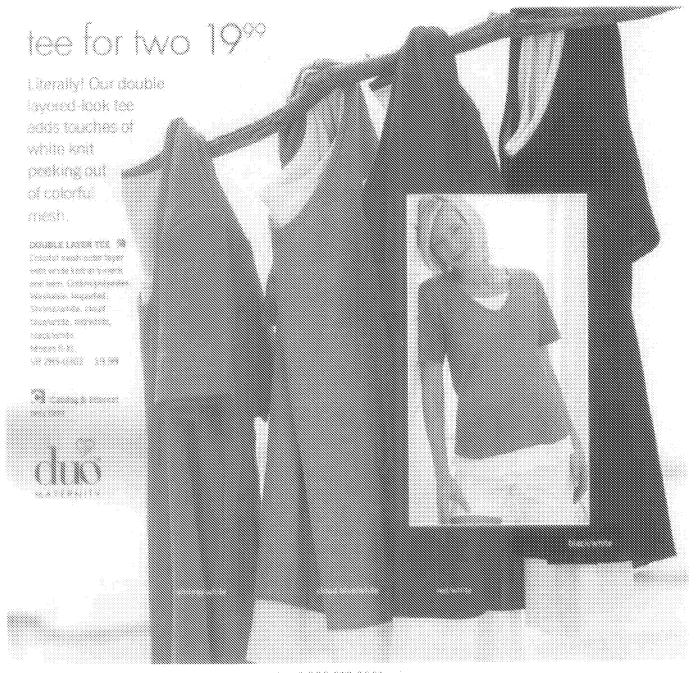
Target Corporation EX. 1021 - Page 62

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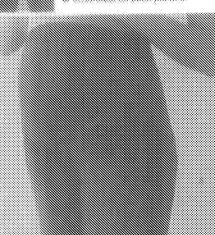
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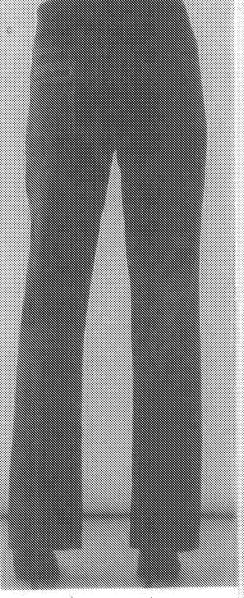


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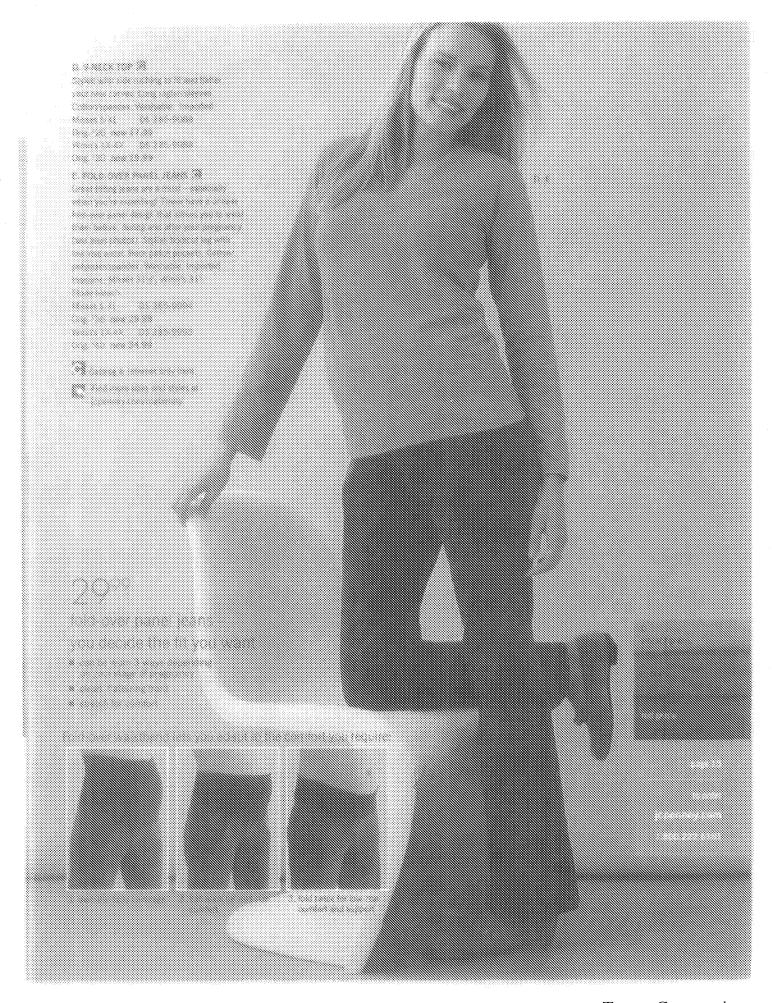
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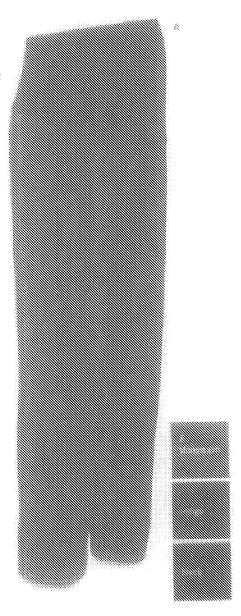
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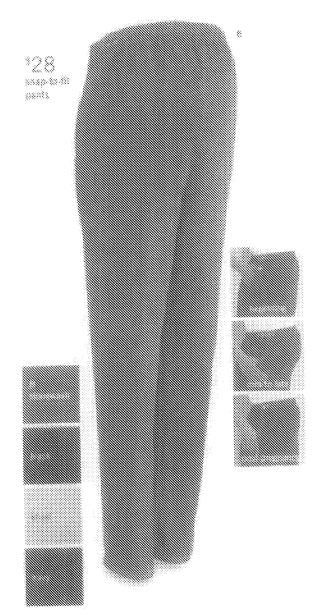


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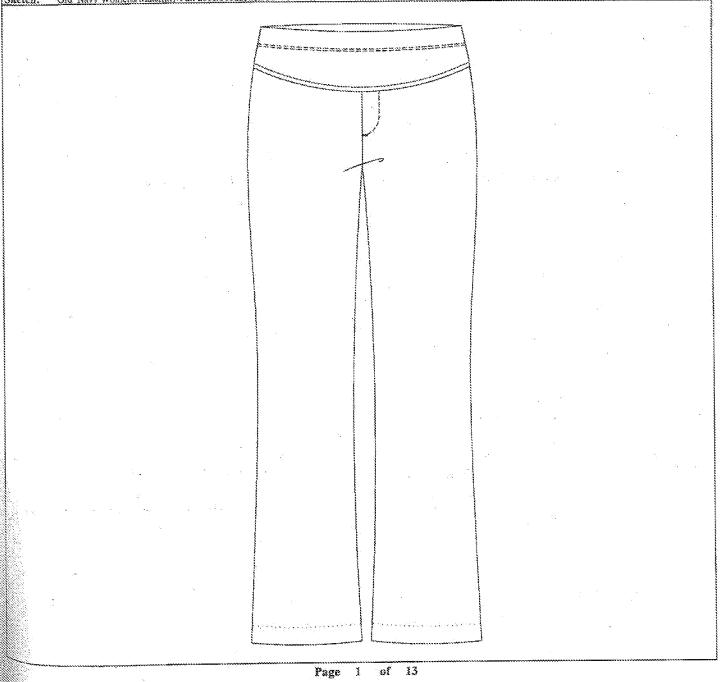
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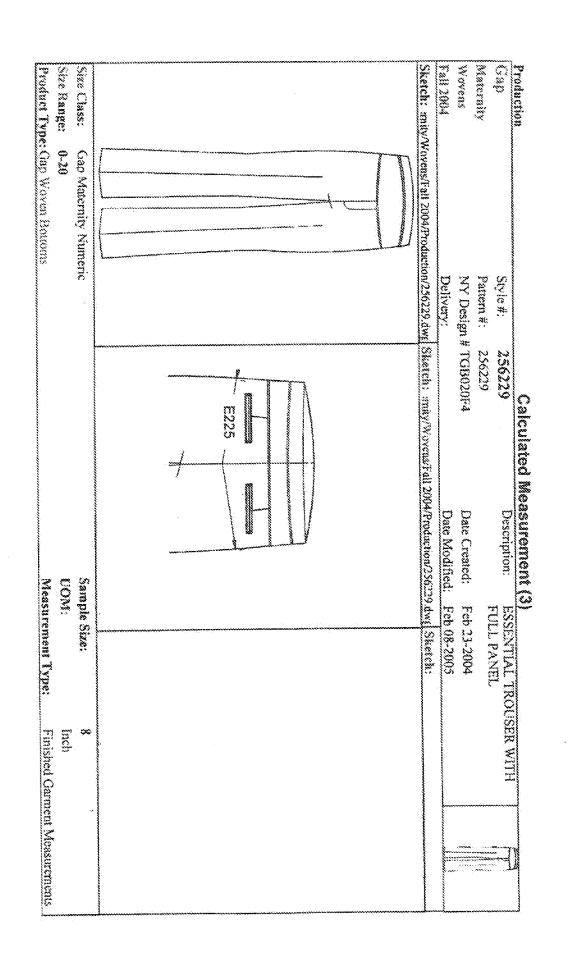
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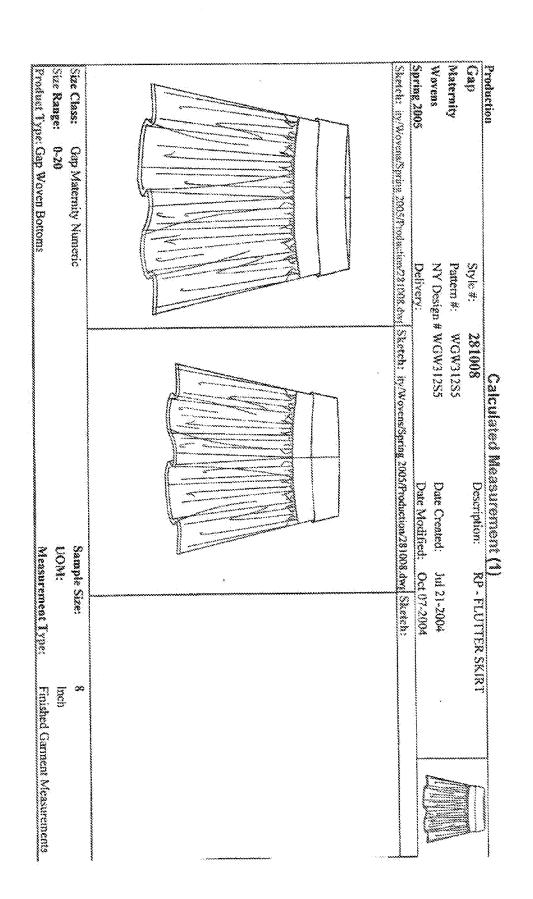
Production Old_Navy Womens Materally	Style #: 324282 Pattern #: owmwd NY Design # 3242825	pp.dg1	Description: Date Created:	Full Panel Stre	ich Twill Boot Cut	
Comment:					RestSeller	1.1.1
Vendor	Status Final	Date Apr 04-05	Ven	der	Status	Date
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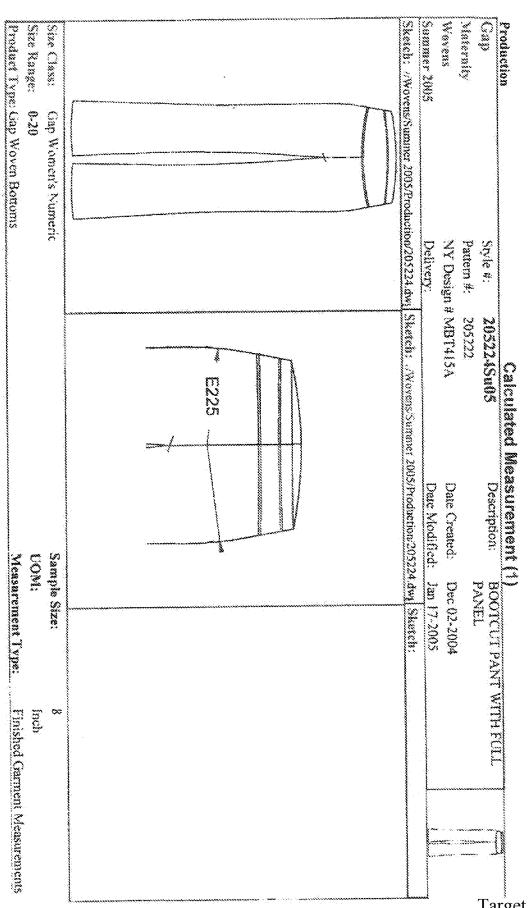


Sketch Page-Back Description: Production Full Panel Stretch Twill Boot Cut 324282 Style #: Old Navy Pattern#: owmwdfpp.dg1 Womens Jan 17-2005 NY Design # 324282SF Date Created: Maternity Comment Old Navy Womens/Maternity/Fall 2005/Production/324282.dwg Sketch:

Page 7 of 13







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In the Claims:

Please amend the claims of the '575 Patent as indicated below:

- 1. (Original) A garment, comprising: a garment upper portion having a belly panel that is expansible to cover and fit over a growing abdomen during different stages of pregnancy; a garment lower portion having a first torso encircling circumference that recedes downward to make way for expansion of the belly panel; and the garment upper portion having a second torso encircling circumference defining an upper edge of the belly panel that encircles a wearer's torso just beneath the wearer's breast area configured to hold the garment up and in place about the torso in a position of a location of maximum girth of the abdomen thereby substantially covering the wearer's entire pregnant abdomen during all stages of pregnancy.
- 2. (Original) The garment of claim 1, wherein the second torso encircling circumference is adjustable in girth in conformance with different body types.
- 3. (Original) The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment upper portion comprises a seamless tubular structure that fits comfortably while being worn, and the belly panel comprises an expansible portion of the tubular structure.
- 4. (Original) The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment upper portion comprises a seamless tubular elastic fabric to stretch elastically.
- 5. (Original) The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment upper portion comprises an elastic fabric that is contractible elastically to cover an abdomen during different stages of postpartum body changes.
- 6. (Original) The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment lower portion has a partial waistband extending from side seams of the garment lower portion and extending

across a back side of the garment lower portion where the partial waistband widens above a wearer's pelvis.

- 7. (Original) The garment of claim 1, further comprising a series of belly cradling stitches or knitted tension in the belly panel, wherein the knitted tension or stitches extend along multiple paths arranged in an elliptical pattern that curves, so as to cradle a curved growing abdomen during various stages of pregnancy.
- 8. (Original) The garment of claim 1, further comprising a series of stitches or knitted tension in the backside of the garment upper portion to provide spinal and back support against the wearer of the garment.
- 9. (Original) The garment of claim 8, wherein the series of stitches or knitted tension in the backside of the garment upper portion extends along a pattern of multiple stitch paths.
- 10. (Original) The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment upper portion is foldable toward the garment lower portion to comprise a folded band on the garment lower portion.
- 11. (Original) The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment lower portion has a partial waistband extending from side seams of the garment lower portion wherein the partial waistband tapers toward the side seams and widens above a wearer's pelvis across a back side of the garment lower portion.
- 12. (Original) The garment of claim 1, comprising: knitted tension in the backside of the garment upper portion providing spinal column and back support for a wearer of the garment.

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- 13. (Original) The garment of claim 1, comprising: a series of sewn supporting stitches in the backside of the garment upper portion providing spinal column and back support for a wearer of the garment.
- 14. (Original) The garment of claim 1, comprising: a series of sewn supporting stitches in the backside of the garment upper portion providing spinal column and back support for a wearer of the garment, wherein the stitches are arranged along multiple stitch paths grouped in a hyperbolic pattern, a curved pattern or a truncated, v-shaped pattern along an axis extending substantially vertically along a spinal supporting section of the fabric.
- 15. (Original) The garment of claim 1, wherein an edge margin of the garment upper portion is folded over and knitted to an inside of the fabric to provide a perimeter hem stitch.
- 16. (Original) The garment of claim 1, wherein an edge margin of the garment upper portion is folded over and sewn or knitted to an inside of the fabric to provide a perimeter hem stitch.
- 17. (Original) The garment of claim 1, wherein the second torso encircling circumference comprises stretchable fabric to adjust the girth in conformance with different body types.
- 18. (Original) The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment upper portion is a tubular structure, wherein the tubular structure is shaped and formed as a hyperboloid cylinder to fit a body type having a tapered torso.

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- 19. (Original) The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment upper portion is a tubular structure, wherein the tubular structure is shaped and formed as a straight sided cylinder to fit a body type having a corresponding shaped torso.
- 20. (Original) The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment upper portion comprises a double layer tubular structure, and an inner layer of stretchable fabric between two layers of the double-layer tubular structure.
- 21. (Original) The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment upper portion comprises a fabric, and the fabric is doubled back on itself downward to form a double-layer tubular structure that extends downward for at least a portion of the garment upper portion, and the layers of the double-layer tubular structure are sewn together with a tubular perimeter drop stitch.
- 22. (Original) The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment upper portion comprises a fabric doubled back on itself downward to form a double-layer tubular structure that extends downward for at least a portion of the garment upper portion, the layer of the double-layer tubular structure are sewn together with a tubular perimeter drop stitch, and an edge margin of the garment upper portion is knitted to an inside of the fabric to provide a perimeter hem stitch.
- 23. (Original) The garment of claim 3, wherein the seamless tubular structure comprises a fabric doubled back on itself downward to form a double-layer tubular structure that extends downward for at least a portion of the garment upper portion, the layers of the double-layer tubular structure are sewn together with a tubular perimeter drop stitch, and an edge margin of the garment upper portion is folded over and sewn or knitted to an inside of the fabric to provide a perimeter hem stitch.

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- 24. (Original) The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment upper portion is foldable toward the garment lower portion to provide a folded band on the garment lower portion to be worn as a garment bottom having no top.
- 25. (Original) The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment lower portion comprises one of a pair of trousers and a skirt.
- 26. (New) The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment lower portion comprises denim jeans.
- 27. (New) The garment of claim 1, wherein the garment lower portion comprises a zipperless fly.
- 28. (New) The garment of claim 1, wherein the first torso-encircling circumference recedes downward with a parabolic shape, said parabolic shape including a shallow curvature.
- 29. (New) The garment of claim 28, wherein the belly panel extends at least partially under the abdomen of the wearer to meet the parabolic receding circumference of the garment lower portion.

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	IC FEE FR 1.16(a), (b), or (c))	١	J/A	١	N/A		N/A			N/A	330
	RCH FEE FR 1.16(k), (i), or (m))	١	I/A	١	N/A		N/A			N/A	540
	MINATION FEE FR 1.16(o), (p), or (q))	١	I/A	١	N/A		N/A			N/A	650
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	EPENDENT CLAIN FR 1.16(h))	^{//S} 1	minus 3	= *						x 220 =	0.00
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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION	FILING or	GRP ART				
NUMBER	371(c) DATE	UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY.DOCKET.NO	TOT CLAIMS	IND CLAIMS
13/161 138	06/15/2011	3765	1988	DMC-10-1220RE	29	1

CONFIRMATION NO. 4808

35811 IP GROUP OF DLA PIPER LLP (US) ONE LIBERTY PLACE 1650 MARKET ST, SUITE 4900 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103

0C00000048321946

FILING RECEIPT

Date Mailed: 06/21/2011

Receipt is acknowledged of this reissue patent application. The application will be taken up for examination in due course. Applicant will be notified as to the results of the examination. Any correspondence concerning the application must include the following identification information: the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please submit a written request for a Filing Receipt Correction. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections

Applicant(s)

Lisa A. Hendrickson, Mount Laurel, NJ; James H. Gardner III, Ambler, PA; Richard Adelman, Greensboro, NC;

Assignment For Published Patent Application

Destination Maternity Corporation, Philadelphia, PA

Power of Attorney: The patent practitioners associated with Customer Number 35811

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a REI of 11/756,242 05/31/2007 PAT 7,814,575

Foreign Applications (You may be eligible to benefit from the **Patent Prosecution Highway** program at the USPTO. Please see http://www.uspto.gov for more information.)

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 06/20/2011

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US 13/161,138**

Projected Publication Date: None, application is not eligible for pre-grant publication

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

Title

Belly Covering Garment

Preliminary Class

002

PROTECTING YOUR INVENTION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process **simplifies** the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but **does not result** in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

Almost every country has its own patent law, and a person desiring a patent in a particular country must make an application for patent in that country in accordance with its particular laws. Since the laws of many countries differ in various respects from the patent law of the United States, applicants are advised to seek guidance from specific foreign countries to ensure that patent rights are not lost prematurely.

Applicants also are advised that in the case of inventions made in the United States, the Director of the USPTO must issue a license before applicants can apply for a patent in a foreign country. The filing of a U.S. patent application serves as a request for a foreign filing license. The application's filing receipt contains further information and quidance as to the status of applicant's license for foreign filing.

Applicants may wish to consult the USPTO booklet, "General Information Concerning Patents" (specifically, the section entitled "Treaties and Foreign Patents") for more information on timeframes and deadlines for filing foreign patent applications. The guide is available either by contacting the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199, or it can be viewed on the USPTO website at http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/doc/general/index.html.

For information on preventing theft of your intellectual property (patents, trademarks and copyrights), you may wish to consult the U.S. Government website, http://www.stopfakes.gov. Part of a Department of Commerce initiative, this website includes self-help "toolkits" giving innovators guidance on how to protect intellectual property in specific countries such as China, Korea and Mexico. For questions regarding patent enforcement issues, applicants may call the U.S. Government hotline at 1-866-999-HALT (1-866-999-4158).

LICENSE FOR FOREIGN FILING UNDER Title 35, United States Code, Section 184 Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15

GRANTED

The applicant has been granted a license under 35 U.S.C. 184, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" followed by a date appears on this form. Such licenses are issued in all applications where the conditions for issuance of a license have been met, regardless of whether or not a license may be required as

set forth in 37 CFR 5.15. The scope and limitations of this license are set forth in 37 CFR 5.15(a) unless an earlier license has been issued under 37 CFR 5.15(b). The license is subject to revocation upon written notification. The date indicated is the effective date of the license, unless an earlier license of similar scope has been granted under 37 CFR 5.13 or 5.14.

This license is to be retained by the licensee and may be used at any time on or after the effective date thereof unless it is revoked. This license is automatically transferred to any related applications(s) filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d). This license is not retroactive.

The grant of a license does not in any way lessen the responsibility of a licensee for the security of the subject matter as imposed by any Government contract or the provisions of existing laws relating to espionage and the national security or the export of technical data. Licensees should apprise themselves of current regulations especially with respect to certain countries, of other agencies, particularly the Office of Defense Trade Controls, Department of State (with respect to Arms, Munitions and Implements of War (22 CFR 121-128)); the Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce (15 CFR parts 730-774); the Office of Foreign AssetsControl, Department of Treasury (31 CFR Parts 500+) and the Department of Energy.

NOT GRANTED

No license under 35 U.S.C. 184 has been granted at this time, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" DOES NOT appear on this form. Applicant may still petition for a license under 37 CFR 5.12, if a license is desired before the expiration of 6 months from the filing date of the application. If 6 months has lapsed from the filing date of this application and the licensee has not received any indication of a secrecy order under 35 U.S.C. 181, the licensee may foreign file the application pursuant to 37 CFR 5.15(b).

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
13/161,138	06/15/2011	Lisa A. Hendrickson	DMC-10-1220RE	4808	
	7590 12/15/201 DLA PIPER LLP (US	_	EXAM	IINER	
ONE LIBERTY PLACE 1650 MARKET ST, SUITE 4900			HALE, GLORIA M		
PHILADELPH	*		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
			3765		
			NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
			12/15/2011	ELECTRONIC	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

pto.phil@dlapiper.com

	Application No.	Applicant(s)				
Office Action Commencer	13/161,138	HENDRICKSON	ET AL.			
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit				
	GLORIA HALE	3765				
The MAILING DATE of this communication appo Period for Reply	ears on the cover sheet with	the correspondence ad	idress			
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DA - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period w - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	TE OF THIS COMMUNICA 6(a). In no event, however, may a repl III apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTH cause the application to become ABAN	ATION. y be timely filed IS from the mailing date of this of the condition of the conditio				
Status						
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on						
	-· action is non-final.					
3) An election was made by the applicant in respo		ment set forth during th	e interview on			
; the restriction requirement and election	•	•	0 11101 410 44 011			
4) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is						
closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.						
·						
Disposition of Claims						
5) \boxtimes Claim(s) <u>1-29</u> is/are pending in the application.						
5a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdraw	n from consideration.					
6) Claim(s) is/are allowed.						
7)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-29</u> is/are rejected.						
8) Claim(s) is/are objected to.						
9) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or	election requirement.					
Application Papers						
10) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner						
11)⊠ The drawing(s) filed on 15 June 2011 is/are: a)	accepted or b) □ objected	ed to by the Examiner.				
Applicant may not request that any objection to the o	Irawing(s) be held in abeyance	e. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).				
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction	on is required if the drawing(s)	is objected to. See 37 C	FR 1.121(d).			
12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Exa	aminer. Note the attached (Office Action or form P	ΓΟ-152.			
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119						
13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign	oriority under 35 U.S.C. § 1	19(a)-(d) or (f).				
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:	have because the					
1. Certified copies of the priority documents		Nigotion No				
	2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No					
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage						
application from the International Bureau	` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` `	a a live d				
See the attached detailed Office action for a list of	* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.					
Attachment(s)						
1) X Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)		nmary (PTO-413)				
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)		Mail Date ormal Patent Application				
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>6-15-11</u> .	6) Other:					

DETAILED ACTION

The reissue oath/declaration filed with this application is defective because it fails to identify at least one proper error which is relied upon to support the reissue application. See 37 CFR 1.175(a)(1) and MPEP § 1414.

The reissue oath/declaration filed with this application is defective because the error which is relied upon to support the reissue application is not an error upon which a reissue can be based. See 37 CFR 1.175(a)(1) and MPEP § 1414.

The reissue oath/declaration filed with this application is defective (see 37 CFR 1.175 and MPEP § 1414) because of the following:

Because it did not identify the specific claim which is defective. Applicant has only broadly listed unclaimed features. However, they did not state as to which claims were in error.

Claims 1-29 are rejected as being based upon a defective reissue declaration under 35 U.S.C. 251 as set forth above. See 37 CFR 1.175.

The nature of the defect(s) in the declaration is set forth in the discussion above in this Office action.

However, the claims, as best understood, have been examined on their merits.

Application/Control Number: 13/161,138 Page 3

Art Unit: 3765

Double Patenting

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 1-29 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-21 of copending Application No. 13/161169. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because they claim the same pant garment with the belly panel structure as claimed in claims 1-21.

This is a <u>provisional</u> obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

Applicant is notified that any subsequent amendment to the specification and/or claims must comply with 37 CFR 1.173(b). In addition, when any substantive amendment is filed in the reissue application, which amendment otherwise places the reissue application in condition for allowance, a supplemental oath/declaration will be required. See MPEP § 1414.01.

Claims 1-29 would be allowable upon the filing of a proper declaration/oath and Terminal Disclaimer as outlined above.

None of the cited references, alone or in combination, disclose the garment with the belly panel that has an upper edge portion located as claimed in claim 1.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Application/Control Number: 13/161,138 Page 5

Art Unit: 3765

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to GLORIA HALE whose telephone number is (571)272-4984. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Thurs..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, KHOA HUYNH can be reached on 571-272-4888. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Gloria Hale/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3765

Notice of References Cited Application/Control No. 13/161,138 Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination HENDRICKSON ET AL. Examiner GLORIA HALE 3765 Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination HENDRICKSON ET AL. Page 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification			
*	Α	US-3,045,676	07-1962	SLATEN JOHN M	606/159			
*	В	US-4,280,229	07-1981	Stein, Paul	2/221			
*	С	US-4,506,390	03-1985	Stern, Marilyn M.	2/221			
*	О	US-5,946,730	09-1999	Blair, Vivia M.	2/227			
*	Е	US-6,311,333	11-2001	Batra, Sachin	2/237			
*	F	US-2004/0210987	10-2004	Carney, Ingrid	002/236			
*	G	US-2006/0010571	01-2006	Oakley, Joh	002/227			
*	I	US-7,814,575	10-2010	Hendrickson et al.	2/227			
*	-	US-7,900,276	03-2011	Hendrickson et al.	2/237			
	J	US-						
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
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*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).) Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office PTO-892 (Rev. 01-2001)

Notice of References Cited

Part of Paper No. 20111204

Search Notes

Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination
13161138	HENDRICKSON ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit
GLORIA HALE	3765

SEARCHED						
Class	Subclass	Date	Examiner			
2	69,227,228,238,236-238,211,212,214,243.1					
450	155,96-100	12-3-11	gh			

SEARCH NOTES		
Search Notes	Date	Examiner
inv name srch;ids flag clred;review related apps for DP	12-3-11	gh
litigation srch in file		

INTERFERENCE SEARCH				
Class	Subclass	Date	Examiner	

/GLORIA HALE/ Primary Examiner.Art Unit 3765

	Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination
Index of Claims	13161138	HENDRICKSON ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	GLORIA HALE	3765

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Receipt date: 06/15/2011

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Form PTO-1449 US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE				ATTY, DOCKET NO. SERIAL NO. DMC-10-1220RE APPLICANT				
LIST OF PUBLICATIONS CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)			Lisa A. Hendrickson, et al. FILING DATE GROUP herewith					
			US PATENT DO	CUMENTS				
EXAMINER INITIAL*		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING IF APPR	DATE OPRIATE
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	AR	"BOM Spring 2006" - Sketch a Maternity Denim, Spring 2006.	nd measurements				le # 3765	86, Gap
	AS	"BOM Fall 2003" - Sketch and measurements of Old Navy Bootcut Jean w/Panel Non-Stretch pant, Style # 200963-00, Old Navy Women's Maternity, Fall 2003.						
	AT	"BOM Fall 2005" - Sketch and Maternity Wovens, Fall 2005.	"BOM Fall 2005" - Sketch and measurements of Gap Roll Panel Modern Chino pant, Style # 313773, Gap Maternity Wovens, Fall 2005.					
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Receipt date: 06/15/2011

13161138 - GAU: 3765

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LIST OF PUBLICATIONS CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)			FILING DATE		GROUP			
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		256229, 281008, 205224Su05, F	all 2004-Summe	r 2005.	sp and Old N	avy garments,	Style INOS.	; 324282,
	AS	"Poplin Pant" et al Maternity P	rint Str. Crisp C	tn. Poplin pant,	Style # MBT	414A (Ultra C	lean Ankle	Overbelly),
	-	8/9/2002.						
***************************************	AT	"Jean Pant" et al GAP Women'	s Full Panei Boo	otcut Jean, Style	# 207095, 4/	30/2003.	***************************************	

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Form PTO-1449 US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE				Sheet 3 ATTY: DOCKET NO: SERIAL NO: DMC-16-1220RE APPLICANT						
LIST OF PUBLICATIONS CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)			Lisa A. Hendrickson, et al.							
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit

: 3765

Customer No. 035811

Docket No.: DMC-10-1220RE

Examiner

: Gloria M. Hale

Serial No.

: 13/161.138

Filed

: June 15, 2011

Inventor

: Lisa A. Hendrickson : James H. Gardner, III

: Richard Adelman

Title

: BELLY COVERING

: GARMENT

TERMINAL DISCLAIMER

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Your Petitioner, Richard L. Cruz, represents that he is patent counsel for Destination Maternity Corporation, which is the owner of the entire interest in the instant application (Serial No. 13/161,138) filed June 15, 2011 for BELLY COVERING GARMENT, as evidenced by an Assignment recorded at Reel 023390, Frame 0079 of the US Patent and Trademark Office records, and is also the owner of US Application No. 13/161,169 filed June 15, 2011 for BELLY COVERING GARMENT as evidenced by an Assignment recorded at Reel 023390, Frame 0079 of the US Patent and Trademark Office records.

Your Petitioner, on behalf of the patent owner, hereby disclaims the terminal part of the statutory term of any patent to be issued on said instant application which would extend beyond the expiration date of the full statutory term of any patent granted on US Application No. 13/161,169, and hereby agrees that any patent so granted on the instant application shall be enforceable only for and during such period that the instant application is commonly owned with US Application No. 13/161,169 and any patent granted thereon, this agreement to run with any patent granted on the instant application and to be binding upon the grantee, its successors or assigns.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard L. Cruz

Date: 12/22/2011

Richard L. Cruz, Patent Counsel

Reg. No. 52,783

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit

: 3765

Customer No. 035811

Examiner Serial No.

: Gloria M. Hale : 13/161,138

Docket No.: DMC-10-1220RE

Filed Inventor : June 15, 2011 : Lisa A. Hendrickson

: James H. Gardner, III : Richard Adelman

Title

BELLY COVERING

GARMENT

SUPPLEMENTAL REISSUE APPLICATION OATH AND CONSENT BY THE ASSIGNEE (Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.172)

I, Ronald J. Masciantonio, a citizen of the United States, am the Executive Vice President and General Counsel of Destination Maternity Corporation ("DMC"), and as such, am authorized to act on behalf of DMC.

To the best of my knowledge and understanding, DMC is the sole assignee of the entire right, title, and interest in and to U.S. Patent No. 7,814,575 (the '575 Patent), issued on October 19, 2010.

Documentary evidence of a chain of title of the '575 Patent from the original owners to DMC is recorded in the assignment records of the US Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 019670, Frame 0495 which shows an assignment from the inventors to Mothers Work, Inc., and at Reel 023390, Frame 0079 which shows an assignment from Mothers Work, Inc. to Destination Maternity Corporation.

To the best of my knowledge and understanding, the inventors listed below are the original and first inventors of the subject matter which is described and claimed in the '575 Patent, for which a reissue patent is sought, on the invention entitled BELLY COVERING GARMENT, the specification of which was filed with the US Patent and Trademark Office on June 15, 2011 together with a Preliminary Amendment that included newly added claims:

- Lisa A. Hendrickson, a citizen of the United States, residing at 791 Comwallis Drive, Mount Laurel, New Jersey 08054;
- 2. James H. Gardner, III, a citizen of the United States, residing at 1329 Squire Drive, Ambler, Pennsylvania 19002; and

EAST\47639083.1

 Richard Adelman, a citizen of the United States, residing at 5 Sunfish Point, Greensboro, North Carolina 27455.

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims as amended by the newly added claims referred to above.

By this declaration, DMC, assignee of the '575 Patent, hereby consents to the filling of the present application for the reissue of U.S. Patent No. 7,814,575.

To the best of my knowledge and understanding, the original '575 Patent to be wholly or partly inoperative by the reason of the patentee claiming less than it had the right to claim. In particular, issued Claims 2 – 25 of the '575 Patent are believed to be wholly or partly inoperative for failing to explicitly recite features such as a lower garment portion comprising denim jeans and/or a zipperless fly. All errors being corrected in the reissue application up to the time of this declaration arose without deceptive intent.

Direct all communications about the application to the address associated with Customer No. 035811. Direct all telephone calls regarding the application to Richard L. Cruz at 215-656-2446.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine and imprisonment, or both, under 18 USC §1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this declaration is directed.

13/2/// Date

Konald J. Massianionio,

Executive Vice President & General Counsel

Destination Maternity Corporation

456 North 5th Street

Philadelphia, PA 19123

EAST\47639083-1

Electronic Patent Application Fee Transmittal						
Application Number:	13161138					
Filing Date:	15-Jun-2011					
Title of Invention:	Ве	Belly Covering Garment				
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Lisa A. Hendrickson					
Filer:	Pa	ul A. Taufer/Nancy N	Nunez			
Attorney Docket Number:	DΛ	1C-10-1220RE				
Filed as Large Entity						
Utility under 35 USC 111(a) Filing Fees						
Description		Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD(\$)	
Basic Filing:						
Pages:						
Claims:						
Miscellaneous-Filing:						
Petition:	Petition:					
Patent-Appeals-and-Interference:						
Post-Allowance-and-Post-Issuance:					_	
Extension-of-Time:						

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD(\$)
Miscellaneous:				
Statutory or terminal disclaimer	1814	1	160	160
	Tot	al in USD	(\$)	160

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt					
EFS ID:	11686749				
Application Number:	13161138				
International Application Number:					
Confirmation Number:	4808				
Title of Invention:	Belly Covering Garment				
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Lisa A. Hendrickson				
Customer Number:	35811				
Filer:	Paul A. Taufer/Nancy Nunez				
Filer Authorized By:	Paul A. Taufer				
Attorney Docket Number:	DMC-10-1220RE				
Receipt Date:	22-DEC-2011				
Filing Date:	15-JUN-2011				
Time Stamp:	11:44:54				
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)				

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	yes
Payment Type	Deposit Account
Payment was successfully received in RAM	\$160
RAM confirmation Number	12691
Deposit Account	502719
Authorized User	

The Director of the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayment as follows:

Charge any Additional Fees required under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.16 (National application filing, search, and examination fees)

Charge any Additional Fees required under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.17 (Patent application and reexamination processing the orporation

Charge any Additional Fees required under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.19 (Document supply fees)

Charge any Additional Fees required under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.20 (Post Issuance fees)

Charge any Additional Fees required under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.21 (Miscellaneous fees and charges)

File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Terminal Disclaimer Filed	Terminal Disclaimer. pdf	400528	no	2
·		μ	636da7579eb50595657a3bb035ce80cc896 4fea1		_
Warnings:					
Information:					
2	Consent of Assignee accompanying the	Supplemental Oathand Consent.	583892	no	2
_	declaration	pdf	34acaf4bbb434c91c32346e859857e18c83f 8a80		
Warnings:					
Information:					
3	Eac Markshoot (CD06)	fee-info.pdf	30089	no	2
3	Fee Worksheet (SB06)	iee-inio.pui	ff61cba70273f58179f43d923b5aa434f6719 337	110	2
Warnings:					
Information:					
		Total Files Size (in bytes)	10	14509	

This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111

If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371

If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office

If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit Examiner : 3765

Customer No. 035811

Examiner Serial No.

: Gloria M. Hale : 13/161,138

Docket No.: DMC-10-1220RE

Serial No. Filed Inventor

: June 15, 2011

: Lisa A. Hendrickson

: James H. Gardner, III

: Richard Adelman

Confirmation No.: 4808

Title

: BELLY COVERING

: GARMENT

Date: December 22, 2011

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Official Action of December 15, 2011, the Applicants hereby simultaneously submit a Supplemental Reissue Application Oath and Consent by the Assignee and a Terminal Disclaimer. Entry into the Official Record is respectfully requested.

As a result of this Response and the documents referenced above, the Applicants submit that the instant Application is now in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul A. Taufer

Reg. No. 35,703 Richard L. Cruz

Reg. No. 52,783

Attorneys for Applicants

PAT/RLC/nn (215) 656-3385

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt					
EFS ID:	11690018				
Application Number:	13161138				
International Application Number:					
Confirmation Number:	4808				
Title of Invention:	Belly Covering Garment				
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Lisa A. Hendrickson				
Customer Number:	35811				
Filer:	Paul A. Taufer/Nancy Nunez				
Filer Authorized By:	Paul A. Taufer				
Attorney Docket Number:	DMC-10-1220RE				
Receipt Date:	22-DEC-2011				
Filing Date:	15-JUN-2011				
Time Stamp:	14:32:39				
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)				

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	no
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File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Amendment/Req. Reconsideration-After	Response.pdf	149690	no	1
'	Non-Final Reject	nesponse.pai	a1550b9ac6ee8146a7b7cdade3f5201a99d 1fd7c		'

Warnings:

Information: Target Corporation

This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111

If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371

If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office

If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE			DMC-10-1220RE		SERIAL NO. 13/161,138			
				APPLICANT Lisa A. Hendrick	cson, et al.			
		NS CITED BY APPLICANT		FILING DATE June 15, 2011		GROUP 3465	***************************************	
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EXAMINER INITIAL*		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING I IF APPRO	DATE OPRIATE
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	AJ							
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			FOREIGN PATENT:	DOCUMENTS		***************************************	Lanara	1-00/2007
							TRANSL	AHON
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	YES	NO NO
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	AN							
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	AP							
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considered Inch	ide copy c	of this form with next communication to A	Applicant.	· Signature and the second	er i vi sesse a radiustratiu igaz.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		in the same of the

EXAMINATION REPORT

NAME OF THE EXAMINATION OFFICE: AUSTRIAN PATENT OFFICE

Applicant's or agent's file refere	nce	
Application No. GCC/P/2008/10911	Application filing date 28 May 2008 (28.05.2008	(earliest) Priority date) 31 May 2007 (31.05.2007)
Applicant BELLY COVERING GARMEN	.	21
1. This is the first ⊠ seco	nd third examinat	ion report on this application
2. This REPORT consists of a t	otal of 6 sheets.	
3. This report contains indicatio	ns relating to the following	items:
I. 🛛 Basis of the report	a, banas, and as superior supe	(page Ex. R 2/2)
II. 🛭 Priority	·	(page Ex. R 2/2)
		elty, inventive step, industrial (page Ex. R 2/3)
IV. Lack of unity of invent	on	(page Ex. R 2/4)
Reasoned statement v Citation and explanation s	with regard to novelty, inver supporting such statement	ntive step or industrial applicability; (page Ex. R 2/5)
VI. Certain documents cit	ed	(page Ex. R 2/6)
VII. Certain defects in the	application	(page Ex. R 2/7)
VIII. X Certain observations of	of the application	(page Ex. R 2/8)
 The search report used was 6 August 2008. The search is previous report(s) (encired) 	h report(s) used to prepare	e this Examination Report is a ort prepared by the
	completion of the	Date of mailing of the examination report
	gust 2011 (11.08.2011)	20 September 2011 (20.09.2011)
Name and mailing Pat address Nar	ent Expert: ne: näfer Edith	Authorized Officer Name: Roman Strauss Title: Mag Signature SC/IV.ID & serv.ip - ein privatreoftliches Unternehmen Seal: des Österreichischen Latentamtes
Facsimile No.: 0043 / 53424 / 733		A-1200 Wien/ Dresoner Str. 87

Exam. R. 2/1

Target Corporation

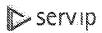
Examination Report

Application No.: GCC/P/2008/10911

i.	Sasis of the report (Exam. R 2/1)						
1.							
	page(s) , filed with the request from the GCC to the Austrian Patent Office	replicionina accessor.					
·	page(s) , filed with the letter of page(s) , filed with the letter of	***************************************					
	number(s) , filed with the letter of number(s) , filed with the letter of						
	the drawings, figs. 1,1A,2-7, as originally filed page(s), filed with the request from the GCC to the Austrian Patent Office page(s), filed with the letter of page(s), filed with the letter of						
2.	The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of page(s)						
	sheet(s) of drawings/figures No(s): This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box						
3.	Additional observations, if necessary:						
88.	Priority (See page Exam. R. 2/1)						
4	. ⊠ Accepted, as mentioned on page Exam. R 2/1 according to ⊠ Request Form ☐ Priority Certificate						
2.	☐ This report has been established as if no priority had been claimed.						
	☐ This report has been established as if no priority had been claimed due to failure to furnish:						
	copy of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed. translation thereof it the earlier application whose priority has been claimed.						
3.	This report has been established as if no priority had been claimed due to the fact that the priority claim has been found invalid.						
	Thus for the purposes of this report, the filing date indicated above is considered to be the relevant date.	3					

Exam. R. 2/3

Target Corporation



Examination Report

Application No.: GCC/P/2008/10911

V. Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability: citation and explanations supporting such statement (See page Exam. R. 2/1)

<i>1</i> 8		
	ATE	

Novelty (N)	Claim(s)	9	YES
	Claim(s)	1-8,10	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claim(s)	seitenna.	YES
Lisioner Company of the Company of t	Claim(s)	1-10	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claim(s)	1-10	YES
	Claim(s)	arandas	NO

2. CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS:

in the Search Report, established by ISA/US, the following documents are cited:

D1: US 4506390 A

D2: US 2004/0210987 A1 D3: US 2006/0010571 A1 D4: US 6311333 B1 D5: US 3045678 A

D6: US 4280229 A

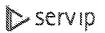
D1 describes a maternity garment comprising a tube-like waistband portion and a body portion, the waistband portion having a pouch-like vertical extension at the front and being elastic and expandable and contractible only in a radial direction, the body portion forming the configuration of the garment and being connected with and extending downward from the waistband portion. The waistband portion is formed of an elastically shirred material, which is stitched circumferentially of the garment with elastic thread. The waistband portion and the body portion may be formed of the same woven or knitted material. A hem is formed along a top edge of the waistband portion by folding the top edge and stitching. The center of the elastically shirred waistband material is cut on a curve and the panel is sewn into a tube with the back edges being joined together. (See D1, e.g. claims 1-4; col.2, l.45-61; col.3, l.31-40, 60-68; col.4, l.3-15,45-49; Figs.)

D2 refers to a stretchable generally cylindrical seamless maternity garment, similar to a tube top to be worn around a pregnant woman's torso at the waist. A portion of the height of the band resides over the pants, while an upper portion of the band's height extends above the upper portion of the pants and engages against the torso. The elastic band may be worn as a single layer or folded as a double layer, is formed of knit fabric and hugs a woman's lower abdomen. (See D2, e.g. claims; paragraphs 10-14,27,29; Figs.)

D3 discloses a maternity pant having two waistband components sewn together to form a contiguous single waistband, the first waistband component having an outer surface of low stretchiness and an inner surface of high stretchiness, the second waistband component being made of elastic fabric. (See D3, e.g. claims; paragraphs 2,13,14; Figs.)

D4 is directed towards a pants garment having incorporated a stretchable material in the yoke and the rear section of the waistband. The front portion of the waistband may be of different material

Exam. R. 2/5



than the rear portion. (See D4, e.g. abstract; claim 1; col.2, l.47-50; col.3, l.1-24; Figs. 1,2.)

D5 relates to maternity garments comprising a rear and side encircling panel unit of elastic fabric connected across the lower front portion of the garment by a lower abdomen supporting portion and an upper front abdomen supporting panel unit. The upper panel unit is formed to provide a forward looseness and pocketing thereof and is made of two-way stretch material having predetermined lines of major stretchability in one direction. (See D5, e.g. claims; col.1, l.32-63; Figs.)

D6 reveals a maternity garment including a waist portion, having a larger front and a vertically optionally smaller rear panel of elastically expansible ribbed knitted material extending circumferentially along the waist, and a body portion integral with the waist portion forming the shape of the garment. The elastically deformable panels arranged around the waist enables the waist region to expand as the wearer expands, thus enabling the garment to be worn through all stages of pregnancy. (See D6, e.g. claims; col.3, l.6-10; Figs.)

Novelty and Inventive Step:

In present claim 1, the terms "garment", garment upper portion", "garment lower portion", "recedes downward" appear to be unclear and so allow many interpretations, in particular, D1-D6 refer to garments having upper and lower portions.

The subject matters of present claims 1-8,10 do not appear to be novel or to involve an inventive step, since the given features appear to be described e.g. in D1,D2,D4,D5.

Garments with elastic expansible contractible belly panels holding the garment in place and having downward receding circumferences according to present claims 1,2,8 appear to be disclosed e.g. in D1,D2,D4,D5 (see e.g. D1, claim 1, col.4, l.3-15, Figs. 1-3; D2, claim 1, Fig. 4; D4, claim 1, Fig. 2; D5, claim 1, Fig. 1).

Seamless tubular garment upper portions according to present claim 3 appear to be shown e.g. in D2,D5,D6 (see e.g. D2, claim 1, Fig. 1, paragraph 10; D5, Fig. 1; D6, claim 1, Figs.).

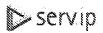
Foldable belly panels also representing a double layer structure according to present claims 4,6,7 appear to be found e.g. in D1-D3 (see e.g. D1, col.3, l.31-40; D2, claims 4,9; D3, claim 1).

Belly panels being woven or knitted with elastic strands according to present claim 5 are disclosed e.g. in D1-D6 (see e.g. D1, claim 2; D2, paragraph 29; D3, paragraph 13; D4, col.3, l.14-24; D5, col.1, l.53-63; D6, col.2, l.7-12).

Cradling stitches or knitted tension in the belly panel according to present claim 10 appear to be disclosed e.g. in D1,D2,D5 (see e.g. D1, claim 3, col.2, l.45-61; D2, paragraph 14, Fig. 4.; D5, claim 1, Fig. 1).

The subject matter of present claim 9, comprising a garment lower portion having a partial waistband across the back side appears to be novel, since the combination of all features could not be found in one of documents D1-D6 cited in the Search Report, but said subject matter does not appear to bear inventive matter, since partial waistbands as claimed in present claim 9 are shown e.g. in D4,D6 and so appear to belong to the general state of the art, may be applied without difficulty and appear to yield expectable effects (see D4, e.g. col.3, 1.5-9; D6, e.g. claims; Fig. 1a).

Summing up, the subject matters of present claims 1-8,10 do not appear to be novel or to involve an inventive step, since said subject matters appear to be described and shown in documents



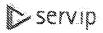
D1,D2,D4,D5 cited in the Search Report. In particular, unclear general terms in present claim 1 allow multiple interpretations of the claimed subject matters.

The subject matter of present claim 9 appears to be novel, since the combination of all features of said claim could not be found in one of documents D1-D6 cited in the Search Report, but said subject matter does not appear to bear inventive matter, since it appears to be obvious to an artisan to use features known in the art, e.g. by the disclosures of D4, D6, and the effect obtained by said combination of features appears to be expectable.

Industrial Applicability:

The subject matters of all present claims 1-10 appear to be industrially applicable, since they can be produced industrially.

Exam. R. 2/5



Examination Report

Application No.: GCC/P/2008/10911

Vill. Certain observations on the application (See page Exam. R, 2/1)	h*					
The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description and drawings of on the puestion whether the claims are fully supported by the description are made:						
n present claim 1, the terms "garment", "garment upper portion", "garment lower portion" appear to be inclear, comprising a huge number of possible embodiments (see e.g. present description, paragraphs 17-20; Figs.).						
In present claim 1, last line, the term "recedes downward" appears to be unclear (place, area ? etc.) and so is open for different interpretations (see e.g. present de 20).	In present claim 1, last line, the term "recedes downward" appears to be unclear (configuration, extent, place, area ? etc.) and so is open for different interpretations (see e.g. present description, paragraph 20).					

Exam. R. 2/9

Electronic Acl	Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt				
EFS ID:	11745538				
Application Number:	13161138				
International Application Number:					
Confirmation Number:	4808				
Title of Invention:	Belly Covering Garment				
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Lisa A. Hendrickson				
Customer Number:	35811				
Filer:	Paul A. Taufer/Nancy Nunez				
Filer Authorized By:	Paul A. Taufer				
Attorney Docket Number:	DMC-10-1220RE				
Receipt Date:	03-JAN-2012				
Filing Date:	15-JUN-2011				
Time Stamp:	13:46:13				
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)				

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	no
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File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part ∕.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1		IDS1449.pdf	396058	ves	2
·		.5511.5.65	4a7f087f96b87a07bdf985aeca2a048599d5 bb28	,	_

	Multipart Description/PDF files in .zip description				
	Document De	Start	E	nd	
	Transmittal	1		1	
	Information Disclosure State	2		2	
Warnings:					
Information:					
2	Non Patent Literature	Austrian OA.pdf	1468833	no	6
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Warnings:					
Information:					
		Total Files Size (in bytes)	18	64891	

This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111

If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371

If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office

If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit

: 3765

Customer No. 035811

Docket No.: DMC-10-1220RE

Examiner Serial No. : Gloria M. Hale

: 13/161.138

: June 15, 2011

: Lisa A. Hendrickson : James H. Gardner, III

: Richard Adelman

Confirmation No.: 4808

Title

Filed Inventor

: BELLY COVERING

: GARMENT

Date: January 3, 2012

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Washington, D.C. 20231-1450

Sir:

The Applicants enclose Form PTO-1449 which lists relevant US publications. A copy of the Examination Report from corresponding Gulf Cooperation Council Application No. 2008/10911 issued by the Austrian Patent Office is also enclosed. The documents are submitted under 37 CFR §1.56. The publications are believed related in view of their mention in the Examination Report and the Official Action issued in corresponding US Application No. 13/161,169 for the reasons stated.

The Applicants respectfully request that this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement be officially entered into the file of this case and that appropriate notification be made that it was considered by the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard L. Cruz Reg. No. 52,783

Attorney for Applicants

RLC/nn (215) 656-2446

Application Number	Re		pplicant(s)/Patent (leexamination IENDRICKSON E		
Document Code - DISQ		Internal Do	cument – DC	NOT MAIL	
TERMINAL DISCLAIMER	⊠ APPROVI	ΞD	☐ DISAPP	ROVED	
Date Filed : 1/13/12	This patent is subject to a Terminal Disclaimer				
Approved/Disapproved	d by:				
IDRE ROBINSON					
TDS WERE APPRVD.					

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Application Number	Application/Control No.		Applicant(s)/Patent under Reexamination	
	13/161,138		HENDRICKSON ET AL.	
Document Code - DISQ		Internal D	ocument – DC	NOT MAIL

TERMINAL DISCLAIMER	☐ APPROVED	☑ DISAPPROVED
Date Filed : 12/22/11	This patent is subject to a Terminal Disclaimer	

Approved/Disapproved b	y:
------------------------	----

[] has failed to state his/her capacity to sign for the business entity. (See FP 14.28)

[] is not recognized as an officer of the assignee. (See FP 14.29)

[X] does not have power of attorney. (FP 14.29.01)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

ANDRE ROBINSON

Electronic Ack	Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt		
EFS ID:	12633250		
Application Number:	13161138		
International Application Number:			
Confirmation Number:	4808		
Title of Invention:	Belly Covering Garment		
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Lisa A. Hendrickson		
Customer Number:	35811		
Filer:	Paul A. Taufer/Nancy Nunez		
Filer Authorized By:	Paul A. Taufer		
Attorney Docket Number:	DMC-10-1220RE		
Receipt Date:	26-APR-2012		
Filing Date:	15-JUN-2011		
Time Stamp:	09:56:47		
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)		

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment no

File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Miscellaneous Incoming Letter	TL.pdf	137319 c18f1c707edef3c51f920b79567b551dd8f9 787a	no	1

Warnings:

Information: Target Corporation

2	Oath or Declaration filed	SupDEC.pdf	471385	no	2
2	Gath of Declaration filed	· · ·	aa47e873d441505734dfcb1dbbd99684007 aa097		2
Warnings:					
Information:					
		Total Files Size (in bytes):	6	08704	

This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

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New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office

If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit

: 3765

Customer No. 035811

Examiner Serial No. : Gloria M. Hale : 13/161.138

Docket No.: DMC-10-1220RE

Filed Inventor : June 15, 2011 : Lisa A. Hendrickson

: James H. Gardner, III : Richard Adelman

Title

: BELLY COVERING

: GARMENT

SUPPLEMENTAL REISSUE APPLICATION OATH AND CONSENT BY THE ASSIGNEE (Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.172)

I. Ronald J. Masciantonio, a citizen of the United States, am the Executive Vice President and General Counsel of Destination Maternity Corporation ("DMC"), and as such, am authorized to act on behalf of DMC.

To the best of my knowledge and understanding, DMC is the sole assignee of the entire right, title, and interest in and to U.S. Patent No. 7,814,575 (the '575 Patent), issued on October 19, 2010.

Documentary evidence of a chain of title of the '575 Patent from the original owners to DMC is recorded in the assignment records of the US Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 019670, Frame 0495 which shows an assignment from the inventors to Mothers Work, Inc., and at Reel 023390, Frame 0079 which shows an assignment from Mothers Work, Inc. to Destination Maternity Corporation.

To the best of my knowledge and understanding, the inventors listed below are the original and first inventors of the subject matter which is described and claimed in the '575 Patent, for which a reissue patent is sought, on the invention entitled BELLY COVERING GARMENT, the specification of which was filed with the US Patent and Trademark Office on June 15, 2011 together with a Preliminary Amendment that included newly added claims:

- 1. Lisa A. Hendrickson, a citizen of the United States, residing at 791 Comwallis Drive, Mount Laurel, New Jersey 08054;
- 2. James H. Gardner, III, a citizen of the United States, residing at 1329 Squire Drive, Ambler, Pennsylvania 19002; and

EASTW8410255.1

3. Richard Adelman, a citizen of the United States, residing at 5 Sunfish Point, Greensboro, North Carolina 27455.

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims as amended by the newly added claims referred to above.

By this declaration, DMC, assignee of the '575 Patent, hereby consents to the filling of the present application for the reissue of U.S. Patent No. 7,814,575.

To the best of my knowledge and understanding, the original '575 Patent to be wholly or partly inoperative by the reason of the patentee claiming less than it had the right to claim. In particular, issued Claims 2 – 25 of the '575 Patent are believed to be wholly or partly inoperative for failing to explicitly recite features such as a lower garment portion comprising denim jeans and/or a zipperless fly. All errors being corrected in the reissue application up to the time of this declaration arose without deceptive intent. Every error in the patent which was corrected in the present reissue application, and is not covered by the prior declaration submitted in this application, arose without any deceptive intention on the part of the Applicant.

Direct all communications about the application to the address associated with Customer No. 035811. Direct all telephone calls regarding the application to Richard L. Cruz at 215-656-2446.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine and imprisonment, or both, under 18 USC §1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this declaration is directed.

Aynald J. Masciantonio,

Date

4/05/12

Executive Vice President & General Counsel

Destination Maternity Corporation

456 North 5th Street

Philadelphia, PA 19123

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit

: 3765

Customer No. 035811

Examiner

: Gloria M. Hale

Serial No.

: 13/161,138

: June 15, 2011

Filed Inventor

Title

: Lisa A. Hendrickson

: James H. Gardner, III

: Richard Adelman

: BELLY COVERING

: GARMENT

Confirmation No.: 4808

Docket No.: DMC-10-1220RE

Date: April 26, 2012

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants hereby submit an executed Supplemental Reissue Application Oath and Consent by the Assignee. Entry into the Official Record is respectfully requested.

As a result of this submission, the Applicants submit that the instant Application is now in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard L. Cruz Reg. No. 52,783

Attorney for Applicants

RLC/nn (215) 656-2446

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

IP GROUP OF DLA PIPER LLP (US) ONE LIBERTY PLACE 1650 MARKET ST, SUITE 4900 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103 EXAMINER
HALE, GLORIA M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3765

DATE MAILED: 06/05/2012

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
13/161,138	06/15/2011	Lisa A. Hendrickson	DMC-10-1220RE	4808

TITLE OF INVENTION: BELLY COVERING GARMENT

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1740	\$0	\$0	\$1740	09/05/2012

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN <u>THREE MONTHS</u> FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. <u>THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.</u> SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail Mail Stop ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

or Fax (571)-273-2885

INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where

appropriate. All further on indicated unless corrected maintenance fee notification	correspondence includir d below or directed oth ions	ng the Patent, advance on nerwise in Block 1, by (a	rders and notification of r a) specifying a new corres	naintenance fees wi spondence address;	ll be ma and/or (l	niled to the current of b) indicating a separ	correspondence address as rate "FEE ADDRESS" for
CURRENT CORRESPONDE	ENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Bl	ock 1 for any change of address)	Feet pape	(s) Transmittal. This	certifica paper, s	ate cannot be used fo uch as an assignmen	domestic mailings of the or any other accompanying t or formal drawing, must
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	,						(Depositor's name)
							(Signature)
							(Date)
APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE		FIRST NAMED INVENTOR		ATTORN	NEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
13/161,138	06/15/2011	•	Lisa A. Hendrickson	<u>'</u>	DMe	C-10-1220RE	4808
TITLE OF INVENTION:	BELLY COVERING O	GARMENT					
APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE	FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1740	\$0	\$0		\$1740	09/05/2012
EXAMI	INER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS	1			
			<u>. </u>	J			
HALE, GL		3765	002-227000				
CFR 1.363).	nce address or indication	•	2. For printing on the p (1) the names of up to			_{7S} 1	
Change of corresponded	ondence address (or Cha 3/122) attached.	inge of Correspondence	or agents OR, alternative	vely,	•		
"Fee Address" indic	cation (or "Fee Address" 2 or more recent) attache	" Indication form	(2) the name of a singl registered attorney or a 2 registered patent atto listed, no name will be	agent) and the name rnevs or agents. If n	s of up t	io .	
3. ASSIGNEE NAME AN	ND RESIDENCE DATA	A TO BE PRINTED ON	THE PATENT (print or typ	pe)			
PLEASE NOTE: Unle	ess an assignee is ident	ified below, no assignee	data will appear on the p	atent. If an assigne	e is iden	ntified below, the do	cument has been filed for
(A) NAME OF ASSIG	•	pietion of this form is NO	T a substitute for filing an (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY	ě .	OUNTR	Y)	
Please check the appropri	ate assignee category or	categories (will not be pr	rinted on the patent) : \Box	Individual 🖵 Cor	poration	or other private grou	up entity 🗖 Government
a. The following fee(s) a	re submitted:	41	b. Payment of Fee(s): (Ple a	se first reapply any	y previo	usly paid issue fee s	hown above)
Issue Fee			A check is enclosed.				
	o small entity discount p		Payment by credit car The Director is hereby				iciency or credit any
Advance Order - #	of Copies		overpayment, to Depo				extra copy of this form).
5. Change in Entity Stat							
1.1	S SMALL ENTITY state		b. Applicant is no lon				· - · ·
nOTE: The Issue Fee and nterest as shown by the re	ecords of the United Sta	uired) will not be accepte ites Patent and Trademark	d from anyone other than t Office.	he applicant; a regis	tered atte	orney or agent; or the	e assignee or other party in
Authorized Signature _				Date			
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This collection of information application. Confidential application application application to the completed this form and/or suggestion.	ation is required by 37 C iality is governed by 35 application form to the	CFR 1.311. The informatic U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR U.SPTO. Time will vary	on is required to obtain or 1.14. This collection is est depending upon the individual of the Chief Information Office.	retain a benefit by the timated to take 12 m yidual case. Any cor	e public inutes to nments o	which is to file (and complete, including on the amount of times of the complete of the comple	by the USPTO to process) gathering, preparing, and the you require to complete treent of Compares. P.O.

this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
13/161,138	06/15/2011	Lisa A. Hendrickson	DMC-10-1220RE	4808
35811 75	90 06/05/2012		EXAM	INER
	LA PIPER LLP (US	HALE, GI	LORIA M	
ONE LIBERTY PI	LACE			
1650 MARKET ST	T, SUITE 4900		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
PHILADELPHIA,	PA 19103		3765	

DATE MAILED: 06/05/2012

Determination of Patent Term Extension or Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

A reissue patent is for "the unexpired part of the term of the original patent." See 35 U.S.C. 251. Accordingly, the above-identified reissue application is not eligible for Patent Term Extension or Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154(b).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

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- 3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
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- 5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
- 6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
- 7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
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	Application No.	Applicant(s)
A	13/161,138	HENDRICKSON ET AL.
Notice of Allowability	Examiner	Art Unit
	GLORIA HALE	3765
The MAILING DATE of this communication appear All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RI of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313	(OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this app or other appropriate communication GHTS. This application is subject to	olication. If not included will be mailed in due course. THIS
1. \blacksquare This communication is responsive to $\underline{\textit{1-3-12Amendment/T.L}}$) and 4/26/12 OATH.	
2. An election was made by the applicant in response to a rest requirement and election have been incorporated into this a		ne interview on; the restriction
3. A The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-29.		
 4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the: 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have 	been received.	
Copies of the certified copies of the priority does	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).	cuments have been received in this r	iational stage application from the
* Certified copies not received:		
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONM THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.		complying with the requirements
5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submit INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which give		
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must	t be submitted.	
(a) \square including changes required by the Notice of Draftspers	on's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-	948) attached
1) 🔲 hereto or 2) 🔲 to Paper No./Mail Date		
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Paper No./Mail Date	s Amendment / Comment or in the O	ffice action of
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1 each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in t		
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of B attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FO		
Attachment(s)		
1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	5. Notice of Informal P	atent Application
2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	6. ☐ Interview Summary Paper No./Mail Dat	
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),	7. Examiner's Amendn	
Paper No./Mail Date 1-03-12 4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit	8. 🗌 Examiner's Stateme	nt of Reasons for Allowance
of Biological Material	9.	
/Gloria Hale/		
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3765		

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office PTOL-37 (Rev. 03-11)

Search Notes



Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination
13161138	HENDRICKSON ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit
 GLORIA HALE	3765

	SEARCHED			
Class	Subclass	Date	Examiner	
2	69,227,228,238,236-238,211,212,214,243.1			
450	155,96-100	12-3-11	gh	
all updated		1-16-12	gh	

SEARCH NOTES		
Search Notes	Date	Examiner
inv name srch;ids flag clred;review related apps for DP	12-3-11	gh
litigation srch in file		

INTERFERENCE SEARCH			
Class	Subclass	Date	Examiner
east brs srch hist in file		1-16-12	gh

/(/GLORIA HALE/
P	Primary Examiner.Art Unit 3765



EC 3700

SEARCH REPORT

STIC Database Tracking Number: 378913

To: GLORIA HALE Location: RND-7D79

Art Unit: 3765

Monday, November 21, 2011

Case Serial Number: 13/161138

From: TERRENCE SOLOMON

Location: EIC3700

RND-8B31

Phone: (571)272-3509

terrence.solomon@uspto.gov

Search Notes

US Pat. 7814575 was not involved in any current or past federal court cases.

Sources:

- Lexis (0)
- Courtlink (0)
- Lit Alert (0)

756242 (11) 7814575 October 19, 2010

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE GRANTED PATENT

7814575

Get Drawing Sheet 1 of 8

Access PDF of Official Patent *

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Link to Claims Section

October 19, 2010

Belly covering garment

REISSUE:

June 15, 2011 - Reissue Application filed, Ex. Gp.: 3765; Re. S.N.: 13/161,138, (O.G. July 12, 2011)

APPL-NO: 756242 (11)

FILED-DATE: May 31, 2007

GRANTED-DATE: October 19, 2010

LEGAL-REP: DLA Piper LLP (US)

LEGAL-STATUS:

August 8, 2007 - ASSIGNMENT October 19, 2009 - ASSIGNMENT

PRIM-EXMR: Hale, Gloria

CORE TERMS: garment, fabric, tubular, belly, panel, torso, abdomen, stitch, stretchable, seam, perimeter, body types, trousers, sewn, circumference, encircling, pregnancy, knitted, worn, elastically, elastic, layer, expansible, downward, wearer, woven, waistband, covering, girth, band

Source: Legal > / .../ > Utility, Design and Plant Patents

Terms: patno=7814575 (Suggest Terms for My Search)

View: Custom

in

Segments: Asst-exmr, Cert-correction, Exmr, Legal-rep, Legal-status, Lit-reex, Prim-exmr, Reexam-

litigate, Reissue, Reissue-comment

Date/Time: Monday, November 21, 2011 - 9:34 AM EST

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Target Corporation

Patent Search 7,814,575 11/21/2011

No cases found.

File 670:LitAlert 1973-2011/UD=201139

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Set Items Description

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S1 0 PN=US 7814575

Receipt date: 01/03/2012

13161138 - GAU: 3765

Form PTO-1449 PATENT AND	US DEP. TRADEM	ARTMENT OF COMMERCE ARK OFFICE		ATTY, DOCKET NO. SERIAL NO. DMC-10-1220RE 13/161,138 APPLICANT Lisa A, Hendrickson, et al.				
		NS CITED BY APPLICANT eets if necessary)		FILING DATE June 15, 2011		GROUP 3465	····	
			US PATENT DO	NMENTS				***************************************
EXAMINER INITIAL*		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING I IF APPR	DATE OPRIATE
	AA	3,045,678	07/24/62	C. J. Geimer				
	AB	5,946,730	09/07/99	Blair				
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BIB DATA SHEET

CONFIRMATION NO. 4808

SERIAL NUMBE		G or 371(c) DATE	CLASS	GROUP ART	UNIT	ATTO	DRNEY DOCKET			
13/161,138	_	15/2011	002	3765		DN	//C-10-1220RE			
	ı	RULE								
APPLICANTS Lisa A. Hendrickson, Mount Laurel, NJ; James H. Gardner III, Ambler, PA; Richard Adelman, Greensboro, NC;										
** CONTINUING DATA ***********************************										
** FOREIGN APP	LICATIONS '	******	******							
** IF REQUIRED, 06/20/2011	FOREIGN FI	LING LICENS	E GRANTED **							
Foreign Priority claimed 35 USC 119(a-d) condition	Yes 🔽		STATE OR COUNTRY	SHEETS DRAWINGS	TOT.		INDEPENDENT CLAIMS			
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit

: 3765

Customer No. 035811

Examiner Serial No. : Gloria M. Hale : 13/161.138

Docket No.: DMC-10-1220RE

Filed Inventor : June 15, 2011 : Lisa A. Hendrickson

: James H. Gardner, III

: Richard Adelman

Confirmation No.: 4808

Title

: BELLY COVERING

: GARMENT

Date: January 3, 2012

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Washington, D.C. 20231-1450

Sir:

The Applicants enclose Form PTO-1449 which lists relevant US publications. A copy of the Examination Report from corresponding Gulf Cooperation Council Application No. 2008/10911 issued by the Austrian Patent Office is also enclosed. The documents are submitted under 37 CFR §1.56. The publications are believed related in view of their mention in the Examination Report and the Official Action issued in corresponding US Application No. 13/161,169 for the reasons stated.

The Applicants respectfully request that this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement be officially entered into the file of this case and that appropriate notification be made that it was considered by the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard L. Cruz Reg. No. 52,783

Attorney for Applicants

RLC/nn (215) 656-2446

Issue Classification



Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination
13161138	HENDRICKSON ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit
GLORIA HALE	3765

	ORIGINAL					INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION									
	CLASS SUBCLASS							С	LAIMED			N	ION-	CLAIMED	
2			227			Α	4	1	D	9 / 00 ()	Α	4	1	D	13 / 00 (2006.01.01)
CROSS REFERENCE(S)															
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×	☐ Claims renumbered in the same order as presented by applicant							СР	'A [] T.D.		R.1.	47		
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	11		27												
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	13		29												
	14														
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	16														

NONE		Total Claims Allowed:			
(Assistant Examiner)	(Date)	29			
/GLORIA HALE/ Primary Examiner.Art Unit 3765	1-16-12	O.G. Print Claim(s)	O.G. Print Figure		
(Primary Examiner)	(Date)	26	3		

	Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination
Index of Claims	13161138	HENDRICKSON ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	GLORIA HALE	3765

✓	Rejected	-	Cancelled	N	Non-Elected	Α	Appeal
=	Allowed	÷	Restricted	I	Interference	0	Objected

⊠ Claims	renumbered	in the same	order as pre	sented by	applicant		□ СРА	⊠ т.เ	D. 🗆	R.1.47			
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Final	Original	12/04/2011	01/16/2012										
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	27	✓	=										
	28	✓	=										
	29	√	=										

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Part of Paper No. : 20120116

Electronic Ack	Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt							
EFS ID:	12937540							
Application Number:	13161138							
International Application Number:								
Confirmation Number:	4808							
Title of Invention:	BELLY COVERING GARMENT							
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Lisa A. Hendrickson							
Customer Number:	35811							
Filer:	Thomas Daniel Christenbury/Carol Coney							
Filer Authorized By:	Thomas Daniel Christenbury							
Attorney Docket Number:	DMC-10-1220RE							
Receipt Date:	05-JUN-2012							
Filing Date:	15-JUN-2011							
Time Stamp:	14:42:07							
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)							

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	yes
Payment Type	Deposit Account
Payment was successfully received in RAM	\$1740
RAM confirmation Number	1089
Deposit Account	502719
Authorized User	

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1	Miscellaneous Incoming Letter	transmittalletter.pdf	223106	no	2
'	Miscellaneous incoming Letter	transmittanetter.par	719657c9c5feb74278cd5655f4a8e6b4e17f 64ec	110	
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2	Issue Fee Payment (PTO-85B)	FormPTOL85.pdf	170059	no	1
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3	Fee Worksheet (SB06)	fee-info.pdf	30350	no	2
	,		c165fef0b8df15418ea2931558552c4d0084 b135		
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New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111

If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371

If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office

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Electronic Patent Application Fee Transmittal						
Application Number:	13161138					
Filing Date:	15-Jun-2011					
Title of Invention:	BEI	BELLY COVERING GARMENT				
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Lisa A. Hendrickson					
Filer:	Thomas Daniel Christenbury/Carol Coney					
Attorney Docket Number:	DMC-10-1220RE					
Filed as Large Entity						
Utility under 35 USC 111(a) Filing Fees						
Description		Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD(\$)	
Basic Filing:						
Pages:						
Claims:						
Miscellaneous-Filing:						
Petition:						
Patent-Appeals-and-Interference:						
Post-Allowance-and-Post-Issuance:						
Utility Appl issue fee		1501	1	1740	1740	
Extension-of-Time:	Extension-of-Time:					

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD(\$)
Miscellaneous:				
Total in USD (\$)			1740	

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

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							(Depositor's name)
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE		FIRST NAMED INVENTOR		ATTORNEY I	OOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
13/161,138 TITLE OF INVENTION: 1	06/15/2011 BELLY COVERING C	BARMENT	Lisa A. Hendrickson		DMC-10	-1220RE	4808
APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE	E FEE TOTA	AL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1740	\$0	\$0		\$1740	09/05/2012
EXAMIN	IER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS				
HALE, GLC	ORIA M	3765	002-227000	1			
1. Change of correspondent CFR 1.363). Change of correspon Address form PTO/SB/1 "Fee Address" indica PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 Number is required. 3. ASSIGNEE NAME ANI PLEASE NOTE: Unless recordation as set forth i (A) NAME OF ASSIGN	adence address (or Char 122) attached. ation (or "Fee Address" or more recent) attache D RESIDENCE DATA s an assignee is identii n 37 CFR 3.11. Compi	Indication form d. Use of a Customer TO BE PRINTED ON T		3 registered patent yely, e firm (having as a gent) and the name meys or agents. If r printed. e)	member a es of up to name is	23	Lper LLP (US)
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4a. The following fee(s) are ☑ Issue Fee ☐ Publication Fee (No s ☐ Advance Order - # of	small entity discount pe Copies	ermitted)	Payment of Fee(s): (Plea A check is enclosed. Payment by credit care The Director is hereby overpayment, to Depo	I. Form PTO-2038	is attached.		
5. Change in Entity Status a. Applicant claims S			☐ b. Applicant is no long	er claiming SMAL	L ENTITY sta	tus See 37 CEI	R 1 27(a)(2)
NOTE: The Issue Fee and P interest as shown by the reco			from anyone other than the	e applicant; a regis	tered attorney	or agent; or the	assignee or other party in
Authorized Signature		ıfer			ne 5, 20		
This collection of informatic an application. Confidentialis submitting the completed are this form and/or suggestions Box 1450, Alexandria, Virg Alexandria, Virginia 22313- Under the Paperwork Reduc	on is required by 37 CF itylis governed by 35 U polication form to the U for reducing this burd inia 22213-1450. DO N 1450.	R 1.3 A. The information U.S.C. V 22 and 37 CFR 1 USPTO Time will vary en, should be sent to the NOT SEND FEES OR C	n is required to obtain or re .14. This collection is esti depending upon the indivi Chief Information Officer OMPLETED FORMS TO pond to a collection of info	tain a benefit by the mated to take 12 m dual case. Any con , U.S. Patent and T THIS ADDRESS.	e public which inutes to comp ments on the rademark Offi SEND TO: Co	is to file (and belief, including amount of time ce, U.S. Departements)	by the USPTO to process) gathering, preparing, and e you require to complete timent of Commerce, P.O. r Patents, P.O. Box 1450, umber.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail Mail Stop ISSUE FEE

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maintenance fee notifications.

INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission. CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address) 35811 06/05/2012 IP GROUP OF DLA PIPER LLP (US) Certificate of Mailing or Transmission I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below. ONE LIBERTY PLACE 1650 MARKET ST, SUITE 4900 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103 (Depositor's name (Signature (Date) APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. CONFIRMATION NO. 13/161,138 06/15/2011 Lisa A. Hendrickson DMC-10-1220RE TITLE OF INVENTION: BELLY COVERING GARMENT APPLN, TYPE SMALL ENTITY ISSUE FEE DUE PUBLICATION FEE DUE PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE TOTAL FEE(S) DUE DATE DUE nonprovisional NO \$1740 \$0 \$0 \$1740 09/05/2012 **EXAMINER** ART UNIT CLASS-SUBCLASS HALE, GLORIA M 3765 002-227000 1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363). 2. For printing on the patent front page, list DLA Piper LLP (US) (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached. (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer Number is required. 3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type) PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment. (A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY) Destination Maternity Corporation Philadelphia, PA ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): 4a. The following fee(s) are submitted: 4b. Payment of Fee(s): (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above) Issue Fee A check is enclosed. Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted) Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached. ■ Advance Order - # of Copies 5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above) a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1,27(g)(2). NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Parent and Trademark Office June 5, 2012 Authorized Signature 35,703 Typed or printed name P/aul <u>Taufe</u> Registration No.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.3 \textbf{N}. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. \textbf{V}2 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit

: 3765

Customer No. 035811

Examiner

: Gloria M. Hale

Serial No. Filed

: 13/161,138

: June 15, 2011

Inventor

: Lisa A. Hendrickson

: James H. Gardner, III

: Richard Adelman

Title

: BELLY COVERING

: GARMENT

Confirmation No.: 4808 Not. of Allow.: 06/05/12

Docket No.: DMC-10-1220RE

Date: June 5, 2012

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants submit herewith Form PTOL-85B.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the \$1740.00 fee to Deposit Account No. 50-2719 to cover the fee for payment of the issue fee.

The Commissioner is also authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account

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Respectfully submitted,

PAT/cc

(215)656-3385

Paul A. Taufer Reg. No. 35,703



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

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APPLICATION NO.	ISSUE DATE	PATENT NO.	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
13/161,138	07/24/2012	RE43531	DMC-10-1220RE	4808	

13/161,138

RE43531

35811

7590

07/04/2012

IP GROUP OF DLA PIPER LLP (US) ONE LIBERTY PLACE 1650 MARKET ST, SUITE 4900 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103

ISSUE NOTIFICATION

The projected patent number and issue date are specified above.

Determination of Patent Term Extension or Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

A reissue patent is for "the unexpired part of the term of the original patent." See 35 U.S.C. 251. Accordingly, the above-identified reissue application is not eligible for Patent Term Extension or Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154(b).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Application Assistance Unit (AAU) of the Office of Data Management (ODM) at (571)-272-4200.

APPLICANT(s) (Please see PAIR WEB site http://pair.uspto.gov for additional applicants):

Lisa A. Hendrickson, Mount Laurel, NJ; James H. Gardner III, Ambler, PA; Richard Adelman, Greensboro, NC;

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