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Hendrickson et al.

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(54) **BELLY COVERING GARMENT**

(56) **References Cited**

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(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 87 days.

This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

1 in the Oven's InvisiBelly™ Jeans, Trade Literature, Feb. 26, 2008, http://www.lintheoven.com/index.php?p=product&id=88&parent=26&is_print_version=true. International Search Report and Written Opinion dated Aug. 18, 2008 in PCT/US2008/061739.

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(21) Appl. No.: **12/117,004**

(22) Filed: **May 8, 2008**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2008/0295217 A1 Dec. 4, 2008

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation of application No. 11/756,242, filed on May 31, 2007, now Pat. No. 7,814,575.

(51) **Int. Cl.**

A41F 9/00 (2006.01)

A41D 1/06 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **2/237; 2/236; 2/227**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** **2/69, 227, 2/228, 236-238, 243.1; 450/155, 96-100**

See application file for complete search history.

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1 in the Oven's InvisiBelly™ Jeans, Trade Literature, Feb. 26, 2008, http://www.lintheoven.com/index.php?p=product&id=88&parent=26&is_print_version=true. International Search Report and Written Opinion dated Aug. 18, 2008 in PCT/US2008/061739.

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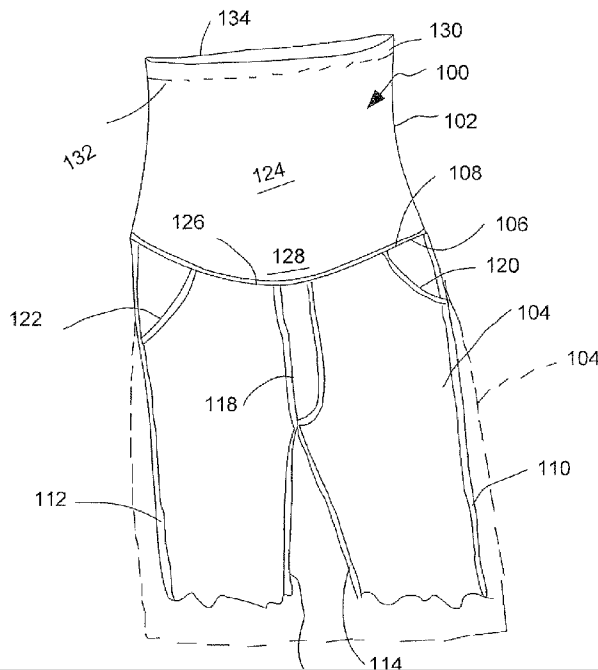
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

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 expandable 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.

16 Claims, 8 Drawing Sheets



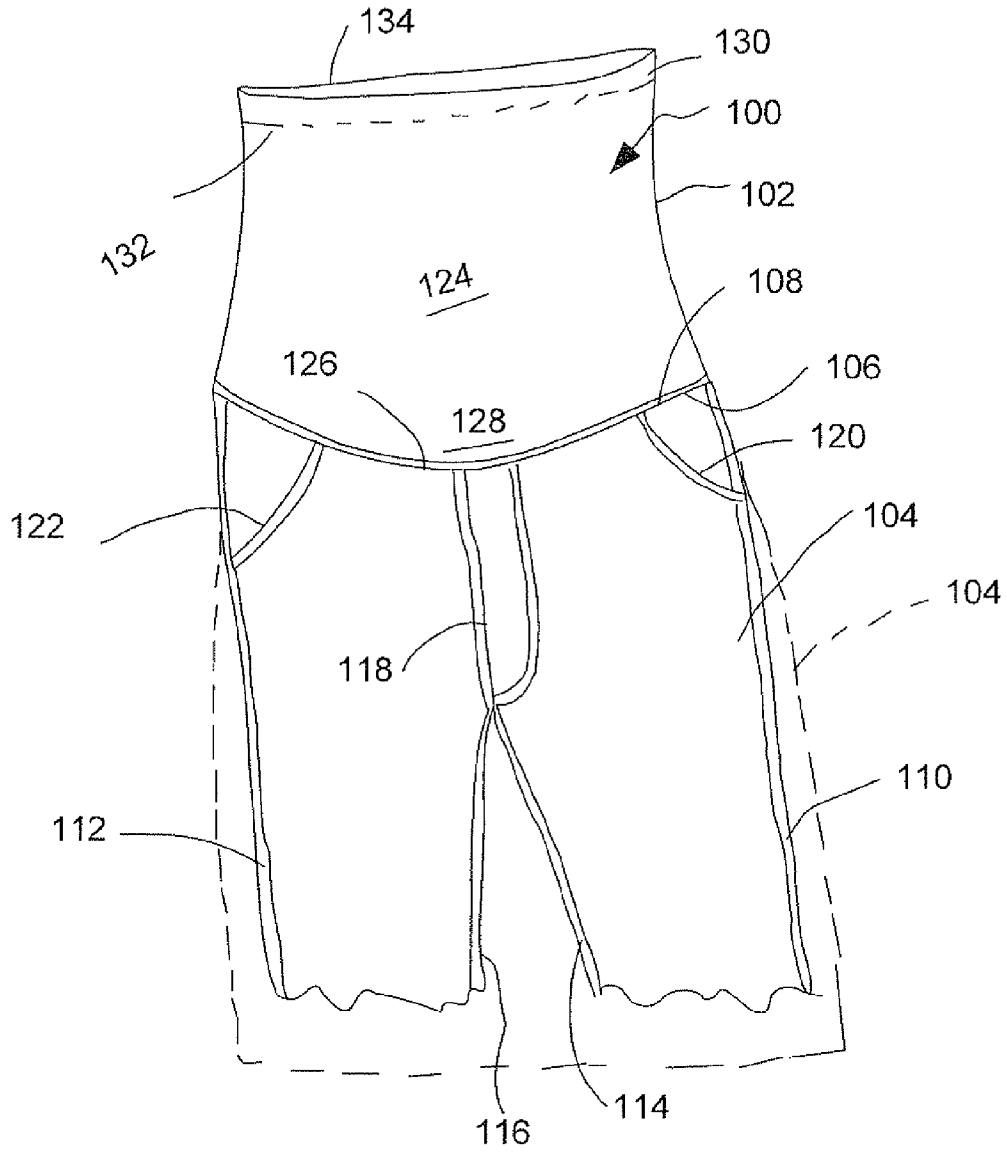


FIG. 1

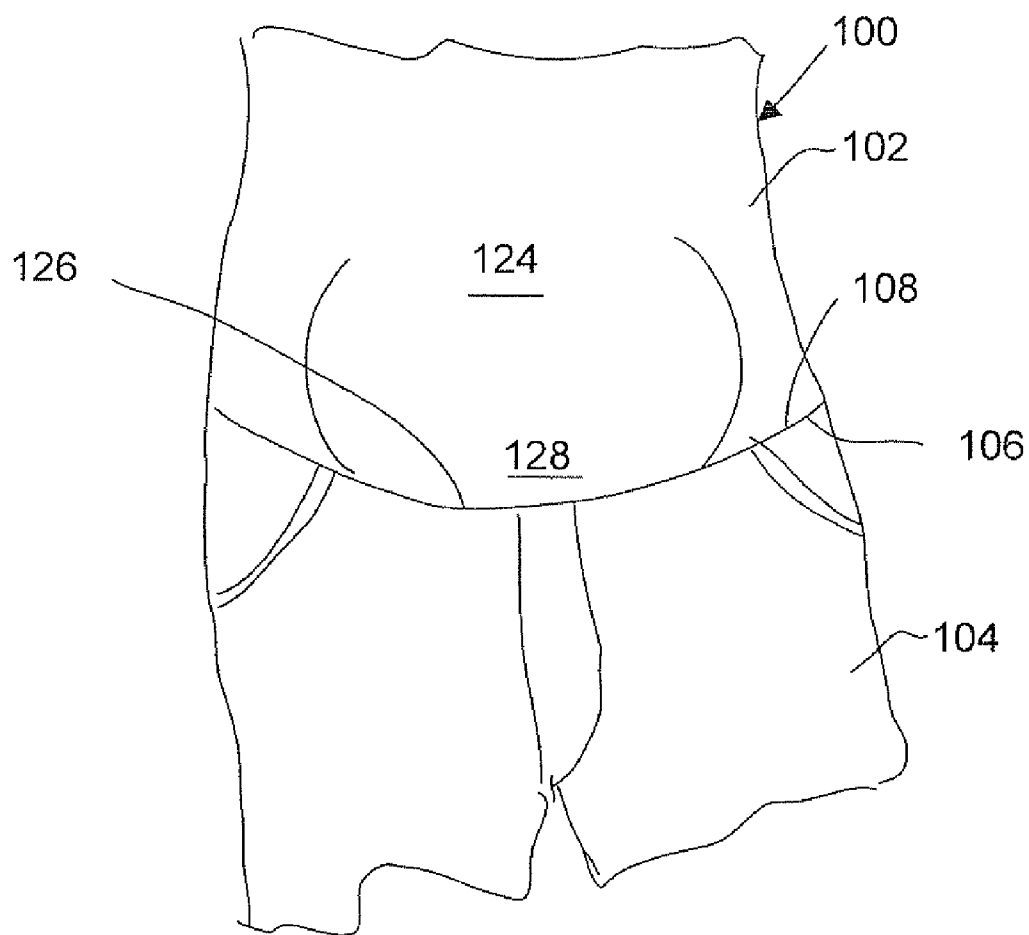


FIG. 1A

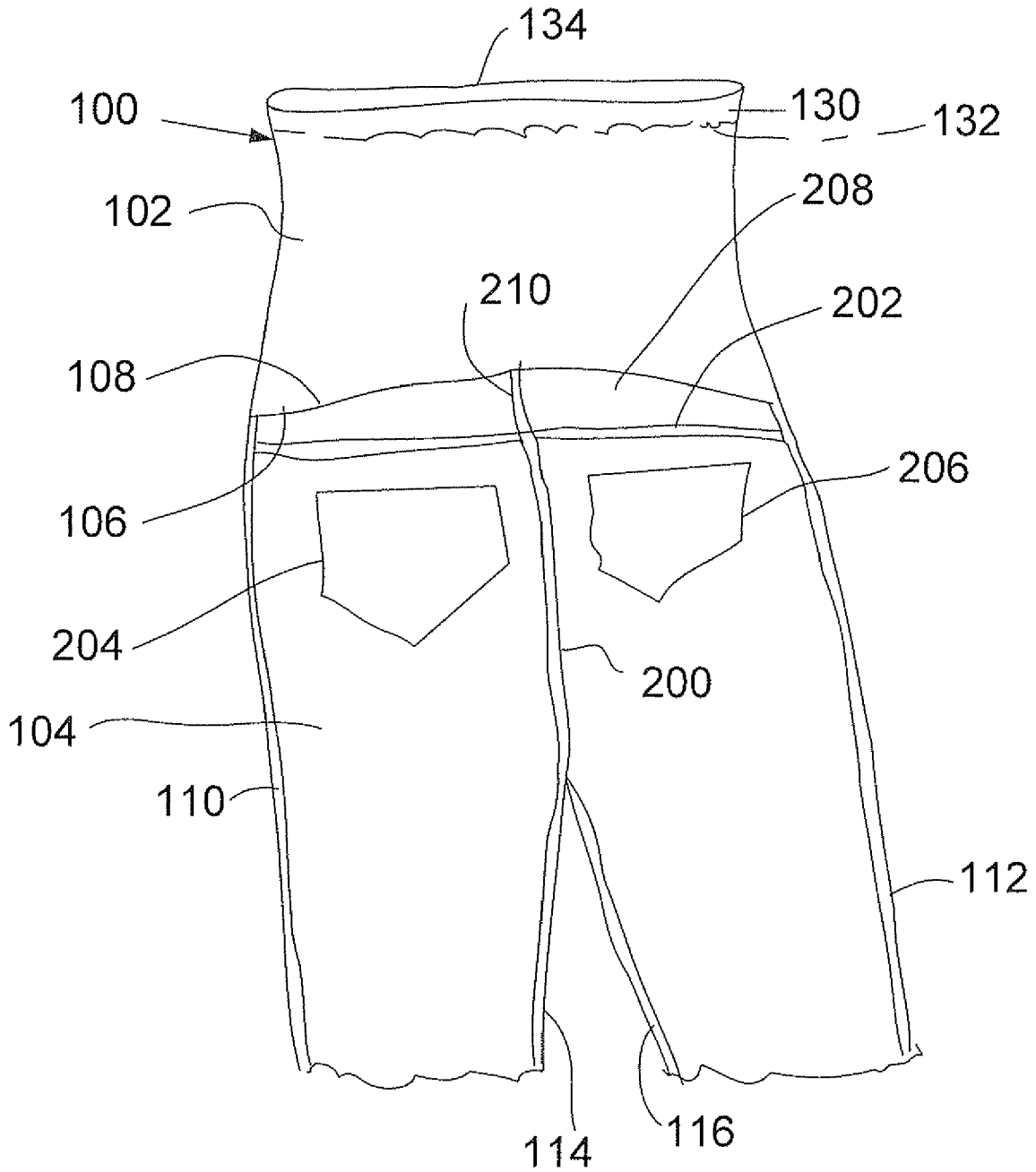


FIG. 2

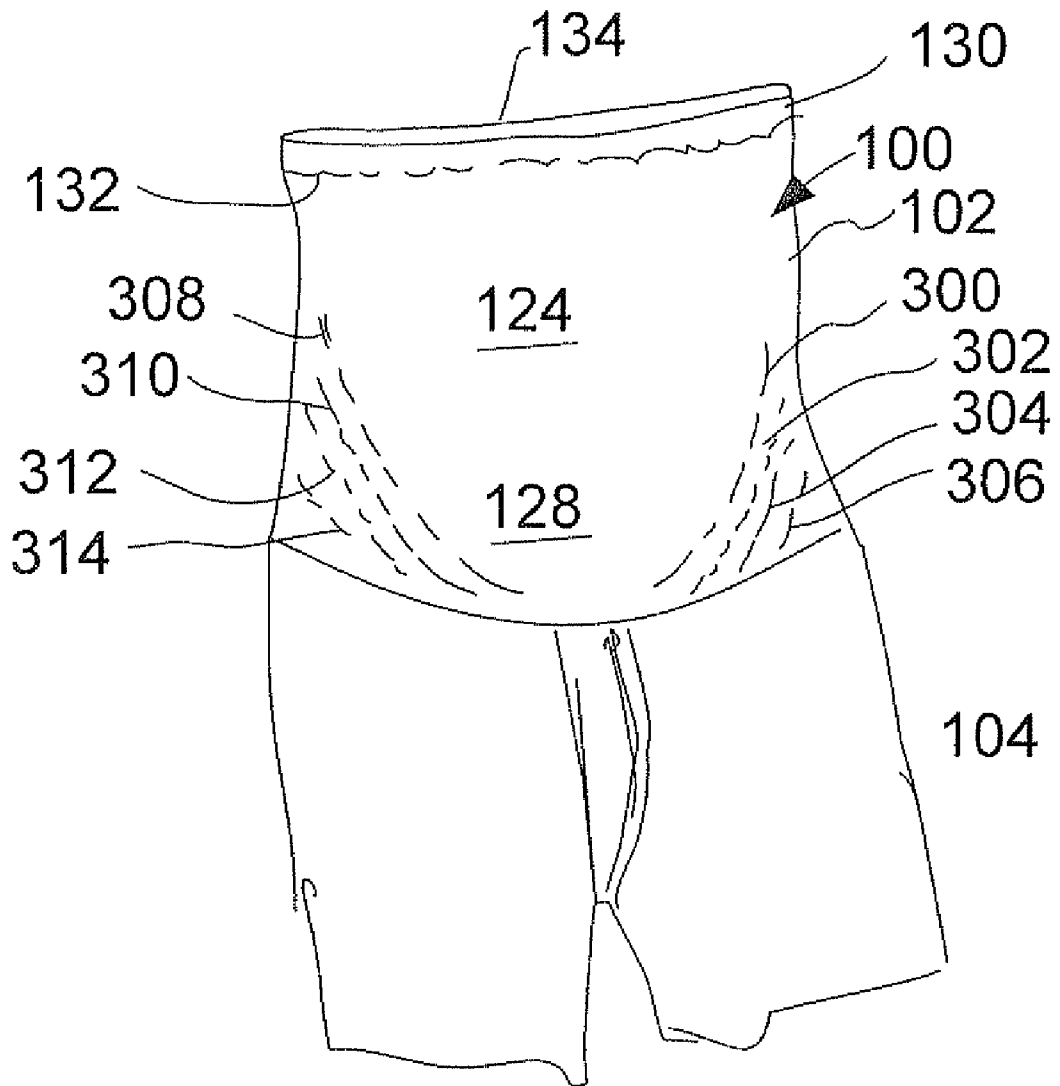


FIG. 3

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