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- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations

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(54) Title: SEALABLE AND PEELABLE FILM STRUCTURE

(57) Abstract: A sealable and peelable film, including at least (a) a core layer containing a peelable blend and (b) a pair of outer layers, at least one of which is a sealable outer layer, each independently containing a thermoplastic polymer. The peelable blend of the core layer (a) may contain (i) from 20-80 wt% of a polyethylene and (ii) from 80-20 wt% of a polyolefin incompatible with polyethylene (i), or it may contain (i) from 10-35 wt% of ethylene- α -olefin elastomer and (ii) from 90-65 wt% of propylene homopolymer. The film may also include an intermediate layer containing a propylene homopolymer, wherein the intermediate layer is positioned between the core layer containing the peelable blend and the sealable outer layer.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

JS 03/35504

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 B32B7/06 B32B27/32 B32B27/08

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 B32B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 773 136 A (ALDER PAUL THOMAS ET AL) 30 June 1998 (1998-06-30) column 2, line 11 - column 3, line 22 column 3, line 41 - line 54 column 4, line 12 - line 44 column 4, line 60 - column 5, line 3; examples column 6, line 65 - column 7, line 22; claims	1-4, 7-12,14, 18
X	----- US 6 231 975 B1 (PEET ROBERT G ET AL) 15 May 2001 (2001-05-15) cited in the application column 1, line 4 - column 4, line 67; claims; examples II,III,IV ----- -/--	1-5, 7-11,13, 18

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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Name and mailing address of the ISA

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
P,X	US 2003/134159 A1 (PEET ROBERT G) 17 July 2003 (2003-07-17) paragraphs [0005] - [0014], [0020], [0022] - [0026], [0029], [0031] - [0035], [0037] - [0039], [0044] - [0049], [0051], [0052]; claims 1,2,5,7-19,22,24-26; figure 1 -----	1-5, 7-13,18

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US 03/35504

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

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

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

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

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

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

see additional sheet

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

1-16, 18

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-16,18

An oriented, sealable and peelable film comprising a core layer (b) comprising a peelable blend comprising (i) from 20-80 wt% of a polyethylene and (ii) from 80-20 wt% of a polyolefin incompatible with polyethylene (i); and a pair of outer layers (a) and (c), the outer layer (a) comprising a thermoplastic polymer, the outer layer (c) being a sealable layer comprising a thermoplastic polymer, wherein core layer (b) is positioned between layers (a) and (c)

2. claim: 17

An oriented, sealable and peelable film comprising a core layer (b) comprising a peelable blend comprising (i) from 10-35 wt% of ethylene-alpha olefin elastomer, and (ii) from 90-65 wt% of propylene homopolymer; and a pair of outer layers (a) and (c), the outer layer (a) comprising a thermoplastic polymer, the outer layer (c) being a sealable layer comprising a thermoplastic polymer, wherein core layer (b) is positioned between outer layers (a) and (c)

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 03/35504

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