

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference KSPCT-04-01	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/KR2004/000182	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 30 January 2004 (30.01.2004)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>)	
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237			
Applicant PARK, Bong-Kuk			

<p>1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 bis.1(a).</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.</p>																								
<p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. I</td> <td>Basis of the report</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. II</td> <td>Priority</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. III</td> <td>Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. IV</td> <td>Lack of unity of invention</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. V</td> <td>Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VI</td> <td>Certain documents cited</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VII</td> <td>Certain defects in the international application</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VIII</td> <td>Certain observations on the international application</td> </tr> </table> <p>4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis .2).</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application
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	Date of issuance of this report 31 July 2006 (31.07.2006)
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

REC'D 01 NOV 2004

PCT WIPO PCT

To:
KIM, KYUNG-MI

1217-5 JANG-GI B/D 4F, BONRI-DONG, DALSEO-GU,
KISAN INTERNATIONAL PATENT & LAW OFFICE,
DAE-GU 704-120, Republic of Korea

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) **25 OCTOBER 2004 (25.10.2004)**

Applicant's or agent's file reference KSPCT-04-01	FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below
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International application No. PCT/KR2004/000182	International filing date (day/month/year) 30 JANUARY 2004 (30.01.2004)	Priority date(day/month/year)
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International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC
IPC7 C08J 9/16


Applicant
PARK, BONG-KUK


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

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

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

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/KR
 Korean Intellectual Property Office
920 Dunsan-dong, Seo-gu, Daejeon 302-701,
Republic of Korea
Facsimile No. 82-42-472-7140

Authorized officer
SOHN, Chang Ho
Telephone No. 82-42-481-5538


WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/KR2004/000182

Box No. I Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).

2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:

a. type of material

- a sequence listing
 table(s) related to the sequence listing

b. format of material

- in written format
 in computer readable form

c. time of filing/furnishing

- contained in the international application as filed.
 filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.

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

4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.

PCT/KR2004/000182

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

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>1-10</u>	YES
	Claims	<u>none</u>	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	<u>1-10</u>	YES
	Claims	<u>none</u>	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1-10</u>	YES
	Claims	<u>none</u>	NO

2. Citations and explanations :

The following documents identified in the International Search Report have been considered for this report:

D1 : WO 91/14724 A (E.I.Du Pont De Nemours and Company) 2 June 1987

D2 : US 5786398 A (Owens-Corning Fiberglas Tech. Inc.) 28 July 1998

D3 : JP 55-29533 A (Hitachi Ltd.) 1 March 1980

Claims 1-10 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(3), because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest any of the embodiments as specifically set forth in the claims.

The invention described in independent claims 1 and 6 relates to an expanded polystyrene bead having a functional skin layer and the manufacturing process thereof.

Comparing claims 1 and 6 with D1-D3, the subject matter of these claims differs from the teachings of D1-D3 in that the expanded polystyrene bead is coated with a functional skin layer comprising a poly(vinyl acetate) and functional additives (flame retardants, heat stabilizer, surfactant etc.). According to the present invention, the expanded polystyrene bead forming a core layer exhibits its typical characteristics such as adiabaticity and shock absorbability; poly(vinyl acetate) having a relatively low softening temperature forming a skin layer generates high hermeticity and water-proofness and facilitates the addition of functional additives so as to enhance functionality.

Therefore, the subject matter of independent claims 1 and 6 is considered to be novel and to involve an inventive step; consequently, the subject matter of dependent claims 2-5, 7-10 is also novel and inventive.

Claims 1-10 meet the criteria of PCT Article 33(4), IA, because the invention is industrially applicable.