

From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

**PCT**

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing (day/month/year) <b>11 August 2017</b>	
Applicant's or agent's file reference <b>St132-9001-PCT</b>	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> See paragraph 2 below
International application No. <b>PCT/EP2017/061555</b>	International filing date (day/month/year) <b>15 May 2017</b>
Priority date (day/month/year) <b>19 May 2016</b>	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC <b>A41D 13/005(2006.01)i; A41B 11/00(2006.01)i</b>	
Applicant <b>LENZ GES M B H</b>	

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 and 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.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/	Date of completion of this opinion	Authorized officer
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WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2017/061555

## Box No. I Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
  - the international application in the language in which it was filed.
  - a translation of the international application into \_\_\_\_\_ which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b)).
2.  This opinion has been established taking into account the **rectification of an obvious mistake** authorized by or notified to this Authority under Rule 91 (Rule 43*bis*.1(a)).
3.  With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, this opinion has been established on the basis of a sequence listing:
  - a.  forming part of the international application as filed:
    - in the form of an Annex C/ST.25 text file.
    - on paper or in the form of an image file.
  - b.  furnished together with the international application under PCT Rule 13*ter*.1(a) for the purposes of international search only in the form of an Annex C/ST.25 text file.
  - c.  furnished subsequent to the international filing date for the purposes of international search only:
    - in the form of an Annex C/ST.25 text file (Rule 13*ter*.1(a)).
    - on paper or in the form of an image file (Rule 13*ter*.1(b) and Administrative Instructions, Section 713).
4.  In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that forming part of the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
5. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
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International application No.

PCT/EP2017/061555

Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1. Statement			
Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>7, 8, 11, 13-17</u>	YES
	Claims	<u>1-6, 9, 10, 12</u>	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	_____	YES
	Claims	<u>1-17</u>	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1-17</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
2. Citations and explanations :			
See Supplemental Box			

## Supplemental Box

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

Continuation of:

**Box V****Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

- [1] Reference is made to the following documents:

D1	KR 2011 0001806 U 23 February 2011 (2011-02-23)
D2	NL 1 040 557 C (GERBING S HEATED CLOTHING B V; SPORTCONFEX INTERNAT B V) 26 June 2015 (2015-06-26)

- [2] The present application fails to comply with the requirements of PCT Article 33(2) because the subject matter of claim 1 is not novel.

D1 discloses (the references between parentheses relate to said document, figures 1 and 2):

Footwear (10), in particular socks, comprising a leg with a leg end for accommodating a lower leg, a foot section arranged on the leg and having an upper side and a lower side for accommodating a foot, and a toe section arranged on the foot section for accommodating the toes (figure 1), wherein the footwear (10) comprises at least one heating element (16) with connections (24) for a voltage source, said heating element (16) being disposed in the area of the foot section on the upper side of the foot section.

- [3] The present application fails to comply with the requirements of PCT Article 33(2) because the subject matter of claim 1 is not novel.

D2 discloses (the references between parentheses relate to said document, figure 1):

Footwear (13), in particular socks, comprising a leg with a leg end for accommodating a lower leg, a foot section arranged on the leg and having an upper side and a lower side for accommodating a foot, and a toe section arranged on the foot section for accommodating the toes, wherein the footwear comprises at least one heating element with connections for a voltage source, characterised in that the heating element is disposed in the area of the foot section on the upper side of the foot section (figure 1).

- [4] The present application does not meet the requirements of PCT Article 33(2) because the subject matter of claim 12 is not novel.

D1 discloses (the references between parentheses relate to said document, figures 1 and 2):

A method for producing footwear (10), in particular a sock, wherein the heating element (16) is disposed in the area of the foot section on the upper side of the foot section (figure 1).

- [5] The present application does not meet the requirements of PCT Article 33(2) because the subject matter of claim 12 is not novel.

D2 discloses (the references between parentheses relate to said document, figures 1 and 2):

A method for producing footwear (13), in particular a sock, wherein the heating element is disposed in the area of the foot section on the upper side of the foot section (figure 1).

- [6] Dependent claims 2-11 and 13-17 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of novelty and/or inventive step; see document

[6.1] D1 discloses the features of claims 2-6, 9 and 10 (see figures 1 and 2).

[6.2] D2 discloses the features of claims 2-6 (see figures 1-3).

[6.3] Dependent claims 7, 8, 11 and 13-17 define a minor structural modification to claim 1 of the kind that a person skilled in the art routinely makes, especially since the resulting advantages are readily foreseeable. The subject matter of claims 7, 8, 11 and 13-17 is therefore also not inventive.