



A BULLETIN
FROM
TIFAC

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPR)

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Patent Reveals Competition with Cooperation

Business requirements to stay in the international competition are unfolding new adjustments and alliances in the corporate world. Mergers and acquisitions driven by financial, marketing and related factors are known. Cross licensing of patents between two or more companies has been known for many years. A new form of alliance based on joint ownership of intellectual property rights is on the cards; this type of alliance is driven by critical areas of technology simultaneously important for the partners. One example of this form is the consortium being formed by big companies to own patents in joint names.

General Motors Corporation, Ford Motors Company and Chrysler Corporation formed an Automotive Composites Consortium in 1988 to take up joint R&D projects in areas of common interest and obtain patents and other intellectual property rights in joint names. This consortium applied for a US patent entitled "Resin Moulding

Process Utilising a Blow Moulded Core" in 1990 which was granted in 1992. This alliance among the big three was not challenged under the anti-trust laws of the USA which in itself is an indication of a major policy shift. Hence, it would appear that such type of joint activities are going to stay. These three companies would perhaps be using a common manufacturing technology as described in this patent (cooperation) but at the same time competing with each other in the market place.

This patent deals with an invention related to production of fiber reinforced organic polymer core elements for automotive panels and body parts.

Background & Prior Art

Weight reduction of automobiles is essential for energy saving. Many different methods have been tried since the later part of 1970s to effect weight saving. Core elements for automotive body parts have generally been made of metal tubing or solid foam thermoplastic cover. Infact, manufacturing methods are crucial in producing parts of new materials.

One prior art process includes an inflatable bladder about which organic polymeric materials may be molded. The bladder is either deflated or pulled out or left for waste after molding. It is difficult to maintain specific shapes by using this technique as the bladder is generally resilient and flexible. Blow molding of articles is commonly known where a parison is formed by the injection of a plasticized material around a mandrel. While the material is still molten and on the mandrel, it is transferred to a blowing mold where air is used to inflate it, forming the article.

Summary of the invention

The invention is a process for molding an article comprising the step of blow molding a core element with a thermoplastic resin into a predetermined form, curing the core element to a rigid core element, placing the rigid core element in a mould, and liquid molding about the core element producing a structural article. The invention also includes a molded article for use in the liquid molding process. The article comprises a core member having an external surface and is

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Commercial success can help in establishing non-obviousness

Non-obviousness or inventive step is one of the three criteria used by patent offices to determine the patentability of an invention (the others are novelty and usefulness). Usually it is said that if the invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art, then the invention is considered non-obvious. But how do you determine whether an invention is obvious or not? This question is generally answered by courts and the courts would evolve necessary criteria for ascertaining the non-obviousness. One would generally tend to look at purely technical grounds driven by technical reasons to establish inventiveness. Can commercial success be considered as enough evidence to say that an invention is non-obvious? The courts have proved reluctant to uphold this reason. After all, the fact that an invention is commercially successful is not necessarily a direct result of its inventive concept. It may be attributable to physical appearance, a particularly effective marketing campaign or brand associations. However in January, 1999 a British court upheld a claim for commercial success as a satisfactory criterion for proving non-obviousness.

Mandy Nicola Haberman had designed and patented a training cup to be used as a feeding device for babies and young children, which allowed liquid to be sucked from the cup but, with the use of a slit valve, prevented the liquid from leaking

from the cup when not in use. M/s V & A Marketing Limited, the second plaintiff, was the manufacturer of the cup. The plaintiffs claimed that M/s Jackel International Limited, the defendant, was infringing the patent. In turn, the defendant claimed that the patent was insufficient and obvious. In response to this counter-claim the plaintiffs pleaded commercial success as a ground for establishing non-obviousness.

In addressing the evidence of commercial success the judge acknowledged that in the majority of cases such evidence was “of little or no value because it does little more than show that a particular item or process which employs the patented development has sold well.” The simple fact that a product has proved successful does nothing to explain whether the success is attributable to the invention or whether the invention was obvious. However, the judge stated that commercial success may be of assistance in assessing obviousness where it addresses certain factors. The court investigated the following questions:

- (1) Was the problem addressed by the patent, known widely for a long time?
- (2) How many inventors tried to find a solution to the problem before this patent?
- (3) How significant was the problem seen to be?
- (4) What was known in the prior art and was known to all or most of those who would have been expected to be involved in finding a solution?
- (5) What other solutions were put

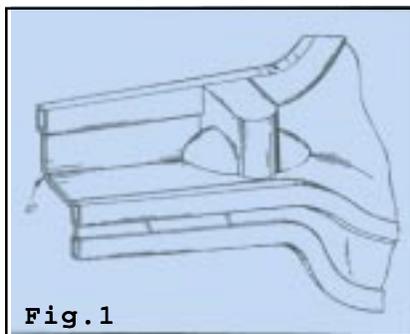
forward in the period leading up to the publication of the patentee's development?

- (6) How well has the patentee's development been received? In addressing this question the commercial success of the alleged infringers' product is of relevance as well as that of the patentee's.
- (7) To what extent can it be shown that the whole or much of the commercial success is due to the technical merits of the development

A wide range of solutions had been put forward to deal with the problem of spillage from cups. However the plaintiff's design was the only one not to have any disadvantages. This was substantiated by sales figures, which showed that there had been an overwhelming public demand for the cups. Further, despite the impressive sales of the product, the advertising and promotional expenditure had been minimal, and as the judge pointed out, the physical appearance of the cup was “dull and unexceptional”. In effect the product had sold itself. The cup had also caught the attention of the plaintiff's competitors resulting in a number of other training cups also possessing slit valves. In the circumstances the court held that the success of the cup was due almost entirely to the technical development and that had the development been obvious, it would have been discovered by others in the trade at a much earlier date. It is clear that ultimately, the inventiveness was established on technical grounds but the route

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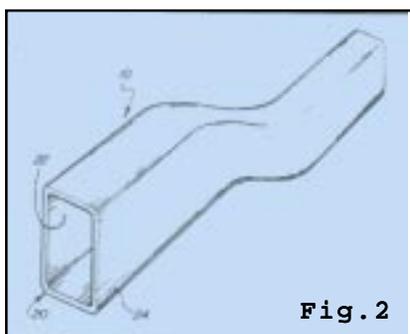
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Competition with...



surface and is characterized by including channels established on the external surface for facilitating flow of liquid during the molding.

Description

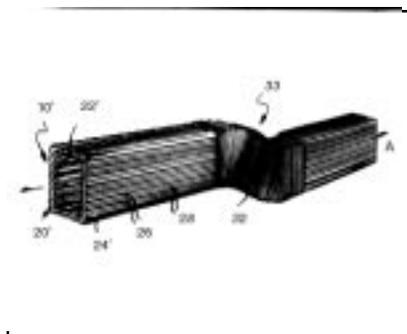
In molding processes, a core element 10, 10' is utilized to establish the general shape of finished or structural article 12 used as an automobile panel or other automobile body part. By using such a core member 10, 10' weight constraints which are associated in the auto industry may be realized. The process for molding an article generally includes the steps of placing a core element or element within a mold, and liquid molding about the core element or element for producing a structural article. The liquid molding processes may



include any one of resin transfer molding (RTM), reaction injection molding (RIM) or structural

reaction injection molding (SRIM). These processes are commonly known in the art.

In the preferred embodiment, the core element 10, 10' is manufactured from a standard blow molding process. In the subject invention, an unreinforced or glass reinforced thermoplastic resin with sufficient elevated temperature stability is blow molded into the shape of the core element 10, 10' which will be utilized in the molding process. The blow molded core element 10, 10' is then cured which establishes a substantially rigid or stiff element 10, 10'. This core element 10, 10' may then



be used in the liquid molding processes described above. After blow molding, the core element 10, 10' may be braided with fiberglass tows 36 for further structural reinforcement. Alternatively, other fibrous reinforcing material may be used in place of or in addition to the fiberglass, such as KEVLAR, carbon fiber, etc. If the core element 10 is placed in a mold 24 the liquid during the molding process will flow along the channels 26 to evenly and quickly coat the core element 10 wherein the excess may easily be drained there along.

As illustrated in Fig. 1, an automotive fiberglass body part, such as a front panel, comprising the consolidated form 12 is manufactured. In general the consolidated form 12 is manufactured from a plurality of segments. The invention has been described in an illustrative manner, and it is to be understood that the terminology, which has been used, is intended to be in the nature of words of description rather than of limitation. It is therefore, to be understood that within the scope of the appended claims wherein reference numerals are merely for convenience and are not to be in any way limiting, the invention may be practiced otherwise than as specifically described.

Claims

The patent has 6 claims. Claim 1 is given below :

1 A process for molding a structural article, the process including the steps of:

Molding a hollow core element (10, 10') with thermoplastic resin into a predetermined form,

Molding circumferential corrugations (32) on a bend portion (33) of the core element (10);

Curing the core element (10, 10') to a rigid core element;

Bending the rigid core element at the bend portion;

Placing the rigid core element (10, 10') in a mold and

Liquid molding about the core element producing the structural article.

Highlights of the 40th Annual Report on Trade Marks

According to the Annual Report on Trade Marks for the year 1998-99, an increase of about 10% is reported in the number of applications filed for trade marks registration by the Indian applicants. Other highlights of the report are listed below:

- A total of 51,796 applications filed for registration in 1998-99 showed an increase of 11% over the applications filed in 1997-98. The graph below shows the trend of applications filed for trade mark registration during the last decade.



- Applications originating from foreign applicants increased from 8,794 in 1997-98 to 10,234 in 1998-99, showing an increase of 16%.
- Of the total applications filed, 44,927 were for registration in Part A and 6,869 were for registration in part B of the trademarks register.
- The applications filed for word marks (31, 077) were followed by device marks (10,149), letters and numeral combination mark (7,503), letter marks (2,497) and numeral marks (570).
- The goods in class 5 i.e pharmaceuticals, veterinary and sanitary substances have received the largest number of applications (9,529) followed by goods in class 9 (4,429) which constitutes scientific nautical, surveying and electrical apparatus etc.
- The class 13 comprising of firearms, ammunition and projectiles accounted for the least number of applications received (105).
- 5,345 applications were advertised in the Trade Marks Journal in 1998-99 as against 4,706 during 1997-98.
- 726 notices of opposition to registration of trade marks and 110 applications for rectification of the register were filed during the year.

Patenting in Textiles

Readers may recall that PFC had published an analysis on Patenting in Textiles in its IPR bulletin Vol 5 No 2 February, 1999. This issue presents an analysis of the patent applications filed in the area of textiles in India for the period 1995 to 1998. A total of 936 applications were filed during the period which includes knitting machines, yarn manufacturing machines, guiding and drafting apparatus, weaving looms, webs, quality control devices for textiles, fabric treatment devices, cables and carding machines and the like. The year wise breakup of the applications filed is given in Table I.

Table I

Patent Applications filed in India

Year	No. of Applications
1995	222
1996	237
1997	279
1998	198

Some of the facts that the study brings out are listed below:

Total applications filed	936
Number of convention applications	520
Number of applications filed by Indian companies/ individuals	127
Companies filing more than 10 applications	17
Indian companies filing more than 10 applications	2
No of applications filed by Indian individuals	51

The highest number of convention applications originated from Germany (205) followed by USA (128), United Kingdom (47), Japan (37), Switzerland (27) and Italy (24).

Filing by Indian Individuals and Companies

The share of Indians is about 14% in the 936 applications filed during the period. Out of the 127 applications filed by Indians, 76 have been filed by

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Patenting in Textiles

companies and government departments and 51 by individuals. Most of the textile research organisations like ATIRA, NITRA, SITRA, Central Silk Technology Research Institute, ICAR, IIT, Central Coir Research Institute, Birla Research Institute for Applied Sciences have some applications to their credit. Table II lists the Indian companies filing 2 or more than 2 applications.

Table II

Company	No. of Applications
Lakshmi Machine Works Ltd	12
Indian Jute Industries Research Association	11
Ahmedabad Textile Industry's Research Association (ATIRA)	6
Indian Card Clothing Co Ltd	5
Central Silk Technological Research Institute	4
South Indian Textile Research Association (SITRA)	4
Dean, Industrial Research & Development	4
Star Spin & Twist Machineries Ltd	4
Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)	3
Chief Controller R&D, Min. of Defence	3
Birla Research Institute for Applied Sciences	2
Central Coir Research Institute	2
Northern Indian Textile Research Association (NITRA)	2
ICI India Ltd	2
IIT	2
Stoplik Services (I) Pvt Ltd.	2

Lakshmi Machine Works Ltd has filed applications for drafting system, carding machine, ring spinning machine and a control system for textile machines. Indian Jute Industries Research Association's applications deal with spinning machine, oil free spinning of jute and allied fibres, producing fine jute fibres from raw jute, cutting device for sewing machine, preparing improved jute textiles for river bank protection, bobbin lifting device used in jute spinning frame and others. ATIRA has focussed

mainly on methods of obtaining raw cotton from the cotton pods. Central Coir Research Institute has two applications relating to spinning of yarn for coil film. ICI India's two applications are for a method of treating fibrous cellulosic textile material. ICAR has concentrated on determination of maturity of cotton fibers. Star Spin & Twist Machineries Ltd has filed patents for spindle & bolster assembly and cabler machines. The Indian Card Clothing Co has focussed on carding machines.

Individuals have filed applications in a variety of areas. These include yarn dyeing machine, method of preparing viscose rayon, fabric inspection machine, fabric dyeing process, manufacture of denim fabric, drafting machine, biodegradable fabric, zig zag textile processing, cleaning of spun silk fabrics, cotton spreader, circular looms, yarn conditioning plants and others. It is interesting to note that 4 applications titled, "Application for detection of weft yarn breakage in a handloom for the blind weavers" have been filed by three individuals jointly.

Filings by Foreigners and Foreign Companies

86% of the total applications have been filed by foreigners and foreign companies. Out of these, 64% applications are convention applications. The companies filing more than 10 applications are listed in Table III.

Table III

Company	No of Applications
Maschinenfabrik Rieter AG	94
Procter & Gamble Co	34
W. Schalfhorst AG & Co	23
Zellweger Luwa AG	23
SKF Textilemaschinen Komponenten GMBH	21
EI Du Pont de Nemours & Co	20
Kimberly Clark Worldwide Inc	20
Rieter Ingolstadt	20
Trutzchler GMBH & Co Kg	17
Barmag AG	16
Courtaulds Fibres (Holdings) Ltd	15
Kimberly Clark Corp	15
Zinser Textilemaschinen GMBH	15
Akzo Nobel NV	14
Novo Nordisk A/S	11

Areas in which most of the patent applications have been filed are given in Table IV.

Patenting in Textiles

Table IV

Subject	Patent Applications
Spinning (machine, devices, rings, frames, wet spinning, dry spinning)	229
Yarn manufacture	93
Guiding units (yarn winding, feeding, take-up devices)	93
Webs	68
Knitting machines	56
Quality control devices	46
Treatment of fibres/yarns (thermal treatment, cooling device)	41
Weaving looms (including circular)	21
Carding machines	20
Screen printing machines	7
Cabler machines	5

Machinenfabrik with 94 patent applications has filed most of the applications for spinning processes, apparatus, frames and drives. It has also covered areas like drafting units, spindles for spinning frame, fibre flock cleaner, web guide, thread transfer system, plant for processing fibres and fibre sorting device. Procter & Gamble has filed 34 applications related to fabric, web materials and different kinds of webs. W.Schalfhorst AG and Zellweger Luwa have filed 23 applications each. Zellweger is one single company which has filed maximum applications related to quality control during manufacturing processes of textile. Its applications include automatic monitoring of textile surface structures, moving yarn, faults in yarn and sliver and properties of elongated textile test material. It also has applications for devices used in detecting the mass of fibre material, thickness of slivers, defects in textile webs, and impurities in a fibre stream.

W.Schalfhorst has to its credit applications related to textile machines producing cross coils, thread guiding equipment, bobbin charging and transporting devices, can spinning machines, pot spinning devices and conveyor systems for textile machines. SKF Textilmaschinen has filed applications for drafting systems. Other areas apart from drafting are ring spinning machines, leak monitoring units and devices for supporting bobbin. Rieter Ingolstadt has its stake on open end spinning devices, textile machines, fibre conveying channel for spinning machines and guiding devices.

E I Du Pont has filed applications related to yarn and filament manufacture, spinnerets, filament cross-section, detection of broken filaments & wet spinning process. Kimberly Clark Corporation and Kimberly Clark Worldwide Inc have mostly filed patent applications for webs. They both have also filed applications for non-woven fabrics and self-crimping conjugate filaments. Trutzschler GMBH has many applications for measuring thickness of a fiber sliver, feeding devices for fibres and carding machines. Roving machines have been the favourite subject for filing of Zinser Textilmaschinen. 11 applications out of 15 of Zinser relate to roving machines. Akzo Nobel has filed applications for process for determining the dye uptake of textile fibres, technique for measuring properties of polymeric fibres, preparing regenerated cellulose filaments and making of cellulose yarn and cord for industrial applications.

Barmag AG has applicatons related to thermal treatment, wet spinning, and yarn guiding. Courtaulds Fibres has concentrated on fibre manufacture, spinnerette, fibre treatment and manufacture of lyocell fabrics. Novo Nordisk has applications to its credit which relate to spindles, treatment of fabrics, stain bleaching and textile brightening.

Apart from the aforementioned companies, many other companies having less than 10 patent applications to their credit include Allied Signal Inc, Applicator System AB, BASF Aktiengesellschaft, Corning Inc, Cotton Inc, Dystar Textilfarben GMBH & Co, Eastern Chemical Co., EMS-Inventa AG, Golden Lady SPA, HLL, Hoechst Aktiengesellschaft, Hoechst Trevira GMBH & Co Kg, Howa Machinery Ltd. Jen Hui Chen, Kabushiki Kaisha Toyoda Jidoshokki Seisakusho, Lenzing Aktiengesellschaft, Monarch Knitting Machinery Corp, Memminger-Iro GMBH, Novibra GMBH, Palitex Project Co., Textilma AG, Tensar Corp, Tubular Textile Machinery Corp, Vetrotex Frame SA and others.

Applications have also been filed in areas other than those mentioned in Table IV. These include fibre conditioning compositions, needles, dryers for webs, carpets and yarn therefor, process for making comfort melamine fabric, fibre reactive dyestuffs, back washing of partially processed wool, solar textile processing houses, thread making devices, cotton pickers, winders for synthetic filaments, fabric distributors, thread feeders, yarn sensors, cotton ginning apparatus and so on.

Fee Structure with UK as a Designated /or Elected Office in a PCT Application

A summary of requirements for entry into national phase, when UK has been designated in a PCT applications is presented. A PCT application written or translated into English must reach the UK Patent Office within 20 months from the priority date if the applicant has decided to enter into the national phase after the search report or within 30 months from the priority date if the applicant has decided to enter into the national phase after the examination report. The patent application covering the description, claims, any text matter of drawings, amendments if any, must be translated into English. Amendments shall be held invalid if their translation into English is not filed. A copy of the international application is required if the applicant has requested for early commencement of the national phase and till that time the UK Patent Office has not seen a copy of the international application from the International Bureau of WIPO. A reduced preliminary examination and search fee are required to be paid where an international search report has been established. This whole fee is refunded where the application does not proceed for substantive examination and no search has

been made in the UK Patent Office.

Under special requirements of the Office, the verification of translation of international application, name and address of the inventor (if not furnished in the 'request' for international application) and verified translation of priority document into English must be furnished within 22 months or 32 months (if according to Article 39 (1)) from the priority date.

Any individual, partnership or body corporate who resides in or has a place of business in UK, the Isle of Man or another Member State of the European Union can act as an agent. The competent designated (or elected) office if UK is designated (elected), is the UK Patent Office for national protection and European Patent Office for European patent. Regarding the microorganisms and other biological material, the deposits may also be made with any depository institution anywhere in the world. It is the responsibility of the applicant to select the depository and to ensure that samples of the culture deposited will be made available in accordance with Rule 17 and Schedule 2, UK Patent Rules 1995.

The fee schedule in pound sterling for UK Patent Office as designated (elected) office for a PCT application is given as below:

Item	Amount (Pound sterling)
National Fee	10
Preliminary examination and search	
(a) For an international application searched in the international phase	100
(b) For any other application	130
Request for further search or payment for supplementary search	130
Request for substantive examination	70
Renewal fee payment*	
For the 5th year	50
For the 6th year	70
For the 7th year	90
For the 8th year	110
For the 9th year	130
For the 10th year	150
For the 11th year	170
For the 12th year	190
For the 13th year	210
For the 14th year	230
For the 15th year	250
For the 16th year	270
For the 17th year	300
For the 18th year	330
For the 19th year	360
For the 20th year	400

* Only half of the renewal fee is payable if entry in the register "Licence of Rights".

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Commercial success...

adopted was different from the common routes.

The facts of the case were very particular and few patentees can claim to have taken such a simple step and achieved such commercial results. However, the case has given the clearest guidance as to how an argument of commercial success should be assessed to determine non-obviousness of a patented invention.

PFC on the move

PFC stepped into the new millennium with a website of its own- www.indianpatents.org, which was launched by Prof. M.M. Joshi, Union Minister for Science & Technology during the 12th Annual Day celebration of the TIFAC Day marked by a two day seminar on "Vision, Mission and Actions" on February 10-11, 2000. PFC's report on "Patenting of Microorganisms" and the 50th issue of the IPR Bulletin were also released on the same occasion. Ekaswa A and Ekaswa B are now available on the website alongwith other publications of PFC. This is the first ever online gateway to databases on Indian patents applications filed and applications accepted since 1995.



(Prof. M.M. Joshi releasing the 50th IPR Bulletin)

Coming to the national patent awareness mission through workshops, six more workshops were organised during this period sensitising more than 600 scientists and technologists in different parts of the country. The first workshop was organised at Nuclear Fuel Research Centre, Hyderabad, on January 7, upon the request of the Dept of Atomic Energy. The second was held at SHAR, Sriharikotta, at the request of ISRO on January 18. The third workshop was a three day workshop held on February 7-9 at National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore at the request of Department of Atomic Energy. The fourth workshop was held on February 18, at the Punjab University, Chandigarh. This was followed by a workshop in Gangtok in association with the Department of Science & Technology, Gangtok, Sikkim on February 24. The sixth workshop was held at the Banaras Hindu University on February 27 which was attended by about 150 engineering students. The total number of workshops now stands at 65.

During the period, three patent applications were filed, taking the total number of filings to 74, including 20 applications filed abroad and one PCT application. Designs have been registered for six separate models of LPG Stove for use by blind persons.

Domestic News

Zydus Cadila has filed a patent for a novel class of components among lipid lowering agents. The components are claimed to have a combined effect of reducing both cholesterol and triglyceride levels which is not seen in any of the available compounds jointly.

(The Economic Times, 22 Jan 2000)

A working group to prevent patenting of Indian traditional knowledge by developed countries has been set up by the Department of Indian Systems of Medicine. The working group aims to codify the knowledge in ancient texts into a digital database in internationally acceptable patent format. The working group is comprised of experts from the department, patent examiners, CSIR scientists and NIC experts.

(Business Line, 30 Jan 2000)

After a three year long legal battle, a Russian arbitration court has ruled in favour of the Hyderabad based Indian pharmaceutical company Dr Reddy's Laboratories in a patent row with the American company Merck & Co. Three independent expert committees appointed by the court concluded that Dr Reddy's Labs make 'enalaprilmaleate' for its registered drug 'Enam' by an original process, different from the one protected by Merck. The court also ordered Merck, which went to court in March 1997, to reimburse expenditure incurred by the Indian company for obtaining expert opinion in the case.

(Business Standard, 21 Feb 2000)

A recent ruling by WTO in

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Patents for Opposition

The following patent applications have been accepted by the Patent Office and published in the Gazette of India. These can now be opposed by filing opposition applications within a period of four months from the dates given. Six digit numbers allotted after acceptance by the Patent Office are given before the applicant names and patent application numbers given in brackets. Names of the branches of the Patent Office are denoted in the application number, e.g. 'Bom' for Bombay branch. An opposition application should be submitted at the appropriate office where the concerned application was originally filed.

PATENT APPLICANTS

INVENTION

A. 1 January, 2000

183421. Scitex America Corp, USA (214/Cal/95)	A system for implanting an image into a video stream.
183422. Phillips Petroleum Co, USA (340/Cal/95)	Process and apparatus for producing liquefied natural gas.
183423. General Electric Co, USA (451/Cal/95)	A mobile tracking unit for a vehicle location system.
183424. F F Seeley Nominees Pty Ltd, Australia (464/Cal/95)	A device for closing the outlet opening of a fan casing.
183425. General Electric Co, York USA (482/Cal/95)	A computerized tomography system with high rate communication.
183426. Hoerbiger Ventilwerke Aktiengesellschaft, Austria (513/Cal/95)	A valve lifter for compressor valves.
183427. Yamaha Hatsudoki Kabushiki Kaish, Japan (708/Cal/95)	An improved internal combustion engine.
183428. Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur India (799/Cal/95)	A pressure sensing apparatus for transmitting optical signals corresponding to pressure.
183429. Texaco Development Corp, USA (719/Cal/95)	A process for producing synthesis gas mixture comprising carbon monoxide and hydrogen.
183430. Electro-Erosion S A, Spain (828/Cal/95)	Filtering apparatus for filtering liquids having particles in suspension.
183431. Cosmo Films Ltd, New Delhi (608/Del/91)	A process for the preparation of synthetic paper.
183432. Albright & Wilson U K Ltd, England (710/Del/91)	Process and apparatus for production of a flame retardant cellulosic fabric.
183433. CSIR, India (752/Del/91) of	A process for continuous production superplastic ultra - high carbon (UHC) steel sheet.
183434. Shell Internationale Research Maatschappij B V, (813/Del/91)	Hydrocarbon oil compositions.
183435. Sunandan Kumar, An Indian National (968/Del/91)	Portable corrosion resistant double walled garbage incinerators.
183436. The Procter & Gamble Co, USA (01/Del/93)	A resilient three dimensional web having first and second surfaces exhibiting reduced planar area.
183437. Astra Aktiebolag, Sweden (1186/Del/94)	A process for the preparation of a pharmaceutical formulation for parenteral or oral use.
183438. Farmarc Nederland B V, The Netherlands (1277/Del/94)	A process for preparing a crystalline inclusion complex.

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Domestic News

favour of Canada will have a favourable effect on Indian pharmaceutical firms. The ruling will uphold Canada's right to manufacture or research a drug while it is still under patent for the purpose of seeking regulatory approval in the EU. It will enable generic manufacturers to apply for regulatory approval of low cost generic products during the term of a patent. Several Indian companies like Ranbaxy and Cheminor Drugs shall definitely benefit from this ruling as they have abbreviated new drug applications which are filed in developed countries even before a patent expires.

(Business Standard, 8 Feb 2000)

A data communication company in Minnesota headed by an Indian American has filed separate lawsuits against three multinational computer giants, including a Fortune Global 100 Company, for alleged infringement of six of its US patents. Multi-tech Systems Inc. filed three lawsuits in the US district court in Minneapolis alleging that three PC manufacturers Compaq, Dell, and Gateway had violated its patented technology involving the simultaneous transmission of voice, data and video over a communication line.

(Observer, 11 Feb 2000)

A major project to develop genetically engineered cotton, rice and pigeon pea that are resistant to pests has been announced by the Indian Council

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183439. Rhone-Poulenc Rorer
S A, France (1302/Del/94)

183440. CSIR, India (1646/Del/94)

B. 8 January, 2000

183441. Otto Bilz Werkzeugfabrik
GmbH & Co, Germany (231/Cal/94)

183442. Indian Association for
the Cultivation of Science, India
(500/Cal/94)

183443. Autorobot Finland Oy,
Finland (956/Cal/94)

183444. Rieter Automatik GmbH,
Germany (269/Cal/95)

183445. Autiocodes Ltd, Israel
(480/Cal/95)

183446. Medinol Ltd, Israel
(886/Cal/95)

183447. RCA Thomson Licensing
Corp, USA (830/Cal/94)

183448. Thomson Consumer
Electronics Inc, USA (880/Cal/95)

183449. Pepsico Inc, USA
(985/Cal/95)

183450. Keiper Recaro GmbH &
Co, Germany (996/Cal/95)

183451. Hindustan Lever Ltd,
India (57/Bom/95)

183452. Bajaj Auto Ltd, India
(69/Bom/95)

183453. The Ensign Bickford
Co, USA (106/Bom/95)

183454. Indian Institute of
Technology, Powai (72/Bom/96)

183455. Stoplik Services India
Pvt Ltd, India (203/Bom/97)

183456. Sun-Moon Chemical
Pvt Ltd, India (263/Bom/97)

183457. Hindustan Lever Ltd,
India (284/Bom/97)

183458. Stoplik Services (I)
Pvt Ltd, India (454/Bom/98)

183459. Wockhardt Research
Centre, India (602/Bom/98)

183460. Wockhardt Research
Centre, India (603/Bom/98)

A process for the preparation of a
compressed oral formulation of an
active principle of the quinolone class.

An improved process for the
preparation of 9 (2-hydroxyethyl) -7
11-dioxaspiro (5 5) undecane.

A tool holder in particular a fast
exchange chuck.

A process for making low band gap
amorphous silicon thin film at low
substrate temperature using the dilution
at high plasma power regime.

An equipment in work of alignment of
a vehicle.

Granulating device for strand materials.

A multi-pulse analysis speech
processing system.

An expandable articulated stent.

A shift register.

Method of manufacturing a screen
assembly having a planarizing layer.

A premium insert container for
concealing a prize within a bottle.

A method of forming a sliding bearing
in motor vehicle seats and a sliding
bearing produced by the method.

Process for the preparation of fat
blends.

An integrated sintered lightweight wear-
resistance camshaft for use in small
engine.

Shock tube assembly.

A process for cyclic supercritical
fluid (SCF) co extraction of fragrances
(absolute or essential oils) from
jasmine flowers.

A process for the preparation of
novel therapeutic injectable analgesic
composition.

Process for the isolation of 10deacetyl
baccatin-iii (10-dab) from taxus species.

A method of manufacture of a
synergistic hard surface cleaning
composition.

A process for the production of a
therapeutic anti-inflammatory and
analgesic composition containing
nimesulide for use transdermally.

A process for the production of
mercapto-proline compounds.

A process for the production of a
azetidinone derivatives.

Contd from...9

Domestic News

of Agricultural Research (ICAR).
To develop these, the scientists
have identified three major genes
from a common soil bacterium-
bacillus thuringiensis (BT). The
project would be handled jointly
by Central Institute of Cotton
Research (CICR) in Nagpur,
Biotechnology Research Centre at
IARI, International Centre for
Genetic Engineering and
Biotechnology (ICGEB), National
Botanical Research Institute
(NBRI), Lucknow and University of
Dharwad, Karnataka.

(Observer, 11 Feb 2000)

A two day international law
conference on Intellectual Property
Rights was held in New Delhi
from Feb 11-12, 2000. The
conference was organised by the
Asia Patent Attorneys Association
(APAA) and the Federation of
Intellectual Property Attorneys
(FICPI). About 50 countries of
Asia and the West including
USA, Australia, Japan, UK,
Malaysia, Hongkong, China,
South Africa, New Zealand, Africa,
Canada and Philippines
participated in the conference.
The conference mainly focussed
on emerging issues in the IPR
and spreading of patent
awareness in the country.

(Business Line, 12 Feb 2000)

Ajanta Pharma Ltd has
received a product patent for its
new product 'Carofit' from United
States and South Africa. Carofit
is an anti-oxidant with natural
carotenoid to fight oxidative
damages commonly seen in all
chronic diseases, aging, smoking
and pollution related diseases.

Contd on...11

C. 15 January, 2000

183461. Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur India (756/Cal/95) An improved lawn mower.
183462. Krone Aktiengesellschaft, Germany (636/Cal/95) Printed circuit board for connectors.
183463. Montell Technology Co BV, The Netherlands (765/Cal/95) The process for the polymerisation of olefins.
183464. Orica Australia Pty Ltd, Australia (830/Cal/95) A process for producing a stable pumpable slurry of magnesium hydroxide.
183465. Zambon Groups S P A, Italy (859/Cal/98) Process for purifying any organic compound contaminated with heavy metals.
183466. PPG Industries Inc, USA (261/Cal/95) A glass fiber bundle to be used for reinforcing polyolefin.
183467. Mitsubishi Denki Kabushiki Kaisha, Japan (866/Cal/95) An improved planetary gear for use in a planetary gear drive.
183468. Tredegar Industries Inc, USA (893/Cal/95) A perforated thermoplastic film.
183469. Patents Y Novedades S L, Spain (975/Cal/95) A process for manufacturing a covered particle board.
183470. Zomed International Inc, USA (1522/Cal/95) A retractable multiple electrode RF tissue ablation apparatus.
183471. Mahendra Vasant Sapre, India (168/Bom/95) An improved instant auto retracting and positioning device for machines.
183472. Fintube Ltd Partnership, USA (175/Bom/95) A process for an apparatus for producing strips from hot rolled rod.
183473. Jeeven Vishnu Apte, India (204/Bom/95) Improved combination choke for gas discharge lamps.
183474. Prima Plastic Ltd, India (221/Bom/95) A carry case.
183475. Hindustan Lever Ltd, India (226/Bom/95) Apparatus for operating on a partly erected container entrained by a conveyor.
183476. Krishnarao Chandrasekaran, India (233/Bom/95) A sanitary device (automatic path regulator for human wastes disposal) to prevent the human wastes in falling over the railway track during the halt of the train at railway station.
183477. Birla Research Institute For Applied Sciences, India (257/Bom/95) Manufacturing regenerated cellulose fibre by zinc-free viscose process or substantially zinc-free viscose process.
183478. Novotech Enterprises Private Ltd, India (340/Bom/95) Child seat for a two-wheeler.
183479. King-Chen Lin, Taiwan (402/Bom/95) A crank cover frame for the bicycle.
183480. National Organic Chemicals Industries Ltd, India (403/Bom/95) A process of lysis for the preparation of a plant growth promoter from biomass.
183481. Bharat Vidyapeeth, India (87/Bom/97) A process for making agglomerates for use as or in a drug delivery system.
183482. Hindustan Lever Ltd, India (254/Bom/97) A method of manufacturing a tea product derived from green tea leaf.
183483. Hindustan Lever Ltd, India (283/Bom/97) A process for the preparation of a continuous fat spread.

Contd from...10

Domestic News

Ajanta has filed 5 more global patents and is working on many more.

(Observer, 16 Feb 2000)

The World Bank plans to devise a package to give support and financial assistance to entrepreneurs from developing countries to patent their products in different parts of the world. This was stated by the World Bank President, James Walfensolin, to the Indian delegation that attended the UNCTAD conference in Bangkok. The bank has also assured the Indian delegation on benefits to be extended to traditional knowledge on commodities like turmeric, rice and so on.

(Business Standard, 18 Feb 2000)

NASSCOM and Business Software Alliance (BSA) are engaged in assisting enforcement officials in taking action against counterfeit software resellers and end users. While addressing a seminar on Software Asset Management jointly organised by NASSCOM and BSA, the President of BSA, Venena Hutley, said that 65% of installed software applications in India are pirated which account for a loss of \$ 197.3 million.

(Business Standard, 18 Feb 2000)

The government is soon going to set up a National Bureau for Agriculturally Important Organisms in New Delhi for documentation and conservation of genetic resources. The bureau will be one of its own kind in Asia. ICAR has also launched a five year agro-biodiversity conservation

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183484. Dr Deodatta Sitaram Bhadlikar, An Indian National (285/Bom/97)

183485. Hindustan Lever Ltd, India (324/Bom/97)

183486. Synit Drug Private Ltd, India (420/Bom/97)

183487. Synit Drugs Pvt Ltd, India (423/Bom/97)

183488. Hindustan Lever Ltd, India (430/Bom/95)

183489. Hindustan Lever Ltd, India (432/Bom/97)

183490. Hoechst Marion Roussel Ltd, India (523/Bom/97)

183491. Mr Surendra Himatlal Shah, India (421/Bom/95)

183492. Crompton Greaves Ltd, India (450/Bom/95)

183493. Prabhakar Damodar Godbole, India (463/Bom/95)

183494. Dhananjay Ramkrishna Tutakne, Indian National (513/Bom/95)

183495. Vijay Merchant, An Indian National (530/Bom/95)

183496. Panayacheril Krishnan Somasekharan, India (46/Bom/96)

183497. Chemnitzer Spinnerei-maschinenbau Gmbh, Germany (51/Bom/96)

183498. Ventron Chemicals Ltd, India (293/Bom/96)

183499. Ventron Chemicals Ltd, India (294/Bom/96)

183500. Vaitara Chemicals Ltd, India (586/Bom/96)

D. 22 January, 2000

183501. Krone Aktiengesellschaft, Germany (159/Cal/94)

183502. Netzsch Mohnopumpen Gmbh, Germany (71/Cal/95)

183503. Mcneil-PPC Inc, USA (122/Cal/95)

A process of preparing herbal composition for regeneration for / revitalisation /regrowth of hair.

A process for the preparation of a coated frozen confectionery product.

An improved process for the manufactured of the extract obtained from ayurvedic medicinal plant viz tulsi.

An improved process for manufacture of the extract obtained form ayurvedic medicinal plant viz guduchi.

Frozen food product.

A process for the production of a frozen food product.

A process for the isolation of new pharmacologically active 12 beta 19 beta -diacetyloxy 18 alpha 19 alpha epoxy-3 13 (16) 14-clerodatrien-2-one (esculentin a) and 18 beta 19 beta -diacetyloxy 18 alpha 19 alpha epoxy 3 12 14- clerodatrien-2 beta isoval.

An improved distillation unit-cum-heat pump.

An external slip ring wound rotor induction motor.

An automatic outflow regulating gate.

Electronic high sensitivity electric shock preventer.

An improved yarn dyeing machine.

A method of making mosquito repellants using cellulose mats impregnated with a composition wherein the active ingredient is of a bio-organic origin.

Device for guiding and transporting the slubbing in a drawing system of a spinning frame.

A water absorbent and release composition.

A water absorbent and release composition.

A process for the manufacture of the antibiotic 7-(d alpha amino-alpha-phenyl acetamido) 3- methyl-3 -cephem-4- carboxylic acid (cephalexin) and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Cable branching device.

A universal joint coupling in particular provided on a universal joint shaft of an eccentric worm machine.

An absorbent article for absorbing body fluids.

Contd from...11

Domestic News

project with a cost of Rs. 20 crore. Under this project, plant diversity from all over the country will be conserved. It is also estimated that one lakh additional seed samples of useful plants will be added to the national gene bank.

(Business Standard,18 Feb 2000)

International News

A two day workshop on dispute settlement, to familiarise professionals in developing countries and least developed countries (LDCs) with the subtleties of dispute settlement mechanisms in global trade, investment and intellectual property was held in Geneva, Switzerland. The workshop was organised by the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). It brought together participants from 40 countries and focussed on the dispute settlement mechanisms of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) and the World Bank.

(Business Line, 25 Jan 2000)

The Korean Industrial Property Office (KIPO) has started operating as world's 10th International Searching Authority and World's 9th International Preliminary Examining Authority in terms of Patent Cooperation Treaty from December 1, 1999. KIPO was given this status in 1997 but was going through legal function at the national level

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183504. Coronet-Werke Gmbh, Germany (442/Cal/95) A process for the production of brushware by injection moulding and the brushware produced thereby.
183505. Indrajit Dasgupta, India (556/Cal/95) A microprocessor based controller for solar power mass communication apparatus.
183506. Pozzolanic Enterprises Pty Ltd, Australia (629/Cal/95) An apparatus for separation of a mixture of electrically conductive particles and non-conductive particles and a method for separating carbon particles from particulate fly ash with said apparatus.
183507. Loesche Gmbh, Germany (730/Cal/95) Roller mill classifier.
183508. Montell Technology Co BV, The Netherlands (821/Cal/95) A process for the polymerisation of olefins.
183509. One Electro-Erosion S A, Spain (827/Cal/95) A filter for use with a machine tool.
183510. Mark Clayton Carter, USA (839/Cal/95) A collapsible shelter with a flexible lapsible canopy.
183511. Goplaswamy Ramachandran, India (305/Mas/92) V/uhf discone antenna.
183512. Ownes-Illinois Closure Inc, USA (726/Mas/93) A process for preparing a vinyl chloride copolymer plastisol composition.
183513. Palitex Project Co Gmbh, Germany (100/Mas/94) A spindle for manufacturing yarns.
183514. Kanemitsu Yamoka, Japan (212/Mas/94) Method and apparatus for curing fish/meat.
183515. Societe Des Produits Nestle S A, Switzerland (800/Mas/96) A process for producing comestible hydrolysate products from proteinaceous substrates.
183516. Koei Chemical Co Ltd, Japan (1286/Mas/96) A process for producing pyrazine compounds.
183517. Novo Nordisk, Denmark (1659/Mas/96) A process for preparing a food product with improved gel formation.
183518. Zymogenetic Inc, USA (2078/Mas/96) A method for producing a heterologous polypeptide.
183519. Societe Des Produits Nestle SA, Switzerland (913/Mas/97) A process for preparing a food thickener based on native starch.
183520. F Hoffmann-La Roche AG, Switzerland (1717/Mas/97) A process for the manufacture of (9 alpha 13 alpha 14 alpha) -1-(3-methoxymorphinan-17-yl) alkanones.
- E. 29 January, 2000**
183521. Alan James Evans, Australia (429/Cal/94) Snorkelling device.
183522. Philips Petroleum Co, USA (171/Cal/95) A process for polymerizing olefins.
183523. Westinghouse Electric Corp, USA (921/Cal/94) A gas turbine vane xx cooling system.
183524. General Electric Co, USA (371/Cal/95) An improved process for preparing oxidation product of cumene.
183525. General Electric Co, USA (483/Cal/95) Differentially driven transmission line for high data rate communication in a computerized tomography system.
183526. David Sungoh, India (508/Cal/95) A system for advantageous utilization of electrical power in electrolytic processes.
183527. Motive Holdings Ltd, USA (560/Cal/95) Apparatus for varying the extent of opening of the valve of an internal combustion engine.

Contd from...12

International News

and was preparing for performance of their function.

(WISTA Intellectual Property Vol 1 Iss 8, Feb 2000)

A US patent (Pat No 5,281,440) has been awarded to researchers at the University of Toledo for a process of depositing metal with a valence of zero, on a solid normally having hydroxyl groups. Under this method surface - immobilized silyl hydrides are used for the deposition of monoatomic metal layers of several different elements, including silver, palladium, platinum, osmium and gold on substrates having pendant hydroxy groups. This method offers low-cost deposition and recycling of noble metals and low- cost manufacturing of catalysts. This method provides electrolessplating on surfaces with high levels of free SiOH groups that are present on glass, clean silica, or silicon surfaces for microchips that are usually difficult to activate.

(Advanced Coatings & Surface Technology, Vol 13 No 1, Jan 2000)

Recombinant adeno-associated virus (AAV) vectors are being used by many companies for developing gene therapy products. These vectors had the presence of a wild virus contaminant. Although this contaminated vector caused no problem, but while introducing genes into patients' cells the purity of the AAV vectors is a desirable characteristic. Avigen Inc has

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183528. De Nora Permelec S P A, Italy (664/Cal/95)	An electrolyzer for electrochemical processes for the production of gaseous products.
183529. Integrated Fire Protection Private Ltd, India (1078/Cal/95)	A medium-expansion foam-water sprinkler.
183530. Foster Wheeler Development Corp, USA (1187/Cal/95)	Apparatus for generating electrical energy utilizing a boiler and a gas turbine powered by a carbonizer and a method for producing fuel gas and char from partially combusting solid fuel.
F. 5 February, 2000	
183531. Danieli & C Officine Meccaniche SPA, Italy (295/Cal/95)	Equipment-holder bar for a rolling mill stand.
183532. AK Steel Corp, USA (338/Cal/95)	An apparatus for continuous hot dip coating metal strip with molten metal.
183533. Thomson Consumer Electronics Inc, USA (422/Cal/95)	Apparatus for providing audible instructions or status information for use in digital television system.
183534. Koyo Sangyo Co Ltd, Japan (458/Cal/95)	A hot press used for the production of a pressed workpiece.
183535. United States Gypsum Co, USA (503/Cal/95)	A ready-mixed cementitious composition.
183536. HKS Co Ltd, Japan (842/Cal/95)	An air intake, air cleaner apparatus for a vehicle engine.
183537. Asahi Glass Co Ltd, Japan (1174/Cal/95)	A bipolar type ion exchange membrane electrolytic cell.
183538. Nihon Almit Co Ltd, Japan (1493/Cal/95)	A method of producing high strength solder alloy.
183539. Sonus Pharmaceuticals Inc, USA (26/Cal/98)	A method of making an emulsion of a therapeutic agent.
183540. Metallgesellschaft Aktiengesellschaft, Germany (163/Cal/99)	Process of treating oil seed flakes prior to the recovery of oil.
183541. Widia GmbH, Germany (645/Cal/94)	Cermet and the process for its manufacture.
183542. Tippins Inc, USA (983/Cal/94)	An apparatus and method for casting an intermediate thickness slab with inline processing line.
183543. Orchid Systems Inc, USA (554/Cal/95)	A system for translating a first user interface of a preexisting application on a host computer to a second user interface running on a client computer.
183544. Engelhard Corp, USA (700/Cal/95)	A process for preparing purified aromatic polycarboxylic acids.
183545. Holter Regelarmaturen GmbH & Co Kg, Germany (738/Cal/95)	Pump protection valve.
183546. Sterling Chemicals International Inc, USA (754/Cal/95)	A dry blend for use in the preparation of a friction material composition.
183547. Suspa Compart Aktiengesellschaft, Germany (791/Cal/95)	Longitudinally adjustable gas spring for adjustable-height chairs tables or the like.
183548. Montell Technology Co BV, Netherlands (816/Cal/95)	Multistage process for the (co) polymerization of olefins.
183549. Koch Enterprises Inc, Wichita Kansas (818/Cal/95)	An improved apparatus for the production of desulfurized incondensable gases coming from vacuum distillation of heavy fractions of crude oil and a process for the same.

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International News

received a US patent (Pat No 6,001,650) for a technique that produces the vectors at high levels without contaminating wild AAV virus. The new technology includes nucleic acids that encode rep and cap function but with a modified promoter that lacks an intact TATA box, cells transfected with vector replicate, but do not form any detectable wild-type AAV.

(Genetic Technology News, Vol 20 No1 Jan 5, 2000)

A US patent (Pat No 5,985,356) has been awarded to Symyx Technology Inc covering methodologies for high speed materials discovery. The patent includes combinatorial synthesis to prepare inorganic materials, intermetallic materials, metal alloys, ceramic materials, organic materials, organometallic materials, nonbiological organic polymers, and composite materials. Once prepared, these materials can be screened in parallel for useful properties including for example electrical, thermal, mechanical, morphological, optical, magnetic, chemical, and other properties. The methodologies include both liquid and thin-film deposition of materials into arrays.

(High-Tech Materials Alert, Vol 17 No 11, Jan 2000)

Using the images of celebrities for selling one's product may put somebody in trouble. Girl Power Toys Ltd had registered a design that showed the figures embodying images of the famous

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183550. General Electric Co, USA (1195/Cal/95)	Virtual internal cavity inspection system.
G. 12 February, 2000	
183551. Bosch-Siemens Hausgerate Gmbh Germany (968/Cal/95)	Switching arrangement for operation of an electrically controllable magnet valve.
183552. Connecteurs Cinch, France (388/Cal/95)	Hermaphroditic electrical contact member.
183553. General Electric Co, USA (567/Cal/95)	Electrically propelled golf car.
183554. Thomson Tubes & Displays S A, France (715/Cal/95)	A deflection yoke for a cathode ray tube.
183555. Thomson Tubes & Displays S A (720/Cal/95)	A deflection yoke for a cathode ray tube.
183556. Kerr Mcgee Chemical Llc, USA (728/Cal/95)	A railway track support and fastening assembly.
183557. Hoechst Aktiengesellschaft, Germany (953/Cal/93)	A process for the preparation of the azo pigment.
183558. Kaneka Corp, Japan (838/Cal/97)	A process for preparing 1-alkoxycarbonyl -3- phenylpropyl derivative.
183559. Biplab Roy Chowdhury, India (35/Cal/98)	Process for preparing composite spices tablet.
183560. William Alien Trusts Pty Ltd, Australia (1016/Cal/95)	An evaporative cooler comprising a heat exchanger having spaced evaporative wicks.
183561. Eric D Cole, USA (150/Cal/95)	Solar cell module and method of manufacturing the same.
183562. Kimberly-Clark Worldwide Inc, USA (736/Cal/95)	A method of polymerizing an unsaturated polymerizable material.
183563. Sterling Chemicals International Inc, USA (754/Cal/95)	A blend for use in the preparation of a friction material.
183564. Cytec Technology Corp, USA (752/Cal/95)	A dry blend for use in the preparation of a friction material.
183565. Siemens Aktiengesellschaft, Germany (788/Cal/95)	A device for calculating the operational performance of a turbine plant.
183566. One Electro-Erosion S A, Spain (829/Cal/95)	A system for the filtration of liquids having suspended particles therein.
183567. AST Research Inc, USA (826/Cal/95)	A printed circuit board having a dual footprint and a method of producing the same.
183568. Tredegar Corp, USA (894/Cal/95)	A cylindrical screen for perforating a thermoplastic film or sheet.
183569. Transphere Systems Ltd, New Zealand (959/Cal/95)	A forklift carryable pallet.
183570. Siemens Aktiengesellschaft, Germany (1128/Cal/95)	Actuation device for a circuit-breaker.
H. 19 February, 2000	
183571. Gujarat State Fertilizers & Chemicals Ltd, India (607/Bom/94)	A process for production of aviation grade cast acrylic sheets.
183572. Universal Chemicals & Industries Private Ltd, India (119/Bom/95)	A process for the manufacture of potassium manganate.
183573. Hindustan Lever Ltd, India (133/Bom/95)	An article assembling apparatus.

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International News
group of Spice Girls. The company obtained the registration on the ground that it had obtained the consent of the Spice Girls which was not so in reality. Spice Girls Ltd got the designs cancelled on the grounds that they had never consented for such a thing and secondly the design lacked novelty in the sense that they embodied the identities and images of well known individuals in the public domain.

(Intellectual Property Decisions, Vol 22 No 12, Dec 99)

The year 1999 has been a record year for the UK Patent Office. The highest number of patent applications have been filed during the last 10 years in 1999. Also the number of patents granted in 1999 is at the highest level since 1990.

(Patent World, Issue 117, Nov 99)

An online magazine, 'PTO Today' is now available on USPTO's website. This monthly magazine will offer readers practical information, such as tips to make filing of patent and trade mark easier, stories about legislature and policy changes, new programs and current events. A quarterly print version shall also be distributed free of charge to subscribers.

(www.uspto.gov)

The growth of technology in a country can be assessed from the number of patents filed and granted in that country. USPTO very clearly supplements this statement. It took USPTO some

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183574. Bapu Sambhaji gases Sonawane, India (280/Bom/95)	A device to absorb obnoxious form exhaust of internal combustion engine and/or smoke producing appliances.
183575. Raptakos Brett & Co Ltd, India (320/Bom/95)	Process for manufacture of carotenoids rich carrot extracts from carrots using aqueous systems.
183576. Shop and Manufactures Private Ltd, India (349/Bom/95)	Rotary segmented disc type pre-coat pressure filter.
183577. Indravadan Ambalal Modi "Kaka-Ba", India (628/Bom/97)	The process for manufacturing the topical formulation of nimesulide with better efficacy and stability.
183578. Hindustan Lever Ltd, India (633/Bom/97)	A hair shampoo or conditioning composition.
183579. Sharangdhar Pharmaceuticals Pvt Ltd, India (706/Bom/97)	A process to manufacture chyvanprash in granular form.
183580. Aseem Consumer Products Pvt Ltd, India (18/Bom/98)	A process for coating nuts.
183581. Harnischfeger Technologies Inc, USA (155/Cal/95)	An apparatus such as a swing drive of a drag line used for open pit mining and a method of making the same.
183582. Johnson & Johnson Medical Inc, USA (364/Cal/95)	An apparatus for hydrogen peroxide sterilization of an article.
183583. RCA Thomson Licensing Corp, USA (551/Cal/95)	Packetized digital datastream apparatus.
183584. Harris Corp, USA (657/Cal/95)	Improvements in or relating to integrated network switch with variable functions.
183585. Innotech Inc, USA (1057/Cal/97)	A method for making a finished lens.
183588. Daewoo Electronics Co Ltd, Korea (1325/Cal/95)	An apparatus for adjusting the horizontal size of a monitor screen.
183589. Controlled Environmental Systems Corp, USA (116/Cal/98)	A method for producing ethanol from the cellulosic component of municipal solid waste with production of byproduct fuel.
183590. Ishihara Sangyo Kaisha Ltd, Japan (202/Cal/98)	A process for producing an acrylonitrile compound and its salt.

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International News
 50 years to get from patent number 1 to patent 1 millions. But it took only one tenth of that time to go from 5 to 6 million patents. USPTO's 6 millionth patent was awarded to Palm Computing Inc for its HotSync technology. This technology allows users of a handheld device based on the Palm Computing Platform to synchronize their information with a computer at a single touch of a button and also provides for fast easy back up of data. It has also the ability to put the most up-to-date information from a desktop computer or server into the pocket or purse of the user. Also, the first patent in the new millennium was issued by the USPTO (Pat No. 6,009,555) to Leonard Sirput for a sun visor/eye shield for surfers, kayakers, bikers and athletes in other extreme sports. USPTO issued the first trademark to Origin Natural Resources Inc, a cosmetic company, and its design.

(www.uspto.gov)

Please send us questions and topics you would like to see in the coming issues

NEXT ISSUE

- **Patenting in Electronics**
- **Case Law**
- **Patents for Opposition**

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