



US008993462B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Duselis et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 8,993,462 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Mar. 31, 2015**

(54) **SURFACE SEALED REINFORCED BUILDING ELEMENT**

(75) Inventors: **Steven Alfred Duselis**, New South Wales (AU); **James Gleeson**, New South Wales (AU); **Tihomir Kascelan**, New South Wales (AU); **David Lyons**, New South Wales (AU); **Milton Terrence O'Chee**, New South Wales (AU)

(73) Assignee: **James Hardie Technology Limited**, Dublin (IE)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 949 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **12/296,764**

(22) PCT Filed: **Apr. 12, 2007**

(86) PCT No.: **PCT/AU2007/000487**

§ 371 (c)(1),
(2), (4) Date: **Apr. 10, 2009**

(87) PCT Pub. No.: **WO2007/115379**

PCT Pub. Date: **Oct. 18, 2007**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2009/0272058 A1 Nov. 5, 2009

(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**

Apr. 12, 2006 (AU) 2006901936

(51) **Int. Cl.**
B32B 17/04 (2006.01)
B32B 17/00 (2006.01)

(Continued)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
CPC . **E04C 2/26** (2013.01); **B32B 13/02** (2013.01);
B32B 13/14 (2013.01); **B32B 17/04** (2013.01);

(Continued)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

CPC B32B 17/04; B32B 27/04; B32B 7/00;
B32B 7/12; B32B 7/02; B29C 65/5021
USPC 52/409, 411; 428/142; 442/86, 131,
442/132, 152, 164, 180
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

369,216 A 8/1887 Temple
494,763 A 4/1893 Smidth

(Continued)

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

AR 151553 10/1966
AR 206788 8/1976

(Continued)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

World Minerals Corporation, "Celite Products" <http://www.worldminerals.com/celite.html>; 2006, 1 pg.

(Continued)

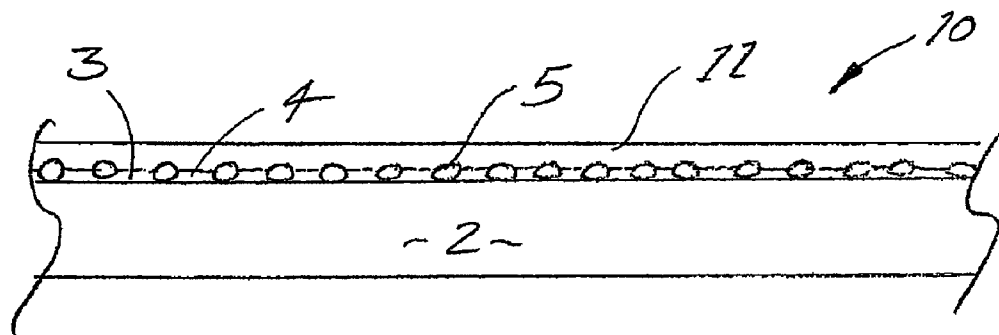
Primary Examiner — Phi A

(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm — Knobbe, Martens, Olson & Bear, LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A building element (1) that is suitable for use as a structural element in wet areas or external docking. The building element (1) comprises a rigid substrate (2) having an upper face (3). Over the first face (3) lies a radiation curable resin (4) into which a layer of reinforcing material (5) is at least partially embedded. The reinforcing material (5) and resin (3) can be applied separately or together onto the first face (3) of the rigid substrate (2) or in some cases can be applied to both faces. An apparatus and method for producing the building sheet are also disclosed.

29 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets



- (51) **Int. Cl.**
- E04C 2/26* (2006.01)
- B32B 13/02* (2006.01)
- B32B 13/14* (2006.01)
- B32B 37/00* (2006.01)
- B32B 7/12* (2006.01)
- B32B 7/02* (2006.01)
- B32B 37/24* (2006.01)
- (52) **U.S. Cl.**
- CPC . *B32B 37/00* (2013.01); *B32B 7/12* (2013.01);
B32B 7/02 (2013.01); *B32B 2037/243*
(2013.01); *B32B 2305/08* (2013.01); *B32B*
2310/0806 (2013.01); *B32B 2315/06* (2013.01);
B32B 2607/00 (2013.01); *B32B 2260/021*
(2013.01); *B32B 2260/046* (2013.01); *B32B*
2262/062 (2013.01); *B32B 2262/101* (2013.01);
B32B 2262/106 (2013.01); *B32B 2310/0831*
(2013.01); *B32B 2419/00* (2013.01); *B32B*
2419/04 (2013.01)
- USPC **442/86**; 442/131; 442/132; 442/152;
52/409
- (56) **References Cited**
- U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS
- | | | | |
|-----------|---|---------|-------------------|
| 525,442 | A | 9/1894 | Burrows |
| 575,074 | A | 1/1897 | Smith |
| 774,114 | A | 11/1904 | Spear |
| 815,801 | A | 3/1906 | Depew et al. |
| 1,344,181 | A | 6/1920 | Mason |
| 1,399,023 | A | 12/1921 | Murray |
| 1,510,497 | A | 10/1924 | Keller |
| 1,512,084 | A | 10/1924 | Church |
| 1,571,048 | A | 1/1926 | Garrow |
| 1,630,801 | A | 5/1927 | Parsons |
| 1,634,809 | A | 7/1927 | Weiss |
| 1,698,557 | A | 1/1929 | O'Brien |
| 1,819,093 | A | 8/1931 | Hardinge |
| 1,856,932 | A | 5/1932 | Shaw |
| 1,856,936 | A | 5/1932 | Turner |
| 1,871,843 | A | 8/1932 | Ericson |
| 1,914,163 | A | 6/1933 | Randall |
| 1,930,024 | A | 10/1933 | Varden |
| 1,943,663 | A | 1/1934 | Ericson |
| 1,959,519 | A | 5/1934 | Black |
| 1,976,684 | A | 10/1934 | Munroe et al. |
| 1,976,984 | A | 10/1934 | Condon et al. |
| 1,978,519 | A | 10/1934 | Willock et al. |
| 1,995,393 | A | 3/1935 | Manske |
| 1,997,939 | A | 4/1935 | Loucks |
| 2,009,619 | A | 7/1935 | Huffine |
| 2,024,689 | A | 12/1935 | Walter et al. |
| 2,030,383 | A | 2/1936 | Luth et al. |
| 2,054,854 | A | 9/1936 | Dreyfus |
| 2,062,149 | A | 11/1936 | Stark et al. |
| 2,156,308 | A | 5/1939 | Schuh |
| 2,156,311 | A | 5/1939 | Schuh |
| 2,175,568 | A | 10/1939 | Haustein |
| 2,175,569 | A | 10/1939 | Kennedy |
| 2,176,668 | A | 10/1939 | Egeberg et al. |
| 2,182,372 | A | 12/1939 | Cox et al. |
| 2,224,351 | A | 12/1940 | Kaye |
| 2,253,753 | A | 8/1941 | Black |
| 2,276,170 | A | 3/1942 | Elmendorf |
| 2,317,634 | A | 4/1943 | Olsen |
| 2,320,702 | A | 6/1943 | Marchese et al. |
| 2,323,230 | A | 6/1943 | McAvoy |
| 2,324,325 | A | 7/1943 | Schuh |
| 2,354,639 | A | 7/1944 | Seymour |
| 2,377,484 | A | 6/1945 | Elmendorf |
| 2,400,357 | A | 5/1946 | Krajci |
| 2,413,794 | A | 1/1947 | Small |
| 2,447,275 | A | 8/1948 | Price |
| 2,511,083 | A | 6/1950 | Small |
| 2,517,122 | A | 8/1950 | Lockwood |
| 2,518,281 | A | 8/1950 | Camp et al. |
| 2,619,776 | A | 12/1952 | Potters |
| 2,624,298 | A | 1/1953 | Farren |
| 2,645,576 | A | 7/1953 | Bate et al. |
| 2,676,892 | A | 4/1954 | McLaughlin |
| 2,694,025 | A | 11/1954 | Slayter et al. |
| 2,724,872 | A | 11/1955 | Herbes |
| 2,746,735 | A | 5/1956 | Bradford |
| 2,762,619 | A | 9/1956 | Booth |
| 2,782,018 | A | 2/1957 | Bradford |
| 2,782,463 | A | 2/1957 | Bergvall et al. |
| 2,797,201 | A | 6/1957 | Veatch |
| 2,838,881 | A | 6/1958 | Plumat |
| 2,879,171 | A | 3/1959 | Kullenberg |
| 2,880,101 | A | 3/1959 | Ulfstedt |
| 2,928,143 | A | 3/1960 | Newton |
| 2,945,326 | A | 7/1960 | Wood |
| 2,947,115 | A | 8/1960 | Wood |
| 2,978,339 | A | 4/1961 | Veatch et al. |
| 2,978,340 | A | 4/1961 | Veatch et al. |
| 2,987,408 | A | 6/1961 | Minnick |
| 2,997,403 | A | 8/1961 | Searight |
| 3,010,177 | A | 11/1961 | Thompson et al. |
| 3,046,700 | A | 7/1962 | Davenport |
| 3,047,985 | A | 8/1962 | Murphy |
| 3,081,179 | A | 3/1963 | Charvat et al. |
| 3,106,503 | A | 10/1963 | Randall et al. |
| 3,150,947 | A | 9/1964 | Bland |
| 3,173,229 | A | 3/1965 | Weber |
| 3,181,662 | A | 5/1965 | Maertzig, Jr. |
| 3,214,876 | A | 11/1965 | Mattes |
| 3,215,505 | A | 11/1965 | Schmalfeld et al. |
| 3,235,039 | A | 2/1966 | O'Donnell |
| 3,236,932 | A | 2/1966 | Grigas et al. |
| 3,256,105 | A | 6/1966 | Alford |
| 3,264,125 | A | 8/1966 | Bourlin |
| 3,274,743 | A | 9/1966 | Blum, Jr. |
| 3,279,905 | A | 10/1966 | Wood et al. |
| 3,284,980 | A | 11/1966 | Dinkel |
| 3,293,014 | A | 12/1966 | Callender et al. |
| 3,297,411 | A | 1/1967 | Dear |
| 3,321,414 | A | 5/1967 | Viel |
| 3,333,379 | A | 8/1967 | Harris |
| 3,336,710 | A | 8/1967 | Raynes |
| 3,341,314 | A | 9/1967 | Vukasovich et al. |
| 3,348,956 | A | 10/1967 | Ekdahl |
| 3,360,392 | A | 12/1967 | Mod et al. |
| 3,365,315 | A | 1/1968 | Beck et al. |
| 3,408,786 | A | 11/1968 | Snyker |
| 3,415,019 | A | 12/1968 | Andersen |
| 3,416,275 | A | 12/1968 | Van Loghem et al. |
| 3,421,281 | A | 1/1969 | Harris |
| 3,481,093 | A | 12/1969 | Davidson |
| 3,495,961 | A | 2/1970 | Lange |
| 3,501,324 | A | 3/1970 | Kubo |
| 3,527,004 | A | 9/1970 | Sorenson |
| 3,560,185 | A | 2/1971 | Nylander |
| 3,560,186 | A | 2/1971 | Nylander |
| 3,574,113 | A | 4/1971 | Shannon |
| 3,582,377 | A | 6/1971 | Hays et al. |
| 3,606,720 | A | 9/1971 | Cookson |
| 3,616,173 | A | 10/1971 | Green et al. |
| 3,625,808 | A | 12/1971 | Martin |
| 3,634,567 | A | 1/1972 | Yang |
| 3,635,742 | A | 1/1972 | Fujimasu et al. |
| 3,660,955 | A | 5/1972 | Simon et al. |
| 3,663,341 | A | 5/1972 | Veneziale, Jr. |
| 3,663,353 | A | 5/1972 | Long et al. |
| 3,679,446 | A | 7/1972 | Kubo |
| 3,703,795 | A | 11/1972 | Mattes |
| 3,708,943 | A | 1/1973 | Thomas et al. |
| 3,716,386 | A | 2/1973 | Kempster |
| 3,729,368 | A | 4/1973 | Ingham et al. |
| 3,736,162 | A | 5/1973 | Chvalovsky et al. |
| 3,748,100 | A | 7/1973 | Forseth |
| 3,748,160 | A | 7/1973 | Carbajal |
| 3,752,685 | A | 8/1973 | Honda et al. |

(56)

References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

3,753,749 A	8/1973	Nutt	4,112,647 A	9/1978	Scheid
3,754,365 A	8/1973	Carrick et al.	4,118,236 A	10/1978	Erskine et al.
3,780,483 A	12/1973	Mattes	4,128,696 A	12/1978	Goebel et al.
3,782,985 A	1/1974	Gebhardt	4,131,480 A	12/1978	McCurich et al.
3,797,179 A	3/1974	Jackson	4,131,638 A	12/1978	Whitaker et al.
3,797,190 A	3/1974	Widdowson	4,132,555 A	1/1979	Barrable et al.
3,804,058 A	4/1974	Messenger	4,133,854 A	1/1979	Hendricks
3,818,668 A	6/1974	Charniga	4,133,928 A	1/1979	Riley et al.
3,835,604 A	9/1974	Hoffmann, Jr.	4,134,773 A	1/1979	Simeonov et al.
3,836,412 A	9/1974	Boustany et al.	4,138,313 A	2/1979	Hillstrom et al.
3,838,998 A	10/1974	Matthews et al.	4,144,121 A	3/1979	Otouma et al.
3,843,380 A	10/1974	Beyn	4,150,517 A	4/1979	Warner, Sr.
3,847,633 A	11/1974	Race	4,152,878 A	5/1979	Balinski
3,865,779 A	2/1975	Oya et al.	4,153,439 A	5/1979	Tomic et al.
3,866,378 A	2/1975	Kessler	4,161,389 A	7/1979	Staffin et al.
3,869,295 A	3/1975	Bowles et al.	4,162,924 A	7/1979	Kubo et al.
3,873,025 A	3/1975	Qvarnstrom et al.	4,166,749 A	9/1979	Sterrett et al.
3,873,475 A	3/1975	Pechacek et al.	4,177,176 A	12/1979	Burrill et al.
3,877,918 A	4/1975	Cerbo	4,183,188 A	1/1980	Goldsby
3,887,386 A	6/1975	Majumdar et al.	4,184,906 A	1/1980	Young
3,888,617 A	6/1975	Barnett	4,187,658 A	2/1980	Reinwall, Jr.
3,888,957 A	6/1975	Netting	4,188,231 A	2/1980	Valore
3,902,911 A	9/1975	Messenger	4,203,788 A	5/1980	Clear
3,904,377 A	9/1975	Honda et al.	4,204,644 A	5/1980	Kozuka et al.
3,904,424 A	9/1975	Aoki et al.	4,205,992 A	6/1980	Mogensen et al.
3,909,283 A	9/1975	Warnke	4,211,525 A	7/1980	Vetter et al.
3,918,981 A	11/1975	Long	4,217,335 A	8/1980	Sasaki et al.
3,921,346 A	11/1975	Sauer et al.	4,222,785 A	9/1980	Henderson
3,924,901 A	12/1975	Phillips	4,225,383 A	9/1980	McReynolds
3,928,701 A	12/1975	Roehner	4,226,841 A	10/1980	Komeya et al.
3,931,069 A	1/1976	Lundin	4,231,573 A	11/1980	Kelly
3,932,275 A	1/1976	Mewes et al.	4,234,344 A	11/1980	Tinsley et al.
3,935,364 A	1/1976	Proksch et al.	4,235,753 A	11/1980	Brown et al.
3,954,390 A	5/1976	Akhundov et al.	4,235,836 A	11/1980	Wassell et al.
3,965,633 A	6/1976	Carroll	4,240,840 A	12/1980	Downing et al.
3,969,567 A	7/1976	Occleshaw et al.	4,243,421 A	1/1981	Kume et al.
3,974,024 A	8/1976	Yano et al.	4,250,134 A	2/1981	Minnick
3,986,312 A	10/1976	Calhoun et al.	4,252,193 A	2/1981	Powers et al.
3,992,845 A	11/1976	Grzesiek et al.	4,256,504 A	3/1981	Dunstan, Jr.
3,998,651 A	12/1976	Baudouin et al.	4,256,584 A	3/1981	Lord et al.
3,998,944 A	12/1976	Long	4,258,090 A	3/1981	Moraru
4,002,482 A	1/1977	Coenen et al.	4,261,286 A	4/1981	Kupfer et al.
4,003,752 A	1/1977	Isohata et al.	4,261,754 A	4/1981	Krenchel et al.
4,009,135 A	2/1977	Harreus et al.	4,265,674 A	5/1981	Debus et al.
4,010,587 A	3/1977	Larsen	4,268,316 A	5/1981	Wills, Jr.
4,010,589 A	3/1977	Gross et al.	4,268,317 A	5/1981	Rayl
4,013,480 A	3/1977	Chumbley et al.	4,274,239 A	6/1981	Carroll
4,015,392 A	4/1977	Eaton	4,274,913 A	6/1981	Kikuri et al.
4,028,859 A	6/1977	Bellagamba et al.	4,292,206 A	9/1981	Barnes, Jr. et al.
4,034,528 A	7/1977	Sanders et al.	4,292,364 A	9/1981	Wesch et al.
4,040,851 A	8/1977	Ziegler	4,295,907 A	10/1981	Cordts et al.
4,046,548 A	9/1977	Wood et al.	4,298,413 A	11/1981	Teare
4,047,355 A	9/1977	Knorr	4,298,647 A	11/1981	Cancio et al.
4,052,220 A	10/1977	Turpin, Jr.	4,303,732 A	12/1981	Torobin
4,052,829 A	10/1977	Chapman	4,304,604 A	12/1981	Daerr et al.
4,057,908 A	11/1977	Mirliss et al.	4,305,758 A	12/1981	Powers et al.
4,058,944 A	11/1977	Rieger	4,306,911 A	12/1981	Gordon et al.
4,059,423 A	11/1977	De Vos et al.	4,307,142 A	12/1981	Blitstein et al.
4,063,393 A	12/1977	Toti	4,307,551 A	12/1981	Crandell
4,065,899 A	1/1978	Kirkhuff	4,321,780 A	3/1982	Hooper et al.
4,066,723 A	1/1978	King et al.	4,327,528 A	5/1982	Fritz
4,070,199 A	1/1978	Downing et al.	4,328,145 A	5/1982	Bobrowski et al.
4,070,843 A	1/1978	Leggiere et al.	4,330,634 A	5/1982	Rodaway
4,076,884 A	2/1978	Riley et al.	4,332,618 A	6/1982	Ballard
4,079,562 A	3/1978	Englert et al.	4,336,338 A	6/1982	Downs et al.
4,088,804 A	5/1978	Cornwell et al.	4,337,290 A	6/1982	Kelly et al.
4,098,701 A	7/1978	Burrill et al.	4,339,289 A	7/1982	Lankard
4,101,335 A	7/1978	Barrable et al.	4,339,489 A	7/1982	Barker et al.
4,102,106 A	7/1978	Golder et al.	4,340,407 A	7/1982	Anderson et al.
4,102,697 A	7/1978	Fukuba et al.	4,343,127 A	8/1982	Greve et al.
4,102,773 A	7/1978	Green et al.	4,344,804 A	8/1982	Bijen et al.
4,104,103 A	8/1978	Tarullo	4,347,155 A	8/1982	Jenkins
4,104,840 A	8/1978	Heintz et al.	4,350,567 A	9/1982	Moorehead et al.
4,110,507 A	8/1978	Colledge	4,351,867 A	9/1982	Mulvey et al.
4,111,713 A	9/1978	Beck	4,357,271 A	11/1982	Rosenquist
			4,361,616 A	11/1982	Bomers et al.
			4,362,566 A	12/1982	Hinterwaldner et al.
			4,363,878 A	12/1982	Yamamoto et al.
			4,366,657 A	1/1983	Hopman

(56)

References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

4,370,166 A	1/1983	Powers et al.	4,642,137 A	2/1987	Heitzmann et al.
4,373,955 A	2/1983	Bouchard et al.	4,643,753 A	2/1987	Braun
4,373,957 A	2/1983	Pedersen et al.	4,643,920 A	2/1987	McEntee et al.
4,374,672 A	2/1983	Funston et al.	4,647,496 A *	3/1987	Lehnert et al. 442/386
4,375,489 A	3/1983	Muszynski	4,647,505 A	3/1987	Blackie et al.
4,377,977 A	3/1983	Wurster	4,647,509 A	3/1987	Wallace et al.
4,379,553 A	4/1983	Kelly	4,647,589 A	3/1987	Valone
4,379,729 A	4/1983	Cross et al.	4,652,433 A	3/1987	Ashworth et al.
4,380,564 A	4/1983	Cancio et al.	4,652,535 A	3/1987	Mackenzie et al.
4,383,960 A	5/1983	Delcoigne et al.	4,655,979 A	4/1987	Nakano et al.
4,388,257 A	6/1983	Oguri et al.	4,657,810 A	4/1987	Douden
4,392,336 A	7/1983	Ganssle	4,659,386 A	4/1987	Nagai et al.
4,394,175 A	7/1983	Cheriton et al.	4,659,679 A	4/1987	Falk
4,394,346 A	7/1983	Morooka et al.	4,661,137 A	4/1987	Garnier et al.
4,399,643 A	8/1983	Hafner et al.	4,661,398 A	4/1987	Ellis
4,403,006 A	9/1983	Bruce et al.	4,670,079 A	6/1987	Thompson
4,406,703 A	9/1983	Guthrie et al.	4,673,659 A	6/1987	Wood et al.
4,411,723 A	10/1983	Takeuchi	4,677,022 A	6/1987	Dejaiffe
4,411,847 A	10/1983	Netting et al.	4,680,059 A	7/1987	Cook et al.
4,420,351 A	12/1983	Lussi et al.	4,685,263 A	8/1987	Ting
4,424,261 A	1/1984	Keeling et al.	4,687,752 A	8/1987	Peters
4,428,775 A	1/1984	Johnson et al.	4,689,084 A	8/1987	Ambroise et al.
4,429,214 A	1/1984	Brindley et al.	4,698,942 A	10/1987	Swartz
4,430,108 A	2/1984	Hojaji et al.	4,721,160 A	1/1988	Parcevaux et al.
4,441,944 A	4/1984	Massey	4,723,505 A	2/1988	Wilson et al.
4,442,219 A	4/1984	TenEyck et al.	4,730,398 A	3/1988	Stanton
4,448,599 A	5/1984	Mackenzie et al.	4,737,191 A	4/1988	Meynardi et al.
4,450,022 A	5/1984	Galer	4,738,723 A	4/1988	Frizzell et al.
4,450,663 A *	5/1984	Watkins 52/309.4	4,746,364 A	5/1988	Kawai et al.
4,457,785 A	7/1984	Hsu et al.	4,748,771 A	6/1988	Lehnert et al.
4,462,730 A	7/1984	Knohl	4,749,398 A	6/1988	Braun
4,462,835 A	7/1984	Car et al.	4,751,202 A	6/1988	Toussaint et al.
4,463,532 A	8/1984	Faw	4,751,203 A	6/1988	Toussaint et al.
4,465,729 A	8/1984	Cancio et al.	4,752,061 A	6/1988	Dalton et al.
4,475,936 A	10/1984	Aston et al.	4,759,802 A	7/1988	Ochi et al.
4,478,736 A	10/1984	Raba, Jr. et al.	4,766,113 A	8/1988	West et al.
4,487,620 A	12/1984	Neusy et al.	4,767,491 A	8/1988	Vittone et al.
4,495,301 A	1/1985	Sutor	4,767,726 A	8/1988	Marshall
4,497,688 A	2/1985	Schaefer	4,769,189 A	9/1988	Douden
4,498,913 A	2/1985	Tank et al.	4,770,831 A	9/1988	Walker et al.
4,501,830 A	2/1985	Miller et al.	4,772,328 A	9/1988	Pfeifer
4,502,256 A	3/1985	Hahn et al.	4,775,505 A	10/1988	Kuroda et al.
4,504,320 A	3/1985	Rizer et al.	4,779,313 A	10/1988	Gonas
4,504,335 A	3/1985	Galer	4,780,141 A	10/1988	Double et al.
4,506,486 A	3/1985	Culpepper, Jr. et al.	4,784,839 A	11/1988	Bachelard et al.
4,507,154 A	3/1985	Burge et al.	4,789,604 A	12/1988	van der Hoeven et al.
4,510,020 A	4/1985	Green et al.	4,793,861 A	12/1988	Sohm et al.
4,512,736 A	4/1985	Wader et al.	4,797,161 A	1/1989	Kirchmayr et al.
4,514,947 A	5/1985	Graill	4,803,105 A	2/1989	Kretow et al.
4,517,375 A	5/1985	Schmidt et al.	4,806,203 A	2/1989	Elton
4,519,777 A	5/1985	Akhtyamov et al.	4,808,229 A	2/1989	Arhelger et al.
4,528,307 A	7/1985	Fuhr et al.	4,811,538 A	3/1989	Lehnert et al.
4,538,530 A	9/1985	Whitman	4,816,091 A	3/1989	Miller
4,540,629 A	9/1985	Sands et al.	4,818,289 A	4/1989	Mantymaki et al.
4,543,159 A	9/1985	Johnson et al.	4,818,290 A	4/1989	Tuovinen et al.
4,548,676 A	10/1985	Johnstone et al.	4,818,595 A	4/1989	Ellis
4,553,366 A	11/1985	Guerin et al.	4,819,289 A	4/1989	Gibbs
4,559,894 A	12/1985	Thompson	4,826,788 A	5/1989	Dennert et al.
4,574,012 A	3/1986	Oguri et al.	4,827,621 A	5/1989	Borsuk
4,576,736 A	3/1986	Harmuth	4,830,989 A	5/1989	Trivedi et al.
4,586,304 A	5/1986	Flamand et al.	4,837,069 A	6/1989	Bescup et al.
4,588,443 A	5/1986	Bache et al.	4,840,672 A	6/1989	Baes et al.
4,590,884 A	5/1986	Kreeger et al.	4,840,688 A	6/1989	Vogt et al.
4,592,185 A	6/1986	Lynch et al.	4,841,702 A	6/1989	Huettemann
4,595,662 A	6/1986	Mochida et al.	4,841,705 A	6/1989	Fuhrer
4,602,962 A	7/1986	Fehlmann et al.	4,842,649 A	6/1989	Heitzmann et al.
4,621,024 A	11/1986	Wright	4,846,889 A	7/1989	Meyer
4,623,390 A	11/1986	Delmonico	4,851,203 A	7/1989	Bachelard et al.
4,624,798 A	11/1986	Gindrup et al.	4,854,101 A	8/1989	Champagne
4,626,398 A	12/1986	Vetter et al.	4,858,402 A	8/1989	Putz et al.
4,629,413 A	12/1986	Michelson et al.	4,866,896 A	9/1989	Shreiner et al.
4,637,860 A	1/1987	Harper et al.	4,867,931 A	9/1989	Cochran, Jr.
4,637,990 A	1/1987	Torobin	4,870,788 A	10/1989	Hassan et al.
4,640,715 A	2/1987	Heitzmann et al.	4,871,380 A	10/1989	Meyers
4,641,469 A	2/1987	Wood	4,871,495 A	10/1989	Helferich et al.
			4,876,827 A	10/1989	Williams et al.
			4,882,302 A	11/1989	Horiuchi et al.
			4,888,057 A	12/1989	Nguyen et al.
			4,894,081 A	1/1990	Neusy et al.

(56)

References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

4,895,598 A	1/1990	Hedberg et al.	5,154,771 A	10/1992	Wada et al.
4,904,292 A	2/1990	Neusy et al.	5,155,958 A	10/1992	Huff
4,904,503 A	2/1990	Hilton et al.	5,162,060 A	11/1992	Bredow et al.
4,906,408 A	3/1990	Bouniol et al.	5,164,003 A	11/1992	Bosco et al.
4,910,047 A	3/1990	Barnett et al.	5,164,345 A	11/1992	Rice et al.
4,914,885 A	4/1990	Baker et al.	5,167,710 A	12/1992	Leroux et al.
4,915,740 A	4/1990	Sakai et al.	5,169,558 A	12/1992	Smrt et al.
4,924,644 A	5/1990	Lewis	5,174,821 A	12/1992	Matsuoka et al.
4,927,696 A	5/1990	Berg et al.	5,176,732 A	1/1993	Block et al.
4,928,479 A	5/1990	Shekleton et al.	5,177,305 A	1/1993	Pichat et al.
4,930,287 A	6/1990	Volk et al.	5,190,737 A	3/1993	Weimer et al.
4,933,013 A	6/1990	Sakai et al.	5,191,456 A	3/1993	Sutherland et al.
4,933,031 A	6/1990	Blomberg et al.	5,192,366 A	3/1993	Nishioka et al.
4,935,060 A	6/1990	Dingsoyr et al.	5,194,334 A	3/1993	Uerdingen et al.
4,937,210 A	6/1990	Jones et al.	5,198,052 A	3/1993	Ali
4,937,993 A	7/1990	Hitchins et al.	5,198,275 A	3/1993	Klein
4,938,958 A	7/1990	Niira et al.	5,210,989 A	5/1993	Jakel
4,944,842 A	7/1990	Stromberg et al.	5,217,928 A	6/1993	Goetz et al.
4,946,505 A	8/1990	Jungk et al.	5,220,762 A	6/1993	Lehnert et al.
4,946,811 A	8/1990	Tuovinen et al.	5,223,090 A	6/1993	Klungness et al.
4,952,631 A	8/1990	McAlpin et al.	5,226,274 A	7/1993	Sommerstein et al.
4,955,169 A	9/1990	Shisko et al.	5,229,437 A	7/1993	Knight
4,963,430 A	10/1990	Kish et al.	5,232,497 A	8/1993	Dillenbeck et al.
4,969,250 A	11/1990	Hickman et al.	5,234,754 A	8/1993	Bache et al.
4,969,302 A	11/1990	Coggan et al.	5,236,773 A	8/1993	Sorathia et al.
4,971,658 A	11/1990	Henrickson et al.	5,236,994 A	8/1993	Markusch et al.
4,975,396 A	12/1990	Thiery et al.	D339,642 S	9/1993	Blazley et al.
4,981,666 A	1/1991	Yamada et al.	5,242,736 A	9/1993	Van Erden et al.
4,981,740 A	1/1991	Larsen et al.	5,244,318 A	9/1993	Arai et al.
4,983,550 A	1/1991	Goetz et al.	5,245,811 A	9/1993	Knorr
4,985,119 A	1/1991	Vinson et al.	5,247,773 A	9/1993	Weir
4,994,113 A	2/1991	Helmstetter	5,252,526 A	10/1993	Whittemore
4,995,605 A	2/1991	Conville	5,253,991 A	10/1993	Yokota et al.
4,999,056 A	3/1991	Rasmussen et al.	5,254,228 A	10/1993	Westhof et al.
5,002,696 A	3/1991	White	5,256,180 A	10/1993	Garnier et al.
5,009,713 A	4/1991	Sakuta et al.	5,256,349 A	10/1993	Sato et al.
5,017,232 A	5/1991	Miceli	5,259,872 A	11/1993	Shinozaki et al.
5,018,909 A	5/1991	Crum et al.	5,268,226 A	12/1993	Sweeney
5,021,093 A	6/1991	Beshay	5,281,271 A	1/1994	Govani et al.
5,022,207 A	6/1991	Hartnett	5,282,317 A	2/1994	Carter et al.
5,022,897 A	6/1991	Balcar et al.	5,290,355 A	3/1994	Jakel
5,029,425 A	7/1991	Bogataj	5,292,690 A	3/1994	Kawachi et al.
5,030,287 A	7/1991	Magnani et al.	5,294,255 A	3/1994	Smetana et al.
5,030,289 A	7/1991	Sattler et al.	5,297,370 A	3/1994	Greenstreet et al.
5,032,548 A	7/1991	Lowe	5,301,484 A	4/1994	Jansson et al.
5,035,920 A	7/1991	Smrt et al.	5,305,568 A	4/1994	Beckerman
5,045,378 A	9/1991	Libby	5,305,577 A	4/1994	Richards et al.
5,047,086 A	9/1991	Hayakawa et al.	5,312,858 A	5/1994	Folsom
5,049,196 A	9/1991	Ries	5,314,119 A	5/1994	Watt
5,063,260 A	11/1991	Chen et al.	5,319,245 A	6/1994	Chen et al.
5,064,784 A	11/1991	Saito et al.	5,319,909 A	6/1994	Singleterry
5,067,675 A	11/1991	Brant et al.	5,323,581 A	6/1994	Jakel
D322,678 S	12/1991	Brathwaite et al.	5,330,573 A	7/1994	Nakano et al.
5,069,702 A	12/1991	Block et al.	5,334,242 A	8/1994	O'Toole
5,073,197 A	12/1991	Majumdar et al.	5,338,349 A	8/1994	Farrar
5,076,986 A	12/1991	Delvaux et al.	5,338,357 A	8/1994	Takai et al.
5,077,241 A	12/1991	Moh et al.	5,342,485 A	8/1994	Armbrust, Jr.
5,077,952 A	1/1992	Moore	5,342,530 A	8/1994	Aften et al.
5,080,022 A	1/1992	Carlson	5,346,012 A	9/1994	Heathman et al.
5,096,858 A	3/1992	Das Chaklader et al.	5,346,541 A	9/1994	Goldman et al.
5,099,923 A	3/1992	Aften et al.	5,349,118 A	9/1994	Davidovits
5,102,596 A	4/1992	Lempfer et al.	5,349,802 A	9/1994	Kariniemi
5,106,557 A	4/1992	Rirsch et al.	5,352,288 A	10/1994	Mallow
5,108,510 A	4/1992	Burge et al.	5,352,290 A	10/1994	Takeshita et al.
5,108,679 A	4/1992	Rirsch et al.	5,358,676 A	10/1994	Jennings et al.
5,112,405 A	5/1992	Sanchez	5,366,637 A	11/1994	Turunc
5,114,617 A	5/1992	Smetana et al.	5,369,924 A	12/1994	Neudorf et al.
5,115,621 A	5/1992	Kobayashi et al.	5,372,678 A	12/1994	Sagstetter et al.
5,117,600 A	6/1992	Yerushalmi et al.	5,378,279 A	1/1995	Conroy et al.
5,117,770 A	6/1992	Hassinen et al.	5,383,521 A	1/1995	Onan et al.
5,118,225 A	6/1992	Koch et al.	5,383,967 A	1/1995	Chase
5,128,114 A	7/1992	Schwartz	5,384,345 A	1/1995	Naton
5,143,534 A	9/1992	Kilner et al.	5,385,764 A	1/1995	Andersen et al.
5,143,780 A	9/1992	Balassa	5,387,282 A	2/1995	Jakel
5,154,596 A	10/1992	Schwartz et al.	5,387,283 A	2/1995	Kirkpatrick et al.
			5,387,626 A	2/1995	Bohme-Kovac et al.
			5,391,245 A	2/1995	Turner
			5,394,672 A	3/1995	Seem
			5,395,672 A	3/1995	Pingaud et al.

(56)

References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

5,395,685 A	3/1995	Seth et al.	5,631,097 A	5/1997	Andersen et al.
5,397,631 A	3/1995	Green et al.	5,634,314 A	6/1997	Champagne
5,403,392 A	4/1995	Craig	5,641,584 A	6/1997	Andersen et al.
5,403,394 A	4/1995	Burgand	5,643,359 A	7/1997	Soroushian et al.
5,405,498 A	4/1995	Pease	5,644,880 A	7/1997	Lehnert et al.
5,407,983 A	4/1995	Naton	5,648,144 A	7/1997	Maurer et al.
5,410,852 A	5/1995	Edgar et al.	5,651,227 A	7/1997	Anderson
5,415,734 A	5/1995	Backlund et al.	5,655,853 A	8/1997	Wormser
5,421,867 A	6/1995	Yeager et al.	5,658,624 A	8/1997	Anderson et al.
5,425,985 A	6/1995	Irvin	5,658,656 A	8/1997	Whitney et al.
5,425,986 A	6/1995	Guyette	5,661,939 A	9/1997	Coulis et al.
5,428,931 A	7/1995	Ragsdale	5,673,489 A	10/1997	Robell
5,429,717 A	7/1995	Bokstrom et al.	5,673,529 A	10/1997	Treister et al.
5,432,212 A	7/1995	Honda et al.	5,675,955 A	10/1997	Champagne
5,432,215 A	7/1995	Girg et al.	5,676,536 A	10/1997	Ruhl et al.
5,437,934 A	8/1995	Witt et al.	5,676,563 A	10/1997	Kondo et al.
5,439,518 A	8/1995	Francis et al.	5,681,384 A	10/1997	Liskowitz et al.
5,443,603 A	8/1995	Kirkendall	5,692,345 A	12/1997	Mogaki et al.
5,447,798 A	9/1995	Kamaishi et al.	5,693,137 A	12/1997	Styron
5,453,123 A	9/1995	Burge et al.	5,694,727 A	12/1997	Dobija
5,453,310 A	9/1995	Andersen et al.	5,697,189 A	12/1997	Miller et al.
5,455,212 A	10/1995	Das Chaklader et al.	D388,884 S	1/1998	Karnoski
5,458,973 A	10/1995	Jeffs et al.	5,705,542 A	1/1998	Roffael et al.
5,461,839 A	10/1995	Beck	5,709,743 A	1/1998	Lecture et al.
5,465,547 A	11/1995	Jakel	5,714,002 A	2/1998	Styron
5,470,383 A	11/1995	Schermann et al.	5,718,758 A	2/1998	Breslauer
5,472,486 A	12/1995	Dragner et al.	5,718,759 A	2/1998	Stav et al.
5,475,961 A	12/1995	Menchetti	5,718,943 A	2/1998	Hsu et al.
5,477,617 A	12/1995	Guy	5,722,386 A	3/1998	Fladgard et al.
5,482,550 A	1/1996	Strait	5,724,783 A	3/1998	Mandish
5,482,551 A	1/1996	Morris et al.	5,725,652 A	3/1998	Shulman
5,484,480 A	1/1996	Styron	5,728,458 A	3/1998	Sweeney
5,490,889 A	2/1996	Kirkpatrick et al.	5,729,946 A	3/1998	Beck
5,501,050 A	3/1996	Ruel et al.	5,732,520 A	3/1998	Maietta
5,508,072 A	4/1996	Andersen et al.	5,735,092 A	4/1998	Clayton et al.
5,511,316 A	4/1996	Fischer et al.	5,736,594 A	4/1998	Boles et al.
5,517,795 A	5/1996	Doke	5,736,602 A	4/1998	Crocker et al.
5,520,779 A	5/1996	Bold et al.	5,741,844 A	4/1998	Nass et al.
5,522,926 A	6/1996	Richard et al.	5,743,056 A	4/1998	Balla-Goddard et al.
5,522,986 A	6/1996	Shi et al.	5,743,393 A	4/1998	Webb et al.
5,525,556 A	6/1996	Dunmead et al.	5,744,078 A	4/1998	Soroushian et al.
5,526,627 A	6/1996	Beck	5,749,187 A	5/1998	Umehara et al.
5,531,824 A	7/1996	Burkes et al.	5,768,841 A	6/1998	Swartz et al.
5,534,348 A	7/1996	Miller et al.	5,777,024 A	7/1998	Killilea et al.
5,536,310 A	7/1996	Brook et al.	5,786,282 A	7/1998	Carter et al.
5,545,297 A	8/1996	Andersen et al.	5,791,109 A *	8/1998	Lehnert et al. 52/309.17
5,547,505 A	8/1996	Nakatsu et al.	5,795,515 A	8/1998	Fischer et al.
5,549,859 A	8/1996	Andersen et al.	5,802,790 A	9/1998	Lamont et al.
5,556,458 A	9/1996	Brook et al.	5,804,003 A	9/1998	Nishizawa et al.
5,557,903 A	9/1996	Haddock	5,817,230 A	10/1998	Grosso, Jr. et al.
5,558,710 A	9/1996	Baig	5,817,262 A	10/1998	Englert
5,558,822 A	9/1996	Gitman et al.	5,820,668 A	10/1998	Comrie et al.
5,559,170 A	9/1996	Castle	5,842,280 A	12/1998	Robell
5,561,173 A	10/1996	Dry	5,848,508 A	12/1998	Albrecht
5,562,832 A	10/1996	McOnie et al.	5,848,509 A	12/1998	Knapp et al.
5,564,233 A	10/1996	Norton	5,849,055 A	12/1998	Arai et al.
5,564,245 A	10/1996	Rademacher	5,851,607 A	12/1998	Horinka et al.
5,565,026 A	10/1996	Hense et al.	5,853,475 A	12/1998	Liskowitz et al.
5,577,024 A	11/1996	Malkamaki et al.	5,857,303 A	1/1999	Beck et al.
5,580,378 A	12/1996	Shulman	5,858,083 A	1/1999	Stav et al.
5,580,409 A	12/1996	Andersen et al.	5,863,477 A	1/1999	Kawai et al.
5,580,508 A	12/1996	Kobayashi et al.	5,866,057 A	2/1999	Roffael et al.
5,580,907 A	12/1996	Savin	5,871,824 A	2/1999	Bates et al.
5,583,079 A	12/1996	Golitz et al.	5,876,561 A	3/1999	Tsai
5,591,684 A	1/1997	Kawachi et al.	5,878,543 A	3/1999	Mowery
RE35,460 E	2/1997	Klungness et al.	5,883,029 A	3/1999	Castle
5,598,671 A	2/1997	Ting	5,887,403 A	3/1999	Beck
5,601,789 A	2/1997	Ruhl et al.	5,888,322 A	3/1999	Holland
5,603,758 A	2/1997	Schreifels, Jr. et al.	5,891,374 A	4/1999	Shah et al.
5,609,833 A	3/1997	Ruhl et al.	5,891,516 A	4/1999	Gstrein et al.
5,611,833 A	3/1997	Brahmbhatt et al.	5,895,768 A	4/1999	Speit et al.
5,611,883 A	3/1997	Tompkins et al.	5,897,701 A	4/1999	Soroushian et al.
5,617,690 A	4/1997	Gibbs	5,899,256 A	5/1999	Rohatgi
5,618,173 A	4/1997	Ruhl et al.	5,900,053 A	5/1999	Brothers et al.
5,622,556 A	4/1997	Shulman	5,916,095 A	6/1999	Tamlyn
			5,924,213 A	7/1999	Lee
			5,925,449 A	7/1999	Davidovits
			5,928,777 A	7/1999	Cox et al.
			5,932,347 A	8/1999	Rapp et al.

(56)

References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

5,935,699 A	8/1999	Barber et al.	6,308,486 B1	10/2001	Medland et al.
5,945,044 A	8/1999	Kawai et al.	6,315,489 B1	11/2001	Watanabe et al.
5,945,208 A	8/1999	Richards et al.	6,316,087 B1	11/2001	Lehan
5,946,870 A	9/1999	Bifano et al.	6,319,456 B1	11/2001	Gilbert et al.
5,946,876 A	9/1999	Grace, Sr. et al.	6,324,807 B1	12/2001	Ishiko et al.
5,948,505 A	9/1999	Puppin	6,325,853 B1	12/2001	Hogan et al.
5,950,319 A	9/1999	Harris	6,332,921 B1	12/2001	Brothers et al.
5,967,211 A	10/1999	Lucas et al.	6,335,100 B1	1/2002	Tominaga et al.
5,968,257 A	10/1999	Ahrens	6,344,654 B1	2/2002	Lesko
5,979,135 A	11/1999	Reeves	6,346,146 B1	2/2002	Duselis et al.
5,987,838 A	11/1999	Beck	6,346,165 B1	2/2002	Markessini et al.
5,989,335 A	11/1999	Soroshian et al.	6,352,952 B1	3/2002	Jardine et al.
5,997,630 A	12/1999	Angelskar et al.	6,355,100 B1	3/2002	Hamabe et al.
5,997,632 A	12/1999	Styron	6,357,193 B1	3/2002	Morris
6,000,185 A	12/1999	Beck et al.	6,360,563 B1	3/2002	Gerhardt et al.
6,008,275 A	12/1999	Moreau et al.	6,365,081 B1	4/2002	Beck
6,012,255 A	1/2000	Smid et al.	6,367,208 B1	4/2002	Campbell et al.
6,018,924 A	2/2000	Tamlyn	6,367,220 B1	4/2002	Krause et al.
6,026,616 A	2/2000	Gibson	6,367,288 B1	4/2002	Lindner et al.
6,027,330 A	2/2000	Lifshits	6,372,694 B1	4/2002	Osinga et al.
6,029,415 A	2/2000	Culpepper et al.	6,375,853 B1	4/2002	Yoon
6,030,447 A	2/2000	Naji et al.	6,387,175 B1	5/2002	Lynn et al.
6,034,155 A	3/2000	Espeland et al.	6,387,302 B1	5/2002	Konya et al.
6,045,057 A	4/2000	Moor et al.	6,415,574 B2	7/2002	Beck
6,045,871 A	4/2000	Matt et al.	6,419,788 B1	7/2002	Wingerson
6,046,269 A	4/2000	Nass et al.	6,421,973 B1	7/2002	Gregg et al.
6,048,593 A	4/2000	Espeland et al.	6,423,167 B1	7/2002	Palmer et al.
6,049,987 A	4/2000	Robell	6,425,218 B1	7/2002	Doyon et al.
6,055,787 A	5/2000	Gerhaher et al.	6,430,885 B1	8/2002	Ito et al.
6,063,856 A	5/2000	Mass	6,432,212 B1	8/2002	Hirose et al.
6,077,327 A	6/2000	Hamayoshi et al.	6,436,485 B1	8/2002	Sedlmeyr et al.
6,079,175 A	6/2000	Clear	6,444,162 B1	9/2002	Anshits et al.
6,084,011 A	7/2000	Lucero et al.	6,444,316 B1	9/2002	Reddy et al.
6,086,998 A	7/2000	Wihsman et al.	6,461,988 B2	10/2002	Budd et al.
6,093,473 A	7/2000	Min et al.	6,475,275 B1	11/2002	Nebesnak et al.
6,096,388 A	8/2000	Bates et al.	6,482,258 B2	11/2002	Styron
6,105,888 A	8/2000	Goehner et al.	6,485,561 B1	11/2002	Dattel
6,110,525 A	8/2000	Stoddard	6,486,084 B2	11/2002	Oda et al.
6,122,876 A	9/2000	Bado et al.	6,488,762 B1	12/2002	Shi
6,122,877 A	9/2000	Hendrickson et al.	6,488,792 B2	12/2002	Mathieu et al.
6,134,855 A	10/2000	Beck	6,506,248 B1	1/2003	Duselis et al.
6,136,383 A	10/2000	Schwartz et al.	6,506,819 B1	1/2003	Shukla et al.
6,138,430 A	10/2000	Van Acoleyen et al.	6,510,667 B1	1/2003	Cottier et al.
6,139,620 A	10/2000	Suzuki et al.	6,512,132 B2	1/2003	Isoda et al.
6,143,069 A	11/2000	Brothers et al.	6,514,624 B2	2/2003	Takemoto et al.
6,145,255 A	11/2000	Allaster	6,516,580 B1	2/2003	Maietta
6,159,281 A	12/2000	Uchida et al.	6,526,715 B2	3/2003	Kaneko et al.
6,161,353 A	12/2000	Negola et al.	6,526,717 B2	3/2003	Waggoner et al.
6,161,354 A	12/2000	Gilbert et al.	6,526,751 B1	3/2003	Moeckel
6,162,511 A	12/2000	Garnett et al.	6,528,151 B1	3/2003	Shah et al.
6,164,032 A	12/2000	Beck	6,531,189 B1	3/2003	Blatter et al.
6,164,214 A	12/2000	Smorgon et al.	6,531,222 B1	3/2003	Tanaka et al.
6,167,668 B1 *	1/2001	Fine et al. 52/403.1	6,533,848 B1	3/2003	Robl et al.
6,170,212 B1	1/2001	Suchyna et al.	6,539,643 B1	4/2003	Gleeson
6,170,214 B1	1/2001	Treister et al.	6,541,544 B1	4/2003	Hart et al.
6,170,215 B1	1/2001	Nasi	6,550,203 B1	4/2003	Little
6,171,651 B1	1/2001	Brown	6,550,210 B1	4/2003	Levine et al.
6,176,920 B1	1/2001	Murphy et al.	6,551,567 B2	4/2003	Konya et al.
6,195,952 B1	3/2001	Culpepper et al.	6,551,694 B1	4/2003	Imamichi et al.
6,204,214 B1	3/2001	Singh et al.	6,562,444 B1	5/2003	Gleeson et al.
6,207,077 B1	3/2001	Burnell-Jones et al.	6,562,743 B1	5/2003	Cook et al.
6,214,309 B1	4/2001	Shaw et al.	6,564,520 B1 *	5/2003	Starke et al. 52/302.1
6,226,947 B1	5/2001	Bado et al.	6,572,697 B2	6/2003	Gleeson et al.
6,228,215 B1	5/2001	Hoffman, Jr.	6,572,698 B1	6/2003	Ko
6,245,196 B1	6/2001	Martin et al.	6,582,819 B2	6/2003	McDaniel et al.
6,248,812 B1	6/2001	Symons et al.	6,605,148 B2	8/2003	Shirakawa et al.
6,254,845 B1	7/2001	Ohashi et al.	6,610,358 B1	8/2003	Williams et al.
6,254,981 B1	7/2001	Castle	6,613,424 B1	9/2003	Putt et al.
6,258,456 B1	7/2001	Meyer	6,620,487 B1	9/2003	Tonyan et al.
6,270,567 B1	8/2001	Matsuo et al.	6,626,947 B2	9/2003	Lester et al.
6,276,107 B1	8/2001	Waggoner et al.	6,626,991 B1	9/2003	Drochon et al.
6,277,189 B1	8/2001	Chugh	6,630,417 B2	10/2003	Kawai et al.
6,290,769 B1	9/2001	Carkner	6,641,658 B1	11/2003	Dubey
6,295,777 B1	10/2001	Hunter et al.	6,644,162 B1	11/2003	Temple et al.
6,298,626 B2	10/2001	Rudden	6,645,289 B2	11/2003	Sobolev et al.
			6,648,961 B2	11/2003	Brothers et al.
			6,656,265 B1	12/2003	Garnier et al.
			6,660,077 B2	12/2003	De Buen-Unna et al.
			6,660,078 B2	12/2003	Brothers et al.

(56)

References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

6,676,744 B2	1/2004	Merkley et al.	2002/0088584 A1	7/2002	Merkley et al.
6,676,745 B2	1/2004	Merkley et al.	2002/0100249 A1	8/2002	Peng et al.
6,679,011 B2	1/2004	Beck et al.	2002/0112827 A1	8/2002	Merkley et al.
6,682,595 B1	1/2004	Barbour	2002/0114888 A1	8/2002	Magliocca
6,689,286 B2	2/2004	Wilde et al.	2002/0121229 A1	9/2002	Jardine et al.
6,689,451 B1	2/2004	Peng et al.	2002/0139082 A1	10/2002	DeFord et al.
6,692,564 B2	2/2004	Hofmann et al.	2002/0166479 A1	11/2002	Jiang
6,692,570 B2	2/2004	Cottier et al.	2002/0170466 A1	11/2002	Naji et al.
6,699,576 B2	3/2004	Peng et al.	2002/0170467 A1	11/2002	Naji et al.
6,706,794 B1	3/2004	Tsuda et al.	2002/0170468 A1	11/2002	Luo et al.
D489,137 S	4/2004	Eichner et al.	2002/0175126 A1	11/2002	Naji et al.
6,719,878 B1	4/2004	Svedman et al.	2002/0179219 A1	12/2002	Naji et al.
D489,463 S	5/2004	Barnett	2002/0189499 A1	12/2002	Naji et al.
6,737,008 B2	5/2004	Gilbert et al.	2002/0189500 A1	12/2002	Naji et al.
D492,424 S	6/2004	Barnett	2002/0192510 A1	12/2002	Naji et al.
6,749,897 B2	6/2004	Naji et al.	2003/0000424 A1	1/2003	Naji et al.
6,760,978 B2	7/2004	Gleeson	2003/0046891 A1	3/2003	Colada et al.
6,769,215 B1 *	8/2004	Carkner 52/411	2003/0054123 A1	3/2003	Black et al.
6,770,576 B2	8/2004	Cook et al.	2003/0056458 A1	3/2003	Black et al.
6,777,103 B2	8/2004	Merkley et al.	2003/0089061 A1	5/2003	DeFord et al.
6,787,486 B1 *	9/2004	Gregg et al. 442/42	2003/0100434 A1	5/2003	Yoshitomi et al.
6,809,131 B2	10/2004	Li et al.	2003/0129323 A1	7/2003	Dornieden et al.
6,811,603 B2	11/2004	Brothers et al.	2003/0148039 A1	8/2003	Blum et al.
6,814,798 B2	11/2004	Vijn et al.	2003/0164119 A1	9/2003	Naji et al.
6,824,605 B2	11/2004	De Buen-Unna et al.	2003/0165624 A1	9/2003	Naji et al.
6,824,715 B2	11/2004	Cottier et al.	2003/0172606 A1	9/2003	Anderson
6,832,652 B1	12/2004	Dillenbeck et al.	2003/0177955 A1	9/2003	Vijn et al.
6,837,452 B2	1/2005	Dezutter et al.	2003/0200721 A1	10/2003	Gleeson et al.
6,851,224 B2 *	2/2005	Lehnert 52/2.22	2003/0205172 A1	11/2003	Gleeson et al.
6,872,246 B2	3/2005	Merkley et al.	2003/0213568 A1	11/2003	Wester et al.
6,875,503 B1	4/2005	Famy et al.	2003/0213569 A1	11/2003	Wester et al.
6,893,751 B2	5/2005	Naji et al.	2003/0213570 A1	11/2003	Vrbanc et al.
6,898,917 B2 *	5/2005	Durning et al. 52/746.1	2003/0213572 A1	11/2003	Vrbanc et al.
6,901,713 B2	6/2005	Axsom	2004/0028909 A1	2/2004	Hodgson et al.
6,902,002 B1	6/2005	Chatterji et al.	2004/0043217 A1	3/2004	Dezutter et al.
6,902,797 B2	6/2005	Pollock et al.	2004/0043686 A1	3/2004	Batdorf
6,913,819 B2	7/2005	Wallner	2004/0079260 A1	4/2004	Datta et al.
6,933,038 B2	8/2005	Nanko et al.	2004/0080063 A1	4/2004	Datta et al.
6,941,720 B2	9/2005	DeFord et al.	2004/0081827 A1	4/2004	Datta et al.
6,942,726 B2	9/2005	Cook et al.	2004/0083677 A1	5/2004	Bezubic et al.
6,969,422 B2	11/2005	Mazany et al.	2004/0099982 A1	5/2004	Sirola et al.
7,028,436 B2	4/2006	Bezubic, Jr.	2004/0103610 A1	6/2004	Axsom
7,081,184 B2	7/2006	Wester et al.	2004/0132843 A1	7/2004	Baumgart et al.
7,089,709 B2	8/2006	Waggoner	2004/0139676 A1	7/2004	Knauseder
7,112,549 B2	9/2006	Yoshitomi et al.	2004/0145078 A1	7/2004	Merkley et al.
7,128,965 B2	10/2006	Famy et al.	2004/0159066 A1	8/2004	Thiers et al.
7,147,055 B2	12/2006	Brothers et al.	2004/0163331 A1	8/2004	Peng et al.
7,155,866 B2	1/2007	Bezubic, Jr. et al.	2004/0168615 A1	9/2004	Luo et al.
7,191,570 B1	3/2007	Eaton et al.	2004/0170873 A1 *	9/2004	Smith 428/703
7,219,479 B2 *	5/2007	Durning et al. 52/746.1	2004/0211342 A1	10/2004	Sprouts et al.
7,226,525 B2	6/2007	Vrbanc et al.	2004/0220317 A1	11/2004	Lorah et al.
7,300,546 B2	11/2007	Jewell et al.	2004/0262801 A1	12/2004	Hojaji et al.
7,300,892 B2 *	11/2007	Porter 442/79	2005/0000172 A1	1/2005	Anderson
7,325,325 B2	2/2008	Gleeson	2005/0005821 A1	1/2005	Colombet et al.
7,338,702 B2	3/2008	Swales et al.	2005/0011412 A1	1/2005	Vijn et al.
7,344,593 B2	3/2008	Luo et al.	2005/0016423 A1	1/2005	Merkley et al.
7,396,402 B2	7/2008	Naji et al.	2005/0045067 A1	3/2005	Naji et al.
7,419,544 B2	9/2008	Naji et al.	2005/0072056 A1	4/2005	Famy et al.
7,455,727 B2	11/2008	Trevethick	2005/0126430 A1	6/2005	Lightner et al.
7,553,780 B2 *	6/2009	Smith 442/86	2005/0138865 A1	6/2005	Gleeson et al.
7,625,827 B2 *	12/2009	Egan et al. 442/20	2005/0176321 A1 *	8/2005	Crette et al. 442/103
7,846,278 B2 *	12/2010	Porter 156/39	2005/0208285 A1	9/2005	Lyons et al.
8,007,886 B2 *	8/2011	Tierney et al. 428/40.1	2005/0208287 A1	9/2005	Naji et al.
8,092,858 B2 *	1/2012	Smith 427/180	2005/0210790 A1	9/2005	Wallner
2001/0006336 A1	7/2001	Yi et al.	2005/0235883 A1	10/2005	Merkley et al.
2001/0043996 A1	11/2001	Yamada et al.	2005/0262799 A1	12/2005	Gleeson et al.
2001/0047741 A1	12/2001	Gleeson et al.	2005/0284339 A1	12/2005	Brunton et al.
2002/0004111 A1	1/2002	Matsubara et al.	2006/0010800 A1	1/2006	Bezubic
2002/0007926 A1	1/2002	Jewell et al.	2006/0024480 A1	2/2006	Lyons et al.
2002/0007927 A1	1/2002	Vahatalo et al.	2006/0107872 A1	5/2006	Chen
2002/0025436 A1	2/2002	Meyer	2006/0147681 A1	7/2006	Dubey
2002/0043996 A1	4/2002	Iwamoto	2006/0168906 A1	8/2006	Tonyan et al.
2002/0051892 A1	5/2002	Laks et al.	2006/0182946 A1	8/2006	Zarb et al.
2002/0059886 A1	5/2002	Merkley et al.	2006/0260237 A1 *	11/2006	Griffin et al. 52/409
2002/0069791 A1	6/2002	Merkley et al.	2006/0288909 A1	12/2006	Naji et al.
			2007/0022913 A1	2/2007	Wang et al.
			2007/0077436 A1	4/2007	Naji et al.
			2007/0110981 A1	5/2007	Killilea et al.
			2007/0131145 A1	6/2007	Biscan et al.

(56)

References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

2007/0186822 A1 8/2007 Utagaki et al.
 2007/0209554 A1 9/2007 Garcia Luna et al.
 2007/0246864 A1 10/2007 Utagaki et al.
 2007/0261607 A1 11/2007 Utagaki et al.
 2008/0022627 A1 1/2008 Gleeson et al.
 2008/0072795 A1 3/2008 Utagaki et al.
 2008/0072796 A1 3/2008 Utagaki et al.
 2008/0095692 A1 4/2008 Pham
 2008/0096018 A1 4/2008 Zhang et al.
 2008/0104918 A1 5/2008 Gleeson et al.
 2008/0157428 A1 7/2008 Utagaki et al.
 2008/0163582 A1 7/2008 Trevethick
 2008/0176057 A1 7/2008 Ukai
 2008/0178771 A1 7/2008 Utagaki et al.
 2008/0190062 A1 8/2008 Engbrecht et al.
 2008/0191165 A1 8/2008 Nakagawa
 2008/0199677 A1 8/2008 Ukai
 2008/0203365 A1 8/2008 Gleeson et al.
 2008/0311346 A1 12/2008 Ohno
 2009/0025897 A1 1/2009 Aizawa
 2009/0076196 A1 3/2009 Hojaji
 2009/0090276 A1 4/2009 Feng et al.
 2009/0156385 A1 6/2009 Biscan et al.
 2009/0223618 A1* 9/2009 Smith 156/45
 2009/0272058 A1* 11/2009 Duselis et al. 52/309.17
 2010/0221972 A1* 9/2010 Soane 442/327
 2010/0252184 A1* 10/2010 Morimoto et al. 156/241

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

AR 206890 8/1976
 AR 227376 10/1982
 AR 228671 A1 3/1983
 AR 291.988 1/1984
 AR 240667 8/1990
 AR 250022 7/1996
 AR 015457 A1 9/1998
 AR 014046 A1 11/1998
 AR 014702 A1 3/1999
 AR 010221 6/2000
 AR 012644 11/2000
 AT 391131 B 8/1990
 AU 515151 3/1981
 AU 198170389 10/1981
 AU 8401582 2/1983
 AU 8858982 3/1983
 AU 44948/85 1/1986
 AU 0552930 B2 6/1986
 AU 55929/86 10/1986
 AU 94035 S 11/1986
 AU 95878 S 3/1987
 AU 98800 S 12/1987
 AU 99683 S 2/1988
 AU 572111 B 5/1988
 AU 102662 S 1/1989
 AU 606344 1/1989
 AU 103840 S 5/1989
 AU 104552 S 8/1989
 AU 108078 S 7/1990
 AU 616088 7/1990
 AU 198946878 7/1990
 AU 110320 S 2/1991
 AU 199176201 6/1992
 AU 13067/92 A 9/1992
 AU 199215903 A 4/1993
 AU 117138 S 5/1993
 AU 118448 S 10/1993
 AU 118862 S 11/1993
 AU 643726 11/1993
 AU 199340398 11/1993
 AU 686135 11/1994
 AU 677649 12/1994
 AU 122634 S 2/1995
 AU 123141 S 4/1995

AU 123142 S 4/1995
 AU 659400 5/1995
 AU 681049 9/1996
 AU 702630 11/1996
 AU 130941 S 8/1997
 AU 132812 S 2/1998
 AU 732998 5/1998
 AU 6292698 8/1998
 AU 135097 S 9/1998
 AU 199869111 10/1998
 AU 135557 S 11/1998
 AU 199879922 2/1999
 AU 734095 3/1999
 AU 137291 S 5/1999
 AU 9768198 5/1999
 AU 199886116 5/1999
 AU 137791 7/1999
 AU 99/26061 9/1999
 AU 714529 1/2000
 AU 99/52711 3/2000
 AU 11373/00-11373/00 5/2000
 AU 140607 S 5/2000
 AU 200078733 5/2001
 AU 200078752 5/2001
 AU 200078753 5/2001
 AU 200111200 5/2001
 AU 746655 6/2001
 AU 783430 6/2001
 AU 200072012 6/2001
 AU 200121275 6/2001
 AU 735352 7/2001
 AU 37683/01 9/2001
 AU 2001250832 9/2001
 AU 200143991 10/2001
 AU 200053659 3/2002
 AU 147568 S 4/2002
 AU 2001287356 4/2002
 AU 2002211394 4/2002
 AU 200218649 5/2002
 AU 148485 S 7/2002
 AU 2002240552 B2 9/2002
 AU 200223229 11/2002
 AU 2002301228 2/2003
 AU 2002301288 A1 2/2003
 AU 2003901529 3/2003
 AU 2002301041 6/2003
 AU 2002301511 A1 6/2003
 AU 2003204739 B2 7/2003
 AU 152915 S 8/2003
 AU 153491 S 10/2003
 AU 153493 S 10/2003
 AU 153494 S 10/2003
 AU 153495 S 10/2003
 AU 153496 S 10/2003
 AU 2003100890 12/2003
 AU 2003204418 12/2003
 AU 2003238481 12/2003
 AU 2003266828 4/2004
 AU 2003257906 A1 7/2004
 AU 2003271286 7/2004
 AU 2004204092 7/2004
 AU 2003268882 8/2004
 AU 2005100347 5/2005
 AU 2004200339 6/2005
 CA 730345 3/1966
 CA 1040859 10/1978
 CA 1080601 A1 7/1980
 CA 1084230 8/1980
 CA 1177205 11/1984
 CA 2242749 2/1999
 CA 2313456 6/1999
 CA 2405354 11/2001
 CH 368918 A 4/1963
 CH 606674 A5 11/1978
 CH 678882 11/1991
 CH 684285 A5 8/1994
 CL 32972 2/1980
 CL 2346-01 9/2001
 CL 2347-01 9/2001

(56)

References Cited

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

CL	2352-01	9/2001	EP	0104540	A2	4/1984
CL	2353-01	9/2001	EP	0127960	B1	12/1984
CL	461-02	3/2002	EP	0136790	A2	4/1985
CL	693-2004	1/2005	EP	0147429	A1	7/1985
CN	1032332 A	4/1989	EP	0159046	A2	10/1985
CN	1052519 A	6/1991	EP	0159173	A2	10/1985
CN	2149444 Y	12/1993	EP	0173553	A1	3/1986
CN	1081168 A	1/1994	EP	0184477	A1	6/1986
CN	1087885 A	6/1994	EP	0188471	A1	7/1986
CN	2170342 Y	6/1994	EP	0220073	B1	4/1987
CN	1099089 A	2/1995	EP	0222339	A1	5/1987
CN	1160070 A	9/1997	EP	0242872	A1	10/1987
CN	1178202 A	4/1998	EP	0247817	A1	12/1987
CN	2281378 Y	5/1998	EP	0263723	A2	4/1988
CN	1199116 A	11/1998	EP	0287962	A1	10/1988
CN	1224701	8/1999	EP	0297186	A1	1/1989
CN	1251358 A	4/2000	EP	0305209	A1	3/1989
CN	1061328 C	1/2001	EP	0314242	A1	5/1989
CN	2435455 Y	6/2001	EP	0327351	A2	8/1989
CN	1394167 A	1/2003	EP	0328431	A1	8/1989
CN	1500038 A	5/2004	EP	0347092	A	12/1989
CS	222361	6/1983	EP	0359362	B1	3/1990
CZ	283459	4/1998	EP	0376334		7/1990
DE	1952082 U	12/1966	EP	0419657		4/1991
DE	2421380 A1	1/1975	EP	0428431	A1	5/1991
DE	2344773 A1	3/1975	EP	0430667		6/1991
DE	2460879 A1	6/1976	EP	0430995	B1	6/1991
DE	2460880 A1	6/1976	EP	0482810	A1	4/1992
DE	2610998 A1	9/1977	EP	0484283	A1	5/1992
DE	143936	9/1980	EP	0558239	A1	9/1993
DE	3037220 A1	4/1982	EP	0564447	A1	10/1993
DE	3046405 A1	9/1982	EP	0593779	A1	4/1994
DE	3213521 A1	6/1983	EP	0601594	A1	6/1994
DE	3210326 A1	9/1983	EP	0619227	B1	10/1994
DE	3232106 A1	3/1984	EP	0619277	B1	10/1994
DE	3308917	9/1984	EP	0625618	A2	11/1994
DE	3314796 A1	10/1984	EP	0678488		10/1995
DE	3324671 A1	1/1985	EP	0683282		11/1995
DE	3505335 A1	8/1986	EP	0708213	A1	4/1996
DE	3601736 A1	7/1987	EP	0717675		6/1996
DE	3711549 A1	10/1987	EP	0725044	A1	8/1996
DE	3621010 A1	1/1988	EP	0754663	A1	1/1997
DE	3743467 A1	7/1989	EP	0801037	B1	10/1997
DE	3932176 A1	6/1990	EP	0803484	A1	10/1997
DE	3908172 A1	9/1990	EP	0846666	B1	6/1998
DE	3923800 A1	1/1991	EP	0846668	B1	6/1998
DE	4004103 A1	8/1991	EP	0891954	B1	1/1999
DE	4104919 A	8/1992	EP	0931778	B1	7/1999
DE	4229572	3/1993	EP	0999232	B1	5/2000
DE	4209834 A1	9/1993	EP	1052262	A2	11/2000
DE	4228338 A1	10/1993	EP	1088800	A2	4/2001
DE	9403018 U1	5/1994	EP	1094165	A2	4/2001
DE	4316666 C1	12/1994	EP	1106236	A1	6/2001
DE	4410020 A1	9/1995	EP	1144129	A1	10/2001
DE	19607081 A1	8/1997	EP	1155794	A2	11/2001
DE	19654836 A1	6/1998	EP	1156021		11/2001
DE	19858342 C1	2/2000	EP	1160212	A1	12/2001
DE	20006112 U1	7/2000	EP	1172341		1/2002
DE	19549535 C2	1/2001	EP	1227199	A1	7/2002
DE	19962137 A1	6/2001	EP	1246782		10/2002
DE	20105063 U1	8/2001	EP	1334076	B1	8/2003
DE	10044641 A1	3/2002	EP	1346964	A2	9/2003
DE	10106888 A1	9/2002	EP	1556313	A1	7/2005
EP	0007585	2/1980	EP	1801278	A1	6/2007
EP	0012546	6/1980	EP	1891984	A1	2/2008
EP	0021362	1/1981	EP	1985671	A1	10/2008
EP	0033133 A1	8/1981	ES	2033987	T3	4/1993
EP	0036275 A1	9/1981	FR	895184		1/1945
EP	0049365 A2	4/1982	FR	990242	A1	9/1951
EP	0055504	7/1982	FR	1557348	A	2/1969
EP	0056263	7/1982	FR	2248246	A1	5/1975
EP	0069095	1/1983	FR	2405908	A1	5/1979
EP	0084951 A2	8/1983	FR	2451428	A1	10/1980
EP	0102092	3/1984	FR	2451428		11/1980
EP	0103097 B1	3/1984	FR	2512440	A1	3/1983
			FR	2540160	A1	8/1984
			FR	2562591	A1	10/1985
			FR	2611432	A1	9/1988
			FR	2624870	A1	6/1989

(56)

References Cited

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FR	2628775	A1	9/1989	JP	49116445	U	2/1973
FR	2671072		7/1992	JP	49046761	Y1	12/1974
FR	2702790	A1	9/1994	JP	50095319		7/1975
GB	22139		11/1901	JP	51-23229		6/1976
GB	119182		9/1918	JP	52051719		4/1977
GB	413294		7/1934	JP	52052429		4/1977
GB	442098		2/1936	JP	53050229		5/1978
GB	449384		6/1936	JP	54025927	A	2/1979
GB	558239		12/1943	JP	56130832	U	3/1980
GB	558584		1/1944	JP	55085756	A	6/1980
GB	564447		9/1944	JP	55095654	A	7/1980
GB	682432		11/1952	JP	55116684		9/1980
GB	731597		6/1955	JP	55130847	A2	10/1980
GB	0740145		11/1955	JP	56014466	A	2/1981
GB	743866		1/1956	JP	56048413		5/1981
GB	744070		2/1956	JP	57017452	A2	1/1982
GB	752345		7/1956	JP	57058615	A	4/1982
GB	896910		5/1962	JP	56041881	U	9/1982
GB	1003850		9/1965	JP	57156361	A2	9/1982
GB	1062410		3/1967	JP	57183344	A	11/1982
GB	1066768		4/1967	JP	58000351	A	1/1983
GB	1086311		10/1967	JP	58045008		3/1983
GB	1125825		9/1968	JP	58055034	A	4/1983
GB	1174902		12/1969	JP	58059803		4/1983
GB	1258288		12/1971	JP	58110443		7/1983
GB	1265471		3/1972	JP	58149939		9/1983
GB	1269357		4/1972	JP	59045953		3/1984
GB	1337129		11/1973	JP	59107985		6/1984
GB	1448320		9/1976	JP	59203747		11/1984
GB	1490711		11/1977	JP	59217659	A	12/1984
GB	1493202		11/1977	JP	60105715	U	7/1985
GB	1493203		11/1977	JP	60135211	A	7/1985
GB	1512084		5/1978	JP	60161381		8/1985
GB	1514239		6/1978	JP	60191074		9/1985
GB	1515521		6/1978	JP	60242242	A	12/1985
GB	1532922		11/1978	JP	61019900	A	1/1986
GB	1536663		12/1978	JP	61068967	A2	4/1986
GB	1543460		4/1979	JP	61141656	A	6/1986
GB	2019386		10/1979	JP	61178462	A2	8/1986
GB	2021186	A	11/1979	JP	62036055	A2	2/1987
GB	2025928		1/1980	JP	62036056	A	2/1987
GB	2041384		9/1980	JP	62037444		2/1987
GB	1577648		10/1980	JP	62207751		9/1987
GB	1584175		2/1981	JP	62235274	A	10/1987
GB	2064989		6/1981	JP	88-052740		1/1988
GB	2067622		7/1981	JP	63008248	A	1/1988
GB	2075079	A	11/1981	JP	6319636	U	2/1988
GB	1604910		12/1981	JP	6330381		2/1988
GB	2078611	A	1/1982	JP	63107849	A	5/1988
GB	2080851		2/1982	JP	63117939		5/1988
GB	2083512	A	3/1982	JP	63-31426	B2	6/1988
GB	2106527		4/1983	JP	63248751	A	10/1988
GB	2137977		10/1984	JP	63257631	A	10/1988
GB	2148871		6/1985	JP	63-47229	Y2	12/1988
GB	2199857	A	7/1988	JP	64-29843	A	1/1989
GB	2230772		10/1990	JP	1029843		1/1989
GB	2248834		4/1992	JP	64020910		1/1989
GB	2252987		8/1992	JP	64022385		1/1989
GB	2256867		12/1992	JP	64-37478	A	2/1989
GB	2276875		10/1994	JP	64-50541	U	3/1989
GB	2307425		5/1997	JP	01141849	A2	6/1989
GB	2330138		4/1999	JP	1178658		7/1989
GB	2340071	A	2/2000	JP	01290402	A	11/1989
GB	2433497	A	6/2007	JP	02192447	A	7/1990
HU	164419		2/1974	JP	1924781990		7/1990
HU	173947		9/1979	JP	64-25200		8/1990
HU	180773		4/1983	JP	2204566	A	8/1990
HU	31027		4/1984	JP	02236350	A	9/1990
HU	0895285-AO		1/1990	JP	02283646	A	11/1990
HU	200511	B	6/1990	JP	02289456	A2	11/1990
HU	209836	B	11/1994	JP	2714135	A	12/1990
HU	9602843-AO		12/1996	JP	03016978		1/1991
HU	0001904		11/2000	JP	3-004654		2/1991
IT	1311962	B1	3/2002	JP	01128748	U	6/1991
JP	21071968		1/1943	JP	3063641	U	6/1991
				JP	3066338	U	6/1991
				JP	03208871	A	9/1991
				JP	03295843		12/1991
				JP	92052746		12/1991

(56)

References Cited

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

JP	04002642	A	1/1992		JP	09020526	A	1/1997
JP	92054171		1/1992		JP	09052747	A2	2/1997
JP	4042875	A	2/1992		JP	2538120	Y2	3/1997
JP	04055556	A *	2/1992	 E04F 13/00	JP	09067174		3/1997
JP	04089340		3/1992		JP	09077543		3/1997
JP	04104945		4/1992		JP	09092895		4/1997
JP	04144949		5/1992		JP	09123340		5/1997
JP	4149352		5/1992		JP	9124327		5/1997
JP	4182333		6/1992		JP	09193120		7/1997
JP	04182335	A	6/1992		JP	9201561	A	8/1997
JP	4114937		7/1992		JP	9217659	A	8/1997
JP	4193748	A	7/1992		JP	9227200	A2	9/1997
JP	4260645	A	9/1992		JP	09255383	A	9/1997
JP	4292906	A	10/1992		JP	11077650	A	9/1997
JP	04295072	A	10/1992		JP	09296560	A	11/1997
JP	04300232	A2	10/1992		JP	10025841	A	1/1998
JP	04342746	A	11/1992		JP	10036161	A	2/1998
JP	04349155		12/1992		JP	10046741	A	2/1998
JP	5001532	U	1/1993		JP	10095648		4/1998
JP	5-10636	U	2/1993		JP	10095922	A2	4/1998
JP	05040473	A	2/1993		JP	10121693	A	5/1998
JP	05044323		2/1993		JP	10152356	A	6/1998
JP	5065760	A	3/1993		JP	10245925	A	9/1998
JP	5154816	A2	6/1993		JP	10330146		12/1998
JP	5177625	A2	7/1993		JP	11010631		1/1999
JP	05184246	A2	7/1993		JP	11092202	A	4/1999
JP	05186261	A	7/1993		JP	11099512	A	4/1999
JP	5229859		9/1993		JP	11116299	A	4/1999
JP	2467261993		9/1993		JP	11139859		5/1999
JP	542192		10/1993		JP	11210203		8/1999
JP	05042192	Y2	10/1993		JP	11217918-11-217918		8/1999
JP	05287234		11/1993		JP	11241448	A	9/1999
JP	06001648		1/1994		JP	11247307		9/1999
JP	06017621	B2	1/1994		JP	11256683		9/1999
JP	6023889	A	2/1994		JP	11511110		9/1999
JP	06024821		2/1994		JP	11280172		10/1999
JP	06123158	A	5/1994		JP	3351461990		12/1999
JP	06127992	A	5/1994		JP	2000008581		1/2000
JP	06144911		5/1994		JP	2000043196		2/2000
JP	06144912	A2	5/1994		JP	2000044367	A	2/2000
JP	6-28563	Y2	8/1994		JP	2000064554	A2	2/2000
JP	06256053	A2	9/1994		JP	2000110272		4/2000
JP	06258053	A	9/1994		JP	2000119050		4/2000
JP	6271371		9/1994		JP	2000143307	A	5/2000
JP	06080264	B2	10/1994		JP	2000154612	A	6/2000
JP	06278116	A	10/1994		JP	2000160057	A	6/2000
JP	6293578	A	10/1994		JP	2000179104	A	6/2000
JP	6341093		12/1994		JP	2000302498		10/2000
JP	07010621		1/1995		JP	2000302522	A	10/2000
JP	07024299	A	1/1995		JP	2001026485	A	1/2001
JP	07033502	A	2/1995		JP	2001163647	A	6/2001
JP	07041592	A2	2/1995		JP	2001240439	A	9/2001
JP	07109165	A	4/1995		JP	2001240458	A	9/2001
JP	07165455	A	6/1995		JP	2001300924	A	10/2001
JP	07187734		7/1995		JP	2001316157	A2	11/2001
JP	07196348		8/1995		JP	2001316163	A	11/2001
JP	7291701	A	11/1995		JP	2001335385	A	12/2001
JP	7291707	A	11/1995		JP	2001336230	A	12/2001
JP	07292846	A2	11/1995		JP	3482852001		12/2001
JP	07315869	A	12/1995		JP	2002003248		1/2002
JP	08012405	A	1/1996		JP	2002047750	A	2/2002
JP	08012450	A2	1/1996		JP	2002053361	A2	2/2002
JP	8040758	A	2/1996		JP	2002097732		4/2002
JP	8067541	A	3/1996		JP	2002161623	A2	6/2002
JP	08068184	A2	3/1996		JP	2002212494	A	7/2002
JP	08073283	A	3/1996		JP	2002231865	A	8/2002
JP	08074377		3/1996		JP	2002354091	A2	12/2002
JP	2507028	Y2	5/1996		JP	2002364091	A	12/2002
JP	08119708		5/1996		JP	107812003		1/2003
JP	08133864	A	5/1996		JP	550642003		2/2003
JP	2508554	B2	6/1996		JP	2003073756	A	3/2003
JP	08151246	A	6/1996		JP	2003094419	A	4/2003
JP	08169779		7/1996		JP	2003335560		11/2003
JP	08175859		7/1996		JP	2004027497	A	1/2004
JP	08217561	A	8/1996		JP	2004231480	A	8/2004
					JP	2004314456	A	11/2004
					JP	2005034695	A2	2/2005
					KR	920008773	B	10/1992
					KR	19940006957		4/1994

(56)

References Cited

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

KR	9508587	8/1995	RU	2243189	C1	12/2004
KR	1019950008587	B1 8/1995	SE	9604599-2	L	6/1998
KR	1019967005677	11/1996	SG	97920847		11/1990
KR	100231910	B1 9/1999	SG	92906122		10/1992
KR	200158855	Y1 10/1999	SG	97912869		4/1993
KR	200172372	Y1 3/2000	SG	93908341		9/1993
KR	2000014685	3/2000	SG	95012084		1/1994
KR	100274218	B1 12/2000	SG	96026257		4/1994
KR	2001053808	7/2001	SG	96120035		4/1995
MX	9604516	12/1997	SG	97059547		5/1996
MY	107883	A 6/1996	SG	98021017		9/1996
NO	9901129	9/2000	SG	98021751		9/1996
NZ	19354	a 9/1984	SG	98051485		2/1997
NZ	210395	11/1984	SG	97018402		5/1997
NZ	211265	2/1985	SG	98012917		6/1997
NZ	20119	10/1985	SG	99017030		10/1997
NZ	20120	10/1985	SU	240472		3/1969
NZ	20844	11/1986	SU	411054		1/1974
NZ	218315	2/1987	SU	587123		1/1978
NZ	21875	4/1988	SU	607813		5/1978
NZ	22705	7/1989	SU	655678		4/1979
NZ	221389	12/1991	SU	1114646		9/1984
NZ	25267	6/1993	SU	1571024		6/1990
NZ	230209	12/1993	SU	1650196		5/1991
NZ	247463	12/1993	SU	1668346		8/1991
NZ	25838	4/1994	SU	1724613		4/1992
NZ	26065	7/1994	TW	278536		6/1996
NZ	26066	7/1994	TW	278537		6/1996
NZ	240533	7/1996	TW	282800		8/1996
NZ	270310	12/1996	TW	408089		10/2000
NZ	280409	6/1997	TW	150027		2/2001
NZ	280235	9/1997	TW	255851		6/2006
NZ	259493	10/1997	WO	WO-8100422		2/1981
NZ	248942	11/1997	WO	WO-8102758		10/1981
NZ	242960	12/1997	WO	WO-8203386		10/1982
NZ	306382	2/1998	WO	WO-8301947		6/1983
NZ	314544	6/1998	WO	WO-8404765		12/1984
NZ	331553	1/2000	WO	WO-8500361		1/1985
NZ	336159	3/2000	WO	WO-8502394		6/1985
NZ	334899	4/2000	WO	WO-8503966		9/1985
NZ	400643	4/2000	WO	WO-8600291		1/1986
NZ	334918	8/2000	WO	WO-8700827		2/1987
NZ	335529	12/2000	WO	WO-9002102		3/1990
NZ	508055	12/2000	WO	WO-9008240		7/1990
NZ	502017	1/2001	WO	WO-9101409		2/1991
NZ	331336	4/2001	WO	WO-9111321		8/1991
NZ	500215	6/2001	WO	WO-9114057		9/1991
NZ	507846	4/2002	WO	WO-9114058	A1	9/1991
NZ	502004	8/2002	WO	WO-9200251		1/1992
NZ	505799	2/2003	WO	WO-9200927	A1	1/1992
NZ	504881	3/2003	WO	WO-9210440		6/1992
NZ	512028	7/2003	WO	WO-9217657		10/1992
NZ	516912	7/2003	WO	WO-9306316		4/1993
NZ	524520	9/2003	WO	WO-9312303		6/1993
NZ	518988	10/2003	WO	WO-9321126		10/1993
NZ	517658	11/2003	WO	WO-9324711		12/1993
NZ	520286	5/2004	WO	WO-9419561		9/1994
NZ	521491	6/2004	WO	WO-9507177		3/1995
NZ	525507	9/2004	WO	WO-9520066		7/1995
NZ	525328	2/2005	WO	WO-9526450		10/1995
NZ	528304	4/2005	WO	WO-9607538		3/1996
NZ	530605	6/2005	WO	WO-9614482		5/1996
NZ	532182	12/2005	WO	WO-9617996		6/1996
NZ	536129	2/2006	WO	WO-9640598		12/1996
PL	154782	B1 9/1991	WO	WO-9707968		3/1997
PL	170678	B1 1/1997	WO	WO-9708111		3/1997
PL	106840	1/1999	WO	WO-9708401		3/1997
PL	190446	B1 9/1999	WO	WO-9721640		6/1997
PL	339671	A1 1/2001	WO	WO-9723696		7/1997
PL	190627	B1 12/2005	WO	WO-9725389		7/1997
RU	1606633	A1 11/1990	WO	WO-9727152		7/1997
RU	2039019	C1 7/1995	WO	WO-9728342		8/1997
RU	2161695	C2 1/2001	WO	WO-9731153		8/1997
RU	2167485	C2 5/2001	WO	WO-9803284		1/1998
RU	2168485	C1 6/2001	WO	WO-9810151		3/1998
			WO	WO-9812149		3/1998
			WO	WO-9816697		4/1998
			WO	WO-9818855		5/1998
			WO	WO-9827027		6/1998

(56)

References Cited

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

WO	WO-9829353	7/1998
WO	WO-9832713	7/1998
WO	WO 9845222	10/1998
WO	WO-9908885	2/1999
WO	WO-9910607	3/1999
WO	WO-9913185	3/1999
WO	WO-9922095	5/1999
WO	WO-9931158	6/1999
WO	WO-9935330	7/1999
WO	WO-9943904	9/1999
WO	WO-9964692	12/1999
WO	WO-0000449	1/2000
WO	WO-0008271	2/2000
WO	WO-0014354	3/2000
WO	WO-0021901	4/2000
WO	WO-0048960	8/2000
WO	WO-0055446	9/2000
WO	WO-0063506	10/2000
WO	WO-0065166	11/2000
WO	WO-0071336	11/2000
WO	WO-0116048	3/2001
WO	WO-0124988	4/2001
WO	WO-0125561	4/2001
WO	WO-0125562	4/2001
WO	WO-0126894	4/2001
WO	WO-0130927	5/2001
WO	WO-0136191	5/2001
WO	WO-0143931	6/2001
WO	WO-0149952	7/2001
WO	WO-0151427	7/2001
WO	WO-0159228	8/2001
WO	WO-0165021	9/2001
WO	WO-0166485	9/2001
WO	WO-0168547	9/2001
WO	WO-0168777	9/2001
WO	WO-0172863	10/2001
WO	WO-0173239	10/2001
WO	WO-0181666	11/2001
WO	WO-0202481	1/2002
WO	WO-0212623	2/2002
WO	WO-0218486	3/2002
WO	WO-0226897	4/2002
WO	WO-0227109	4/2002
WO	WO-0228795 A	4/2002
WO	WO-0228796	4/2002
WO	WO-0231287	4/2002
WO	WO-0232830	4/2002
WO	WO-0233164	4/2002
WO	WO-0238518	5/2002
WO	WO-0239039	5/2002
WO	WO-0242064 A1	5/2002
WO	WO-02055806	7/2002
WO	WO-02070145	9/2002
WO	WO-02070218 A1	9/2002
WO	WO-02070247	9/2002
WO	WO-02070421	9/2002
WO	WO-02070425	9/2002
WO	WO-02072499	9/2002
WO	WO-02081839	10/2002
WO	WO-02081840	10/2002
WO	WO-02081841	10/2002
WO	WO-02081842	10/2002
WO	WO-02096824	12/2002
WO	WO-03074193	9/2003
WO	WO-03106365	12/2003
WO	WO-2004011391	2/2004
WO	WO-2004018090 A1	3/2004
WO	WO-2004031093	4/2004
WO	WO-2004033388	4/2004
WO	WO-2004063113	7/2004
WO	WO-2004087412	10/2004
WO	WO-2004101137 A1	11/2004
WO	WO-2005003478	1/2005
WO	WO-2005019550	3/2005
WO	WO-2005035900	4/2005

WO	WO-2005068741	7/2005
WO	WO-2005078210	8/2005
WO	WO-2005083191	9/2005
WO	WO-2006039762	4/2006
WO	WO-2006056644	6/2006
WO	WO-2006086842	8/2006
WO	WO-2006091929	8/2006
WO	WO-2006113379	10/2006
WO	WO-2007005041	1/2007
WO	WO-2007009935	1/2007
WO	WO-2007067774	6/2007
WO	WO-2007115379	10/2007
WO	WO-2008066746	6/2008
WO	WO-2008100777	8/2008

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Submission in opposition proceeding of EP 1330571 entitled "Effect of the Extraction Temperature upon the COD value of a Cellulose Pulp." dated Aug. 1, 2008, 1 pg.

"Forming Handsheets for Physical Tests of Pulp," TAPI, T 205 sp-95, 1995, pp. 5-7.

"Glass" Corning Glass Works—reprinted version of the Encyclopedia of Chemical Technology (vol. 10) 2nd ed. (1955), pp. 542-543.

"Hardi-Plank and Surface Mold" article located at internet <http://www.nefsi.org/wwwboard/messages/439.html> (Jun. 13, 2003) 2 pgs.

"Moisture in Pulp, Paper and Paperboard," TAPPI, T 412 om-94, pp. 1-3, 1994.

"Pre-extraction of hemicelluloses and subsequent kraft pulping Part I: alkaline extraction." TAPPI Journal (Jun. 2008)6 pgs.

3M Company, "3M Material Safety Data Sheet 3M Glass Bubbles, Types K and S" (Apr. 10, 2006) 7 pgs.

Abo-El-Enein et al "Autoclaved Calcium Silicate Hydrates, I—Rates of Formation and Molar Composition," II Cemento Mar. 1990, pp. 147-160.

Aitken, A. & Taylor, H.F.W., "Hydrothermal Reactions in Lime-Quartz Pastes" J. Appl. Chem., 10 (1960) 7.

Amaral, S.T., et al. "Passivation of Pure Iron in Alkaline Solution Containing Silicate and Sulphate," Corrosion Science, V.41., 1999, 747-758.

Ambrose J. et al; "Metakaoline Blended Cements: An Efficient Way to Improve GRC Durability and Ductility" Int. Congress GRC/87, 6th Biennial Congress of the GRCA, Oct. 20-23, 1987 Edinburgh, Scotland, pp. 19-24.

Ameron Coatings, Amercoat 288 Flexible Water-Borne Acrylic Membrane, Aug. 1999, 2 pgs.

Arai, Y. et al. "Crystal Shape and Size Controls of Xonotlite," Gypsum and Lime, No. 248, 1994, pp. 17-25.

Ardex, "Sheltercoat Facade, Shelter Waterproofing Membranes," Mar. 10, 2002, 1 pg.

Asbridge et al. "Effects of Metakaolin, Water/Binder Ratio and Interfacial Transition Zones on the Microhardness of Cement Mortars" Cement and Concrete Research 32 (2002) pp. 1365-1369.

Assarsson, G.O., "Hydrothermal Reactions Between Calcium Hydroxide and Muscovite and Feldspar at 120-220 °C," J. Phys. Chem., 64 (1960) pp. 626-632.

Badogiannis et al. "Metakaolin as a Main Cement Constituent. Exploitation of Poor Greek Kaolins" Cement & Concrete Composites 27 (2005) pp. 197-203.

Benitez et al. "Optimization Technique for Sewage Sludge Conditioning With Polymer and Skeleton Builders," Water Research (1994), 28(10), 2067-73.

Berry, Craig, "Determination of the Influence of Pulp Chemical Oxygen Demand on the Flexural Strength of Cured Fibercement" (11 pgs), submitted in opposition proceeding of EP1330571, Aug. 1, 2008.

Bessey, G.E. "Hydrated Calciurri Silicate Products Other Than Hydraulic Cements"—The Chemistry of Cements, edited by H.F.W. Taylor, Academic Press, vol. 2, 1964, pp. 101-133.

BGC Fibre Cement "Ceramic Tile Floor Underlay" Apr. 2002, (7 pgs.)

Bia (NZ) Consultation Document Jun. 2003 "Proposed Change to Building Code Clause E2 External Moisture".

(56)

References Cited

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Blankenburg et al., "Quality and Possible Use of Brown Coal Fly Ash of East Germany" *Frieberger Forschungshefte* C (1986), C 413, pp. 102-114.
- Boddy et al. "Long-Term Testing of the Chloride-Penetration Resistance of Concrete Containing High-Reactivity Metakaolin" *Cement and Concrete Research* 31 (2001) pp. 759-765.
- Celite Material Safety Data Sheet—dated Jul. 10, 1992.
- Chan, C.F. et al. "Formation of 11 A Tobermorite from Mixtures of Lime and Colloidal Silica with Quartz" *Cem. Concr. Res.*, 8 (1978) pp. 135-138.
- Chapter 5, Asbestos Cement Products, In *Asbestos and Certain Asbestos Products: A Report on the Supply of Asbestos and Certain Asbestos Products*, Competition Commission, Southampton Row, London 1970-1975, pp. 25-40.
- Chem Masters, "Polymer Coatings & Toppings—System Selection Guide" (www.ChemMasters.net), Oct. 15, 2008.
- Chemical Abstract, vol. 90, No. 16, American Chemical Society, Columbus, US Apr. 16, 1979.
- Chemical Abstracts "Lightweight cement moldings." *American Chemical Society*, Columbus, US, vol. 104:114971, XP000183799 ISSN: 0009-2258, Apr. 7, 1986.
- Babachev et al. "Plasticizing effect of aliphatic amines on cements" *Build Sci Inst. Sofia Bulgaria; Epitoanyag; Chemical Abstracts on STN* 24(11), 430-5 (1972).
- Chemical Abstracts, No. 54763d, vol. 117, No. 6; *American Chemical Society*, Columbus, US, Aug. 10, 1992.
- Chemical Abstracts, vol. 86, No. 18, *American Chemical Society*, Columbus, US, May 2, 1977; p. 303.
- Chemical Abstracts No. 51915a, XP 000186251, "Building Materials with Improved Black Mold Resistance," vol. 94, No. 8, Columbus, Ohio; Feb. 23, 1981.
- Chemical Abstracts, vol. 95, No. 16, *American Chemical Society*, Columbus, US, Oct. 19, 1981, p. 288.
- Chemical Abstracts, vol. 95, No. 2, *American Chemical Society*, Columbus, US, Jul. 13, 1981, p. 282.
- Chemical Abstracts, vol. 98, No. 22; *American Chemical Society*, Columbus, US; May 30, 1983, p. 312.
- Chilean patent application No. 170-97 dated Dec. 5, 1997.
- Chilean patent application No. 2673-97 dated Jan. 30, 1997.
- Collier et al. "Encapsulation of Iron Hydroxide Floc in Composite Cement" *Immobilisation Science Lab., Dept of Engineering Materials*, 2004, (4 pgs).
- Office action for U.S. Appl. No. 10/753,089 (2004/0168615) mailed Jan. 16, 2008.
- Information Disclosure Statement for U.S. Appl. No. 10/753,089 (2004/0168615) filed Sep. 28, 2007 and Oct. 29, 2007.
- Amendment for U.S. Appl. No. 10/753,089 (2004/0168615) filed Oct. 31, 2007.
- Courard et al. "Durability of Mortars Modified with Metakaolin" *Cement and Concrete Research* 33 (2003) pp. 1473-1479.
- Coutts, R.S.P., "From forest to factory to fabrication," in *Fibre Reinforced Cement and Concrete*, ed. R.N. Swamy, E & FN SPON, London, 1992, pp. 31 to 47.
- CRC Handbook of Chemistry & Physics, 62nd ed., p. F-124 (1981-1982).
- Crennan et al. "Autoclaved Lime-Quartz Materials," *Cement and Concrete Research*, vol. 7, 1977, pp. 493-502.
- CSR RendaLine—External Wall Cladding System—Brochure, Jan. 2002, pp. 1-36.
- Derwent No. XP002335289, Database WPI Section Ch, Week 198610 Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; AN, Jan. 28, 1986.
- Derwent No. XP002159268, Database WPI, Section Ch, Week 23, Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB, Apr. 25, 1977.
- Derwent No. XP002159269, Database WPI, Section Ch, Week 23, Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB, Apr. 27, 1977.
- De Silva P.S. et al. "Hydration of Cements Based on Metakaolin: Thermochemistry" *Adv. In Cem. Res.*, vol. 3, No. 12, (Oct. 1990), pp. 167-177.
- Declaration by Bill Adams and accompanying documents, Weyerhaeuser, dated prior to Oct. 17, 1999.
- Department of Building and Housing, "Compliance Document for NZ Bldg Code Clause E2," 2005.
- Digital Fire Corporation "Do You Need to Know About Eutectics to Make a Good Glaze?" (4 pgs) website article located at <http://www.digitalfire.ab.ca/ceramat/education/119.php?PHPSESSID=1e2d7f3f3a24698394ecaae57ed3b06d5> dated Jul. 14, 2003.
- Documents submitted by REDCO in opposition proceeding of EP 1330571 dated Aug. 1, 2008.
- Drogowska, M. et al. "Influence of Anions on the Passivity Behavior of Copper in Alkaline Solutions," *Surface and Coatings Technology*, 1988, 383-400, V. 34.
- Drozhzhin et al., "Technical Monitoring of Microspheres from Fly Ashes of Electric Power Stations in the Russian Federation" 2005 (8 pgs).
- Duxson, et al. "The Thermal Evolution of Metakaolin Geopolymers: Part 2—Phase Stability and Structural Development" *Journal of Non-Crystalline Solids* 353 (2007), pp. 2186-2200.
- Ekman et al., "Studies on the Behavior of Extractives in Mechanical Pulp Suspensions," *The Institute of Paper Science and Technology*, Jun. 1990.
- Energy Seal "Elastomeric Wall Coatings" located at <http://www.energy-seal.com/es-home.nsf/products/everlast>; Aug. 14, 2004.
- EPS Plaster Cladding Systems, Technical and Installation Manual, Rockcote Architectural Coatings (NZ) Limited, Mar. 2003.
- Examination Report for EP 00980518.5 dated Jan. 5, 2005.
- Extended European Search Report for EP 07008392.8, dated Oct. 8, 2007, 9 pp.
- Extract from Webster's Third New International Dictionary of the English Language unabridged, ed Merriam-Webster Inc., Springfield, 1986.
- Finnish Forest Industries Federal, "Mechanical Pulp Production" located at <http://english.forestindustries.fi/products/pulp/mechanical.html>, dated Nov. 10, 2004 (2 pgs).
- Force 10 Caribbean "Custom Features" Engineered Building Systems (1999) 5 pgs.
- Fortes-Revilla et al. "Modelling of Slaked Lime-Metakaolin Mortar Engineering Characteristics in Terms of Process Variables" *Cement & Concrete Composites* 28 (458-467) 2006.
- Gehm, H.W., "New & Basic Research Approaches to Liquid Effluent Treatment" *Paper Trade Journal*, 142 (No. 16), 40-4, (1958) 46.
- Gubka "Composition and Morphology of Cenospheres" located at: <http://www.atom.nw.ru/rie/projects/gubka/properties/cenospheres.shtml>, Jul. 11, 2006, 2 pgs.
- Gypsum Association Manual, 14th Edition 1994, p. 33-34.
- HARDIHOME Lap Siding with the Embossed EZ Line Alignment Aid, Mar. 2000.
- Harper, S., et al. "Resin Extraction and Effects on Pulp Quality," *Proceedings of the 54th Appita Annual Conference*, Melbourne, Apr. 3-6, 2000, pp. 575-580.
- Hawley's Condensed Chemical Dictionary, Fourteenth Edition, Revised by Richard J. Lewis, Sr., published by John Wiley & Sons, Inc. 2002, pp. 447, 624, 903-904.
- Hawley's Condensed Chemical Dictionary, definition of "dispersing agent," Richard Lewis Sr., Twelfth Edition, Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1993, p. 435.
- Hoar, T.P.,—"The Production and breakdown of the passivity of metals," *Corrosion Science*, vol. 7, 1967, pp. 341-355.
- International Preliminary Examination Report for PCT/US00/31729 dated Feb. 21, 2002.
- International Preliminary Examination Report for PCT/US01/01908 dated Apr. 6, 2002.
- International Preliminary Examination Report for PCT/US02/10608 dated Feb. 14, 2003.
- International Preliminary Examination Report for PCT/US02/10609 dated Apr. 22, 2003.
- International Preliminary Examination Report for PCT/US02/10760 dated Feb. 3, 2003.
- International Preliminary Examination Report for PCT/US04/19980 dated Jul. 27, 2005.

(56)

References Cited

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- International Preliminary Examination Report for PCT/US02/10610 dated Feb. 7, 2003.
- International Preliminary Examination Report for PCT/US00/27451 dated Dec. 7, 2001.
- International Preliminary Examination Report for PCT/IB2005/050709 dated Feb. 7, 2006.
- International Preliminary Report on Patentability and Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority for PCT/US2006/006799, dated Aug. 28, 2007, 11 pp.
- International Preliminary Report on Patentability for PCT/US2005/007581 dated Jun. 19, 2007.
- International Search Report for PCT/US02/10609 dated Aug. 1, 2002.
- International Search Report for AU/2004/903567, dated Jul. 26, 2004.
- International Search Report for PCT/AU00/00320 dated May 31, 2000.
- International Search Report for PCT/AU03/01315 dated Nov. 12, 2003.
- International Search Report for PCT/AU97/00692 dated Dec. 3, 1997.
- International Search Report for PCT/IB2005/050709 dated May 23, 2005.
- International Search Report for PCT/US 02/10608 dated Aug. 5, 2002.
- International Search Report for PCT/US 02/10610 dated Aug. 5, 2002.
- International Search Report for PCT/US 02/10760 dated Aug. 5, 2002.
- International Search Report for PCT/US00/27451 dated Feb. 2, 2001.
- International Search Report for PCT/US00/31729 dated Feb. 21, 2001.
- International Search Report for PCT/US01/01908 dated Mar. 19, 2001.
- International Search Report for PCT/US02/10609 dated Aug. 7, 2002.
- International Search Report for PCT/US05/007581 dated Aug. 3, 2005.
- International Search Report for PCT/US2004/019980 dated Sep. 15, 2004.
- International Search Report for PCT/US2005/000957, dated Jun. 16, 2005.
- International Search Report for WO 02/028796 A2 (PCT/US01/42243) dated May 15, 2002.
- Isu et al. "Influence on quartz particle size on the chemical & mechanical properties of autoclaved aerated concrete," *Cement & Concrete R.*, vol. 25, 1995, p. 243.
- James Hardie, "External Wall Cladding," Oct. 1990, 2 pgs.
- James Hardie, "Primeline Weatherboards," Oct. 1996, 8 pgs.
- Jianquan et al "Research on Water Resistant Performance of Modified Polymer Cement Composite Reinforced with Fiber," Mar. 2003.
- Johnson, C.A. et al., "Leaching Behavior and Solubility—Controlling Solid Phases of Heavy Metals in Municipal Solid Waste Incinerator Ash," *Waste Management*, vol. 16 (1-3), 1996, p. 129-134.
- Joshi, P.S., et al. "Passivation of Carbon Steel Alloy in De-oxygenated Alkaline pH Media," *Corrosion Science*, vol. 34(8), 1993, pp. 1367-1379.
- Jubocid "Special Anti-Mildew Coatings" Sep. 2002, 4 pgs.
- Kennedy, G.C.; *Econ. Geol.* 45[7]: 652 (1950).
- Kolay, et al. "Physical, Chemical, Mineralogical, and Thermal Properties of Cenospheres From an Ash Lagoon" Dec. 29, 2000, pp. 539-542.
- Kondo, R. et al., "Kinetics and Mechanism of Hydrothermal Reaction in Lime-Quartz-Water System" *J. Ceram. Soc. Japan*, 84 (1976) pp. 573-578.
- Kondo, R., Int. Symp. "Kinetic Study on Hydrothermal Reaction Between Lime and Silica" Autoclaves Calcium Silicate Building Products, London, 1965 pp. 92-100.
- Kuder, et al. "Extruded Fiber-Reinforced Composites for Building Enclosures" NSF Housing Research Agenda Workshop: Proceedings and Recommendations, Orlando, FL; Feb. 12-14, 2004, pp. 222-231.
- Kuroki et al., "Cement-Bonded Board Industry and Market in Japan and New Technology Developments," 1995, pp. 105-112.
- Letter from Sargent & Krahn reporting First Substantive Report for CL 653-2002 dated Apr. 1, 2005.
- Letter from Sargent & Krahn reporting First Substantive Report for CL 656-2002 dated Apr. 11, 2005.
- Letter from Sargent & Krahn reporting First Substantive Report for CL 655-2002 dated Jan. 31, 2005.
- Letter to from Saint Gobain to EPO in opposition proceeding of EP 1330571 dated Aug. 1, 2008 (3 pgs).
- Li et al. "Property Improvement of Portland Cement by Incorporating with Metakaolin and Slag" *Cement and Concrete Research* 33 (2003) 579-584.
- Lin et al., "Improvements in the Durability of Cellulose Reinforced Cementitious Composites," Mechanisms of Chemical Degradation of Cement based systems, Proceedings of the Materials Research Society's Symposium of Mechanisms, Boston, Nov. 27-30, 1995.
- Litigation documents corresponding to Civil Case Nos. SCVSS115246, 5:04-CV-00674-RT-SGL, 04-C-1621, 05-CV-44, and A2-04-152.
- Locher, Friedrich W. "Fundamentals of Production and Application" VBT; 2000.
- M.D. Campbell and R.S.P. Coutts, "Wood Fibre-Reinforced Cement Composites," in *Journal of Materials Science*, 15 (1980), pp. 1962-1970.
- Mai et al., "Effects of Water and Bleaching on the Mechanical Properties of Cellulose Fiber Cements" *Journal of Materials Science* 18 (1983) pp. 2156-2162.
- Mai et al., "Slow Crack Growth in Bleached Cellulose Fibre Cements" *Journal of Materials Science Letters* 3 (1984), pp. 127-130.
- Mark, J.E., "Thermoset Elastomers" *Applied Polymer Science* 21st Century, (Clara D. Craver and Charles E. Carraher, Jr. ed., Elsevier), 2000, pp. 209-222.
- MBT Middle East: Datasheets, Masterseal 300H, Jun. 2002.
- Microspheres S.A., "What Are Cenospheres" at <http://www.microspheres.co.za/contents.htm>, printed Jul. 11, 2006, 5 pgs.
- Muscovite Mica and Phlogopite Mica, from READE, internet article located at http://www.reade.com/Products/Minerals_and_Ores/mica.html, from Aug. 6, 2007.
- Neithalath, Narayanan, et al "Acoustic Performance and Damping Behavior of Cellulose Cement Composites," *Cement & Concrete Composites* 25 (2003).
- New Zealand Department of Building and Housing, "Non-Flush Finished Joints," Acceptable Solution E2/AS1 (extract from the New Zealand Building Code) Jul. 1, 2005, 1 pg.
- Notice of Opposition of CL 653-2002 (dated Mar. 2003).
- Notice of Opposition of CL 654-2002 (dated Sep. 2003).
- Notice of Opposition of CL 655-2002 (dated Sep. 2003).
- Notice of Opposition of CL 656-2002 (dated Oct. 2003).
- Notification of Office Action for CN 00815911.4 dated Sep. 24, 2004.
- Notification of Office Action for CN 02811074.9 dated Feb. 4, 2005.
- Notification of Office Action for CN 02811168.0 dated Mar. 18, 2005.
- Notification of Office Action for CN 02811237.7 dated Mar. 18, 2005.
- Novakovsky, V.M., "Thermodynamic and Kinetic Causes of Passivity," *Electrochimica Acta*, vol. 10, 1965, pp. 353-365.
- Omurtag, Y. et al. "Some Investigations on the Corrosion Characteristics on Fe—Si Alloys," *Corrosion Science*, vol. 10, 1970, pp. 225-231.
- Notice of Opposition to EP-B-1330571 filed by Redco on Dec. 15, 2006.
- Notice of Opposition to EP-B-1330571 filed by St. Gobain Materiaux dated Jan. 19, 2007.
- Panels: Materials and Manufacturing Process, M5 Tunnel Specification, Jul. 24, 2001, 17 pgs.
- Pawlowski et al, "Novel Raw Material for Producing Heat Insulating Materials," *Silikattechnik*, 33(11), 1982, pp. 339-340.
- PBS Distributors Ltd trade literature for Vent-Clad cladding system, Aug. 2003.

(56)

References Cited

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- PCA (Portland Cement Assoc) article: "Concrete Homes—Fiber Cement Siding" website article printed 2005, 3 pgs.
- Plaster Systems, Ltd., "Insulclad Cavity Based Exterior Plaster Cladding System Specification," Feb. 2004.
- Plaster Systems, Ltd., "Insulclad Cavity Based Exterior Plaster Cladding System Specification," Oct. 2003.
- Poon et al. "Rate of Pozzolanic Reaction of Metakaolin in High-Performance Cement Pastes" *Cement and Concrete Research* 31 (2001) pp. 1301-1306.
- Ray A. et al., "Use of Dta to Determine the Effect of Mineralizers on the Cement-Quartz Hydrothermal Reactions" *Thermochimica Acta* 250 (1995) pp. 189-195.
- Saikia et al. "Cementitious Properties of Metakaolin—Normal Portland Cement Mixture in the Presence of Petroleum Effluent Treatment Plant Sludge" *Cement and Concrete Research* 32 (2002), pp. 1717-1724.
- Sauman et al; "Influence Explanation of Siliceous Materials Additive to Cement As Well As of Pastes Hydration and Their Treatment Temperature on the Lime Quantity Liberated by Rehydration" *Il Cemento*, vol. 3, 1978, pp. 343-350.
- Scan-Test Method C 45:00, "COD and TOC Removable by Washing" Scandinavian Pulp, Paper and Board Testing Committee, Revised 2000.
- Scan-Test Method CM 45:91, "Water-Soluble Organic Matter," Scandinavian Pulp, Paper and Board Testing Committee, (1991).
- Sevcik V., "Mixture for Refractory Purposes," Database EPODOC, the Hague, NL; abstract XP002389199, (Oct. 15, 1997).
- Shangai Building Materials, "Self-Leveling Elastic Water-Proofing Coating," Issue 6, 2000 (5 pgs).
- Shapiro, A.D., et al., "Manufacture of Board Resistant to Biological Degradation" *Bumazhnaya Promyshlennost* 36, 12, XP-002335287, 1961.
- Silica Fume, Cement Association of Canada, located at <http://www.cennent.ca/cement.nsf/ep/07669ADF88663915852568A9005A7770?opendocument> (dated Aug. 6, 2007), 2 pgs.
- Singh, R., et al. "Stabilization of Natural Faujasite Zeolite: Possible Role of Alkaline Earth Metal Ions," *Microporous and Mesoporous Materials*, vol. 21, 1998, pp. 103-109.
- Skaggs et al. "Applications of Rheological Modifiers and Super Plasticizers in Cementitious Systems," *American Concrete Institute SP*, SP-148, (1994), pp. 189-207.
- Soroushian, Parviz "Development of Specialty Cellulose Fibers and Cementitious Matrices for Cellulose Fiber Reinforced Cement Composites" (1989).
- Sphere Services Inc. "Cenospheres—Hollow Ceramic Microspheres" website article located at <http://www.sphereservices.com/ceno.html> dated May 15, 2007 (2 pgs) <<http://www.sphereservices.com/ceno.html>>.
- STOANZ Trade literature, 2004.
- STOANZ Trade literature, Nov. 2003.
- Stolica, N., "Pitting-Corrosion on Fe—Cr and Fe—Cr—Ni Alloys," *Corrosion Science*, vol. 9, 1969, pp. 455-470.
- Stromberg, C.B. "Washing of Dissolved Organic Solids From Pulp" *Paper Asia*, Oct. 1994 pp. 32-39.
- Stromberg, C.B., "Washing for Low Bleach Chemical Consumption," in Thomas W. Joyce (ed.), *Environmental Issues: A TAPPI Press Anthology of Published Papers*, TAPPI Press, Atlanta, 1990 pp. 230-238.
- Sukhotin, A.M. et al. "The Passivity of Iron in Acid and Alkaline Solutions," *Corrosion Science*, vol. 5, 1965, pp. 393-407.
- Supplemental European Search Report for EP 97943673 dated Mar. 27, 2001.
- Tack, F.M. et al., "Metal Solubility as a Function of pH in a Contaminated Dredged Sediment Affected by Oxidation," *Environmental Pollution*, 1996, pp. 199-208, V.91.
- Technical File by Louisiana-Pacific Samao, Inc. sent to Redco on May 5, 1999.
- Technische Information, Disbocolor 494, Acryl-Schutz, Disbon, Apr. 1996, 6 pp.
- Technisches Merkblatt 51.800, Betonschutz 800 seidenmatt, Jan. 1, 1988, 4 pgs.
- Technology Education, "Glass" by Encyclopedia Britannica http://www.geocities.com/tech_ed_2000/industrial/manufacturing/glass/glass.htm dated May 15, 2007.
- Thai MDF Board Co., Ltd "Beger Synotex Acrylic TM 100% Emulsion Paint" at: http://www.thaimdf.com/paint_roofpaint.htm, 2003, 2 pp.
- Third Party Observation by Redco NV in EP Application No. 04700639.0 filed Aug. 23, 2006.
- Letter filed in opposition proceeding of EP1330571 dated Aug. 1, 2008.
- Tourky, A.R. et al., "Further Studies on the Effect of C-content on the Corrosion and Passivity of Fe," *Corrosion Science*, 1968, pp. 857-870, vol. 8.
- Decision of Opposition in relation to Taiwanese Patent Application No. 85114421 (corresponding to US Patent No. 6,510,667), issued Aug. 3, 1998 (with Translation).
- U.S. Appl. No. 11/816,379 entitled "Flooring Sheet and Modular Flooring System"; first-named inventor: James Gleeson, filed Aug. 15, 2007.
- U.S. Appl. No. 10/070,218 entitled "Extrudable Cementitious Material"; first-named inventor: Peter Goodwin, filed Jul. 19, 2002.
- U.S. Appl. No. 10/648,010 entitled "Synthetic Microspheres and Methods of Making Same"; first-named inventor: Datta, filed Aug. 25, 2003.
- U.S. Appl. No. 10/977,344 entitled "Manufacture and Use of Engineered Carbide and Nitride Composites;"; Inventor: Giang Biscan, filed Oct. 29, 2004.
- U.S. Appl. No. 11/026,340 entitled "Methods and Formulations for Producing Low Density Products;"; first-named inventor: Hojaji, filed Dec. 29, 2004 (abandoned Dec. 2005).
- U.S. Appl. No. 10/873,723 entitled "Durable Building Article and Method of Making Same;"; filed Jun. 21, 2004 (abandoned May 18, 2005).
- U.S. Appl. No. 60/536,172 entitled "Composite Fiber Cement Article with Radiation Curable Component;"; first-named inventor: Lyons, filed Jan. 12, 2004.
- U.S. Appl. No. 60/417,076, filed Oct. 7, 2002; first-named inventor: Luo; entitled: Durable Medium Density Fibre Cement Composite. Vermiculite Properties, The Vermiculite Association, <http://www.vermiculite.org/properties.htm> (printed Aug. 8, 2007), 3 pgs.
- Wattyl, "Granosite GranoSkin Decorative Membrane Datasheet 5.02," Jan. 6, 1999, 6 pgs.
- Definition of "hollow" from Webster's II New Riverside University Dictionary (1984) p. 587.
- Woods, Amy Lamb "Keeping a Lid on It: Asbestos-Cement Building materials" www.cr.nps.gov/hps/tps/recentpast/asbestosarticle.htm, Aug. 2000, 12 pgs.
- Written Opinion for PCT/US01/42243 dated May 28, 2002.
- Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority for PCT/US2004/019980 dated Dec. 20, 2005.
- Xu et al. "Study on Particle Size Distribution and Chemical Activity of Mechanical Activity Fly Ash," *Guisuanyan Tongbao*, 22(2), (2003), p. 73-76.
- Zhou, Ming "The Trial of Antisepsis and Mothproof on Rural Timber Structure Architectures," *China Wood Industry*, Issue 2, 1987, pp. 16-24.
- Rozman et al., "Improvements of Fibreboard Properties through Fibre Activation with Silane," *Intern. J. Polymeric Mater.*, vol. 32 (1996) pp. 247-257.
- Certificate of Grant of Patent in copending Singapore Patent Application No. 200305728-8.
- Decision of Appeal in relation to Taiwanese Patent Application No. 85114421 (corresponding to US Patent No. 6,510,667), issued Feb. 24, 1999 (with Translation).
- Decision to Grant a Patent and an Examination Report for copending Japanese Application No. 2002-579593.
- Decision to Grant for Patent and Preliminary Notice of Objection in copending Korean Application No. 10-2003-7013036.

(56)

References Cited

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Examination Reports in copending Chilean Application No. 656-02 (dated 2005 and 2006).

Examiner's First Report for copending Australian Patent Application No. 2002250516 dated Dec. 14, 2006.

Expert Declaration of Prof. Dr. Dahl, with CV (Jan. 28, 2009).

Expert Declaration of Prof. Dr. Roffael (Jan. 28, 2009).

Letters Patent for copending New Zealand Patent No. 528779.

Macdougall, F.H., Excerpt "Reactions in Heterogeneous Systems" Thermodynamics and Chemistry (1921), title page and p. 64.

Notice of Registration and two Office Actions in copending China Application No. 02811237.7.

Office Action mailed Oct. 5, 2005 in U.S. Appl. No. 10/117,401.

Office Action mailed Nov. 3, 2003 in U.S. Appl. No. 10/117,401.

Office Action mailed Dec. 12, 2006 in U.S. Appl. No. 10/117,401.

Office Action mailed Mar. 14, 2005 in U.S. Appl. No. 10/117,401.

Office Action mailed Mar. 27, 2006 in U.S. Appl. No. 10/117,401.

Office Action mailed Jul. 13, 2007 in U.S. Appl. No. 10/117,401.

Office Action mailed Aug. 25, 2004 in U.S. Appl. No. 10/117,401.

EPO Examination Reports in Application No. 02-719-435.6.

U.S. Appl. No. 10/530,770 entitled "Durable Medium-Density Fibre Cement Composite", filed Oct. 6, 2005; Inventor: Basil Naji, et al.

U.S. Appl. No. 10/551,873 entitled "Durable High Performance Fibre Cement Product and Method of Manufacture", filed Sep. 30, 2005; Inventor: Joseph Emmanuel Zarb, et al.

Technology Education—"Glass" by Encyclopedia Britannica, from http://www.geocities.com/tech_ed_2000/industrial/manufacturing/glass/glass.htm, dated May 15, 2007.

Derwent Abstract Accession No. 2009-E28129, CN 101337822, published Jan. 7, 2009.

Derwent Abstract Accession No. 1992-401310, HU 60701, published Oct. 28, 1992.

Derwent Acc No. 1981-00856D for FR 2451428, published Nov. 14, 1980.

Derwent Acc No. 1991-295696 for WO 91/14058 published Sep. 19, 1991.

British Board of Agreement, Certificate No. 84/1330 for Duracem Slates, dated Jun. 26, 1984.

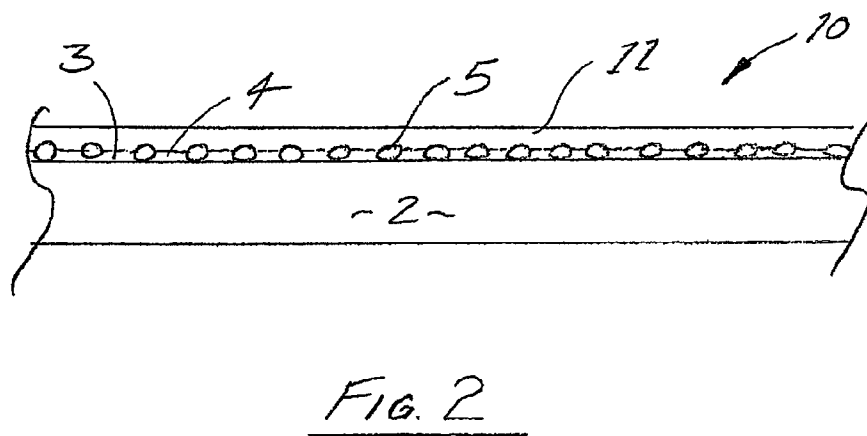
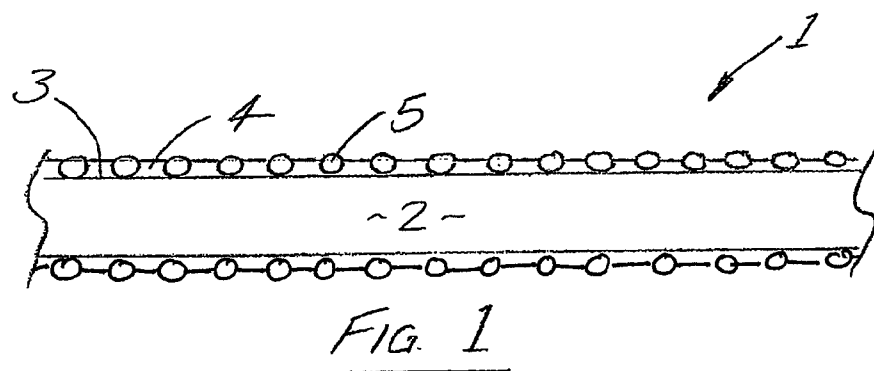
British Board of Agreement, Certificate No. 96/3283 for Eternit 2000 Slates and Fittings, dated Sep. 20, 1996.

Eternit Gevel, Multiboard 38xx Product Information (with translations), dated Mar. 18, 2002 and Sep. 14, 2001 and Jun. 13, 2003.

Kalbskopf R, et al., "Durability of Fiber-cement Roofing Products," from the International Inorganic Bonded Wood and Fiber Composites Conference, Sep. 2002, 7 pp.

Redco NV, Letter with translation to European Patent Office filed with opposition of EP 1300571, dated Aug. 1, 2008.

* cited by examiner



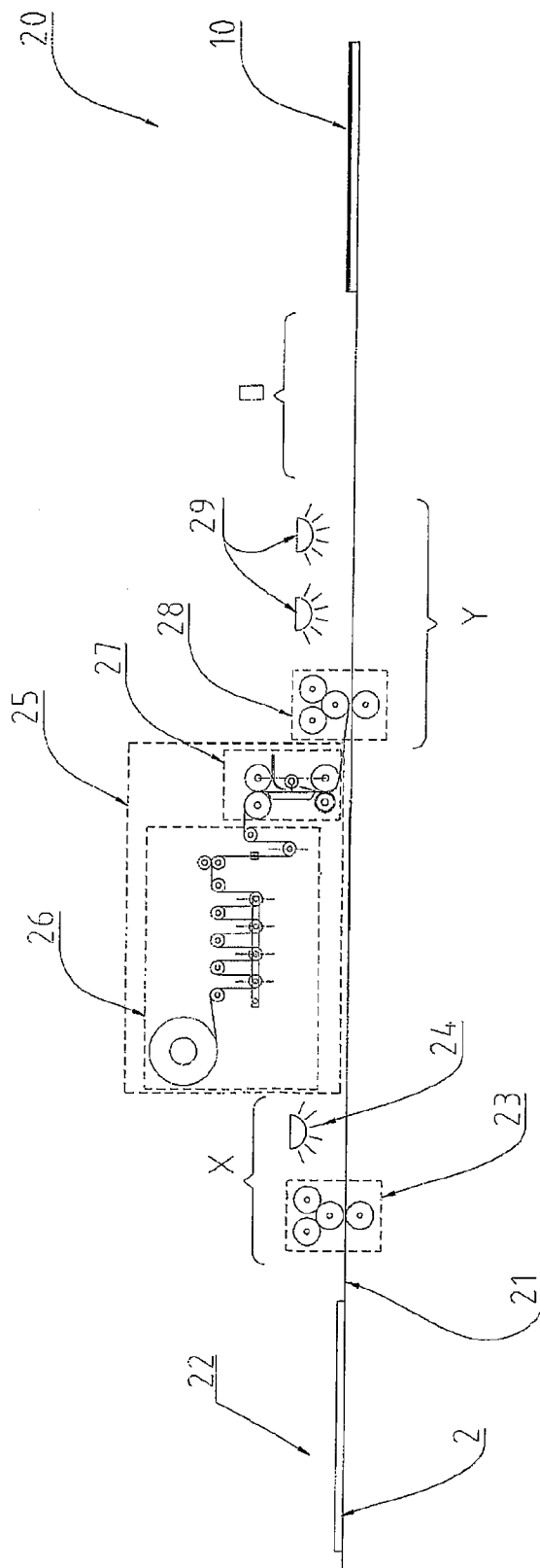


Fig. 3

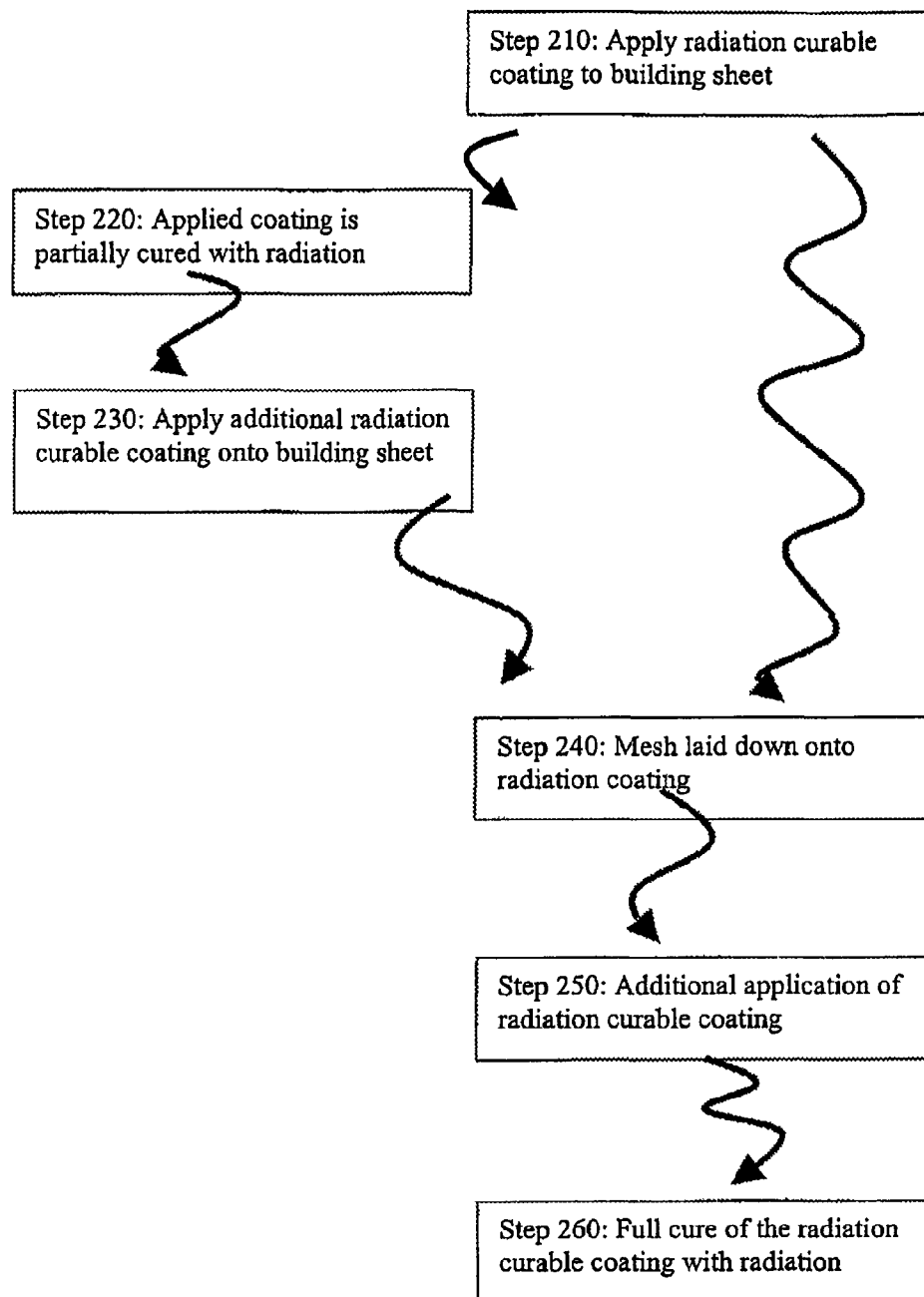


FIGURE 4

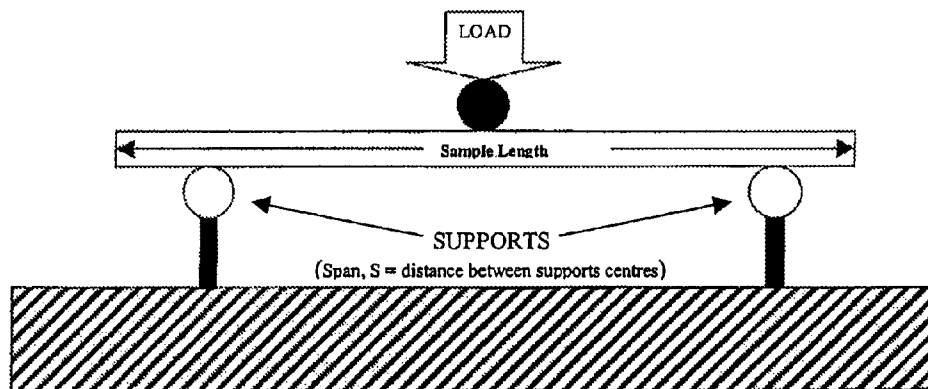


FIGURE 5

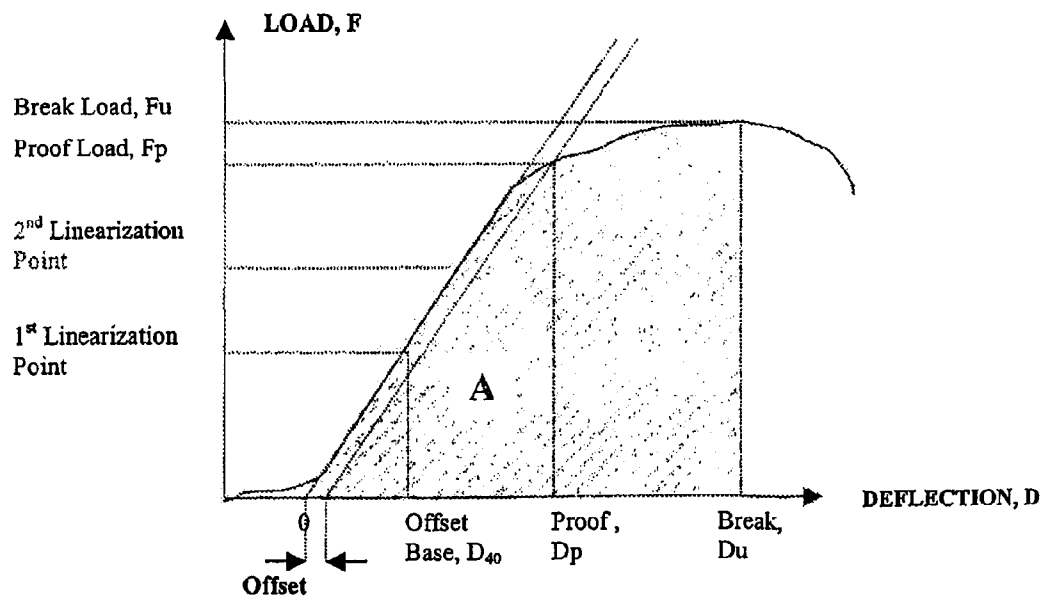


FIGURE 6

1

SURFACE SEALED REINFORCED BUILDING ELEMENT

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a reinforced and preferably surface sealed building element and to a method and apparatus for the manufacture of these elements.

The invention was developed primarily for building sheet materials made predominantly from fibre cement and will be described hereinafter with reference to this application. However, it will be clear that the invention is not limited to this particular use and can readily be adapted to other building products and/or elements made from different materials.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Any discussion of the prior art throughout the specification should in no way be considered as an admission that such prior art is widely known or forms part of common general knowledge in the field.

Selection of building materials for a given use depends largely upon the nature of the intended application and in many cases each of the products available represent a compromise between strength characteristics, durability and ease of installation, the latter being largely determined by workability characteristics such as ease of cutting, fixing and handling.

For example, natural timber has good inherent bending strength characteristics making it easy to transport and suitable for use in a variety of load bearing applications. However, it is generally fairly costly and lacks durability, particularly in damp or wet applications.

By contrast, manufactured wood products and fibre cement products, for example, are generally less expensive and more versatile in their application to form different shapes and types of building elements. However, these products generally have relatively lower bending strength to weight ratio due to their inherent weakness under tensile loads. They are also generally porous and prone to some degree of moisture absorption. While in the case of fibre cement products, this does not lead to significant reductions in durability, with most materials there is usually a resultant decrease in the strength characteristics with prolonged and cyclic exposure to moisture. There is also usually a corresponding increase in mass, which may be relevant to the issue of transportation and installation.

The problem of low bending specific strength in building elements made of homogenous bonded materials such as fibre cement has been addressed to some degree by using various forms of added reinforcement. In some cases a reinforcing element is introduced into the main body of the building material during manufacture. However, this has generally required major modifications to the material manufacturing process which can be costly and may inhibit the flexibility of the manufacturing plant.

Other solutions have included the step of externally attaching some form of reinforcing element to the completed base product using fasteners or an adhesive. Examples of this concept as applied to fibre cement building substrates are described in WO 02/081842. However, in conventional production processes, this additional step is generally off line from the normal production line, requires a specific additional fastener/adhesive, is labour intensive and/or time consuming thereby adding substantially to the cost of the product.

It is an object of the invention to provide a reinforced building element, and a method and apparatus for the manu-

2

facture of such elements, which overcomes or substantially ameliorates one or more of the disadvantages of the prior art or at least provides a useful alternative.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

According to a first aspect of the invention, there is provided a reinforced building element including:

- a rigid substrate having a first face; and
- a layer of reinforcing material;

wherein said reinforcing material is adhered to said first face of said rigid substrate using a radiation curable resin.

The term "rigid" is used herein to refer to any kind of generally rigid and at least partially self supporting substrate and includes substrates that may have some degree of inherent flexibility due to their material and/or structure.

The term "radiation" is used herein to refer to radiation from U/V (ultra violet) to higher wavelengths.

According to a second aspect of the invention there is provided a method of manufacturing a reinforced building element including the steps of:

- (a) applying a radiation curable resin to a first face of a rigid substrate;
- (b) applying a reinforcing material to the layer of a radiation curable resin; and
- (c) curing the resin to thereby adhere said reinforcing material to the rigid substrate.

The radiation curable material may be undergo full curing in a single step in step c). Alternatively the radiation curable coating may be partially cured as an initial step prior to application of the reinforcing material. Preferably this initial partial curing achieves a "tackiness" suitable for initial holding and positioning on the reinforcing material.

In one embodiment, the radiation curable material is fully cured prior to application of the reinforcing material. In this embodiment, the curable material is formulated to develop on adhesive/gripping texture on curing and thereby adhere the reinforcing material.

The coating of radiation curable resin may be formed from one or more layers, preferably two layers, and the layer of reinforcing material is applied and embedded between these layers. In other words, in a particularly preferred embodiment, the radiation curable material is applied, optionally this layer undergoes a partial cure, the reinforcing material is applied over the first layer of radiation curable material, a second layer of such curable material applied, or indeed a different formulation, and the entire assembly subject to full curing.

The method may also include the further action of optionally applying several layers of radiation curable material with or without partial/full curing, prior to application of the reinforcing material.

In other variations, the partial/full curing of the radiation curable material may be applied in combination with mechanical keying by surface scuffing with equipment such as a fine sander or denibber. These intermediate steps can be repeated as desired to build up the layers of material prior to final curing step.

According to a third aspect, the present invention comprises a method of manufacturing a reinforced building element including the steps of:

- (a) combining a reinforcing material with a radiation curable resin, the quantity of resin being sufficient to adhere the reinforcing material to a rigid substrate;
- (b) applying the combined reinforcing material and resin to a first face of a rigid substrate; and
- (c) curing the resin to thereby adhere said reinforcing material to the rigid substrate.

According to a fourth aspect of the invention, there is provided an apparatus for manufacturing a reinforced building elements, the apparatus including:

means for supporting a rigid substrate such that a first face thereof is exposed;

first coating means for applying a first layer of radiation curable resin to said first face;

application means for applying a reinforcing material to said first layer of radiation curable resin; and

first radiation application means for curing the applied resin.

In the preferred form, the apparatus comprises an automated system for producing a reinforced building element, the system including:

means to support a rigid substrate such that a first face thereof is exposed;

an applicator for applying a first layer of radiation curable resin to said first face of the substrate;

reinforcing feed means downstream of said applicator for feeding and applying a reinforcing material to said applied first layer of radiation curable resin; and

a radiation application device for applying radiation to the applied resin, reinforcing material and substrate assembly.

Desirably the system also includes means to automatically convey the substrate downstream through the applicators/devices etc. Optionally, the mechanism may also act to support the substrate in the required orientation.

In a particularly preferred form the system further includes;

a second radiation application device located immediately downstream of the first applicator device for applying a measured dose of radiation to achieve a predetermined "tackiness" in the resin prior to the reinforcing material being applied.

The system may also include a second resin applicator downstream of the reinforcing feed means to apply a second layer of radiation curable resin on top of the reinforcing material.

In other variations, additional resin applicator devices, with or without corresponding downstream radiation application devices, may be provided upstream of the reinforcing feed means, to build up the base resin coating prior to application of the reinforcing material.

Similarly, additional resin application devices, with or without corresponding downstream radiation application devices may be provided downstream of the reinforcing feed means for implying additional building up the top sealer coatings to the element prior to final curing of the applied resin, reinforcing and substrate assembly.

Preferably the rigid substrate is a manufactured matrix material. More preferably, the material is an hydraulically or cement bound material. Most preferably the material comprises fibre reinforced cement. In one preferred embodiment, the material is cellulose fibre reinforced cement.

In the preferred form, the building element is a building sheet or panel.

In one preferred form the building element is a sheet specifically configured for use as a structural element. The structural element can be structural flooring, such as a sub-floor panel. One advantage of the fibre cement structural flooring is that it does not require a tile backerboard to adhere tiles to the structural flooring. In typical construction where it is desired to lay tile on a floor, a wood-based sub floor is first installed and then a tile backerboard is installed on top of the sub floor. The disclosed embodiments alleviate the necessity of hauling, sizing, and installing two layers of flooring prior to installing tile. In another preferred form, the building element

is a sheet specifically configured for use in wet areas, such as bathrooms, laundry rooms, or kitchen areas where contact with water is possible. In a particularly preferred form, embodiments of the fibre cement sheet composition include those disclosed in U.S. Pat. No. 6,572,697 entitled "Fibre Cement Building Materials with Low Density Additives", the full contents of which are hereby expressly incorporated herein by way of cross-reference.

In addition, the preferred fibre cement sheets may be formulated according to embodiments disclosed in U.S. Pat. No. 6,346,146 entitled "Building Products" and also according to embodiments disclosed in Australian Patent No. 515151, entitled "Fibre Reinforced Cementitious Articles" the full contents of these documents being expressly incorporated herein by way of cross-reference.

Most preferably, the reinforced building element is a structural flooring sheet for use in wet areas and is configured to include connecting means in the form of grooves formed in opposite longitudinal edges of each sheet configured either to interact with corresponding tongues formed on edges of adjacent sheets or with a complimentary elongate joining member adapted for simultaneous engagement with the respective adjacent grooves of adjoining sheets. This configuration is generally used where the joint is required to span between support framing such as floor joists.

In one particular embodiment, the planks are narrow "decking" type planks, joinable by the aforementioned tongue and groove arrangement. This clearly has a significant advantage in being able to modify fibre reinforced cementitious planks for outdoor use in decking and the like.

The layer of reinforcing material can comprise any suitable continuous strand, ribbon, rod, mesh or sheet material having a higher tensile strength and similar or higher modulus of elasticity to that of the rigid substrate, where radiation curing can pass sufficiently through and/or around the material to cure the embedding sealer sufficiently to adhere the reinforcing material to the substrate. Preferably, the reinforcing material is selected such that once adhered to the substrate via the cured sealer it provides load transfer that results in an improved strength and toughness to the substrate material by greater than 5%.

Suitable reinforcing materials include fabrics made from continuous fibres such as glass fibre, alkali resistant glass fibre or carbon fibre.

The radiation curable resin can be any radiation curable material which provide efficient adherence between the fibre reinforce cement and the reinforcement materials.

The Applicant's have in fact found that radiation curable materials conventionally used as sealers for fibre reinforced cement are surprisingly useful for this purpose. Indeed they can be provided in quite low quantity, yet still act to secure the reinforcing material to the fibre reinforced cement. Further, if such a sealer is used the fibre reinforced rigid substrate is not only sealed but simultaneously, its mechanical properties are significantly improved by addition of the reinforced material.

In another embodiment, the radiation curable resin is a pressure sensitive adhesive. This embodiment is particularly useful since in some cases the reinforcing material will be applied to the rigid substrate by a roller. Applying a radiation curable pressure sensitive adhesive to the rigid substrate allows a roller to apply the fibre reinforced material with potentially less prospect of the rollers being fouled with uncured or partially cured resin.

The radiation curable resin material is preferably applied in layers from 1 to 1000 μm with 5 to 200 μm being more preferable and 10 to 120 μm being most preferred. The curable or polymerisable components used in forming the radia-

5

tion curable materials and blends of the present invention include, but are not limited to, urethane, acrylic, epoxy and polyesters or compounds having multiple functional types such as polyester epoxies and urethane acrylics.

The curable or polymerisable components may be monomers, oligomers or polymers. The oligomers are prepared from a range of monomers with functionality including, but not limited to, isocyanate, hydroxyl, polyether, epoxy, carboxylic acid and ethylenic unsaturation. The monomers used in such a composite, include but are not limited to acrylate functionalised alcohols, diols and polyols, acrylate functional ethoxylated and/or propoxylated alcohol, diols and polyols, and acrylate functional ethylene and propylene glycols and ethylene and propylene polyglycols. Other monomers effective in preparing such composites include but are limited to derivatives of unsaturated carboxylic acids and diacids such as acrylate, methacrylate, maleate and fumarate esters, and vinylic functional materials such as vinyl ethers, and vinyl pyrrolidones. Blends or mixtures of the polymerisable components as herein described may also be used.

It is particularly preferred to use polymerisable compounds based on including ethylenically unsaturated monomers.

It is preferable that the curable resin compositions used in the present invention have high solids content. Particularly, it is preferred if the curable resin has a solids curable polymerisable component content higher than 50%, more preferably higher than 70 and even more preferable if the resin forming compositions have a curable polymerisable content of around 80-100%. As will be clear to persons skilled in the art suitable curable resins may include pigmented systems where the pigment is a non-curable component or clear resin systems which have curable components in the greater 90% range.

It is preferable to use a combination of lower molecular weight monomers and higher molecular weight oligomers in order to achieve the most desirable viscosity for application, the best cure behaviour once exposed to radiation, and the most desirable physical and mechanical properties once cured. Lower molecular weight monomers may be present in amounts ranging from 10-50% by weight, with 10-30% being more preferable, and 15-25% being most preferred. Higher molecular weight oligomers may be present in amounts ranging from 10-50% by weight, with 15-40% being more preferable, and 20-35% being most preferred.

If filler is used, it may be present in amounts ranging from 5 to 80% by weight on the basis of the whole, whereas surface treatment additives are used in amounts ranging from 0.01 to 2% by weight, with respect to the filler, and from 0.01 to 0.5% by weight, with respect to the whole of the composition.

The above mentioned polymerisable compounds can be used as such or in mixture with additives such as catalysts, photo initiators, mineral or organic fillers, anti-wetting agents, dyes, plasticisers, pigments, stabilisers, shockproofing agents, insulating agents, flame retarding agents and the like, which are added in order to improve the physical-chemical properties of the finished product.

In some embodiments the building element has one or more additional functional surfaces to the first face, and these surfaces may also be sealed or processed in some other manner which may include lamination with other materials.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Preferred embodiments in the invention will now be described, by way of example only, with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

FIG. 1 is a side view of a first embodiment of a reinforced building element in accordance with the present invention;

6

FIG. 2 is a side view of a second embodiment of a reinforced building element in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 3 is a schematic layout showing a first embodiment of an apparatus as production method in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 4 is a flow chart representing a method of manufacturing according to one embodiment;

FIG. 5 is a diagram demonstrating the configuration of a test according to one embodiment; and

FIG. 6 is an illustration of mechanical properties of material according to one embodiment.

PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION

Referring to FIG. 1, there is shown a first embodiment face sealed and reinforced building element in the form of a building sheet 1. The sheet includes a rigid substrate 2 having an upper first face 3. Applied in a first layer is a coating of radiation cured sealer 4 into which a layer of reinforcing material 5 is at least partially embedded. In the preferred form this first layer of resin 4 extends over the full area of first face 3 so as to fully seal that surface.

The building sheet 1 is manufactured by: first applying a coating of radiation curable resin to the first face 3; then applying a layer of reinforcing material 5 to the applied layer of radiation curable resin 4 such that the material is at least partially embedded therein; and then fully curing the applied sealer to adhere the material to the substrate.

As shown in FIG. 1, it is preferred that the upper surface of the reinforcing material 5 stands proud of the resin 4. Preferably the quantity of resin applied to the layer allows this to take place since it is important that rollers or other application techniques which apply the reinforcing layer to the rigid substrate are not fouled by the cured or partially cured resin 4.

In one preferred variation to this method, the applied layer of radiation curable resin 4 is first partially cured to achieve a predetermined "tackiness" in the resin so as to hold and retain the applied reinforcing material 5 prior to full curing of the resin.

A preferred second embodiment building sheet 10 is shown in FIG. 2. This embodiment is simply an enhancement of that shown in FIG. 1 and accordingly corresponding numerals have been used to denote corresponding features. As in FIG. 1, the building sheet 10 has a rigid substrate 2 with a first layer of curable resin 4 applied to the first surface 3. This can be done with or without partial curing of the resin prior to the layer of reinforcing material 5 being applied thereto. The main variation is that prior to full curing of the resin, a further second layer of curable resin 11 is applied on top of the applied reinforcing material 5.

Please note that in variations to both embodiments, multiple first layers of curable resin 4 can be applied, with or without partial curing, prior to application of the reinforcing material, to build up the base coating. Similarly, in the embodiment of FIG. 2, multiple further layers of curable resin 11 can be applied on top of the reinforcing material, again with or without partial curing, prior to final curing on the final assembly.

Of course other application methods and thicknesses can be used, such as by wetting the reinforcement material with resin prior to placing it in contact with the substrate. In this way, the reinforcing material sticks to the substrate without having a first base coat of resin applied to the substrate.

Subsequently, a layer of resin can be applied to encapsulate the resin and increase the bonding between the substrate and reinforcing material.

It should be noted that where multiple layers of resin are applied, it is generally preferred to at least partially cure or mechanically key an underlying layer of resin prior to a further layer being applied, as this helps both the interlayer bonding and, the application process.

This technique of several layers is useful for increasing film build and overcoming coverage problems or minimising defects in the underlying coats.

Referring next to FIG. 3, there is shown a schematic layout of an automated manufacturing apparatus 20 specifically configured for producing the preferred building sheet of FIG. 2.

The apparatus 20 includes a simple belt or roller conveyor 21 which serves to support the rigid substrate sheet 2 such that its upper first face 3 is exposed and transfer the substrate in a downstream direction through the manufacturing apparatus. The conveyor 21 has a first end at a loading station 22 which is the location at which the prepared substrate sheets 2 are applied to the conveyor 21.

Immediately downstream of the loading station 22 is a first roller coating apparatus 23 for applying a first layer of radiation (preferably UV) curable resin e.g. sealer that has adjacent thereto a first radiation (preferably UV) application device 24 for optionally partially curing the sealer applied at 23.

After the radiation application device 24 a reinforcing material application device is provided as shown generally at 25. This device includes a feed attachment 26 for storing, tensioning and feeding a flexible layer of reinforcing material 5 and an application mechanism 27 which is adjustable to further control tension in the material and/or to apply pressure to push the reinforcing material onto the uncured or partially cured sealer coated substrate passing therebelow.

Downstream of the reinforcing material application device 25 is a second roller coating device or laminating device 28 for applying a second layer of radiation curable sealer on top of the applied reinforcing material 5. At the exit of this second roller coating device is one or more second radiation application devices for curing the applied radiation curable sealer.

In variations to this apparatus, the section marked X, comprising the first roller coating device 23 and first radiation application device 24, may be replicated at least once prior to the reinforcing material application device at 25. In this manner, it is possible, to build up the layer of sealer before the reinforcing material is applied. Similarly, the section Y comprising the second roller coating device and second radiation application device or devices can also be replicated to build up the sealer applied on top of the reinforcing material. Such additional units would preferably be located at position Z.

In the preferred form a clear UV curable sealer is used.

This method and some limited representative variations is summarised schematically in FIG. 4 and in the following notes.

Step 210:

In this step, a UV curable clear resin or sealer (such as that described in the example that follows) is applied onto the surface via a roller coater ensuring full coverage of the panel
Step 220: [Optional]

In this step, the panel is then passed through mercury lamps at a reduced UV dosage & intensity to partially cure the UV clear resin
Step 230: [Optional]

In this step, the UV clear resin is reapplied onto the panel with no UV curing

Step 240:

In this step, the glass fibre mesh is layed down onto the wet or partially/gel cured resin which can be patted down or left sitting on the surface

Step 250:

In this step, the panels with the glass fibre mesh passes under the roller coater where the mesh is pushed down to follow the contours of the surface & another layer of resin is applied to bind down & encapsulate the glass fibre mesh.

Step 260:

In this step, the panel passes under the UV light (at higher UV dosage & intensity) to fully cure the coating.

Further optional steps can be inserted between steps 250 and 260 to apply further coatings of UV resin which can optionally be gel cured prior to application of further coats before the final cure at step 260.

EXAMPLE

Tests were conducted on a range of samples of fibre reinforced cement flooring panels modified in accordance with the preferred form of the invention. In each case the sample was tested against the unreinforced base product.

The materials specifications and processing details for the samples made according to the invention are set out below:

Materials	
Board Type	James Hardie™ 19 mm AquaTec™ wet area flooring
UV Sealer	UV acrylate sealer ex Akzo Nobel (860301)
Mesh Type	CAP80-20*20

Further details of the mesh are provided under the section heading Reinforcing Materials hereafter.

The flooring board panel is a medium density (approx 0.95 g/cc) cellulose fibre reinforced cement board, which for the purposes of these tests were unsealed. The control board is identified as "no mesh" in the results table. This control board has neither the radiation curable resin or mesh applied.

The board treated in accordance with the present invention is preferably sanded prior to application of the reinforcing material and radiation curable resin. Hence the apparent inconsistencies in the thickness between the control board and the treated board in the results table below.

Processing	Parameters	Description			
1 1 st application of UV resin on board	Roller Coater Type	Sorbini T/20-M Direct Roll Coater			
	Roller Hardness	25 Duro			
	Roller Coater Speed	30 m/min			
	1 st Coat Film Build	50-60 g/m ²			
2 Gel Cure	Lamp Type	Nordson MPS-610V CW610 Lamphead			
	UV Line Speed	10 m/min			
		UVA	UVB	UVC	UVV
	Lamp Dose 1 (J/cm ²)	0.017	0.013	0.002	0.011
3 Mesh placement	CAP80-20*20 mesh	laid onto gel cured resin coated board then feed into the roll coater			
4 2 nd application of UV resin on board	Roller Coater Type	Sorbini T/20-M Direct Roll Coater			
	Roller Hardness	25 Duro			
	Roller Coater Speed	30 m/min			
	2 nd Coat Film Build	50-60 g/m ²			

-continued

Processing	Parameters	Description			
5 Full Cure	Lamp Type	Nordson MPS-610V CW610			
	UV Line Speed	Lamphead			
		10 m/min (x3 passes)			
	Lamp Dose 2 (J/cm ²)	0.403	0.310	0.056	0.291

The samples of the invention were tested against the control samples under the following three conditions:

Testing Conditions	
Cut Direction	Long dimension of specimen parallel with sheet long dimension
Equilibrium (EQ)	Equilibrium room for 72 hours
Oven Dried (OD)	Oven dried at 60 C. for 48 hours
Saturated (SAT)	Vacuum Saturated for 24 hours at -100 kPa

The 3 point flexural test was used to determine the bending strength of the materials manufactured according to the methods disclosed herein. The diagram in FIG. 5 demonstrates the configuration of the test.

Samples are tested in different conditions to give the range of properties across fully saturated to fully dry. Samples taken from the examples given were tested in one or several of the conditions being saturated, equilibrium or oven dry. Saturated Condition (SAT)

Specimens are fully immersed in water and vacuum saturated at -100 KPa for a minimum of 24 hrs in standard laboratory conditions.

Equilibrium Condition (EQ)

Specimens are conditioned in a controlled atmosphere to 23±2° C. and 50±10% humidity for 3 days minimum.

Oven Dry (OD)

Samples were conditioned in an oven set to 60±2° C. for 48 hrs minimum.

Samples are tested on a MTS Q-Test Universal Testing Machine. Specimen weight, thickness, length and width are measured before testing. The span used for testing the nominal 19 mm thick material was 360 mm. Load(N) and deflection(mm) were measured during the test until break occurred. The following calculations were used to determine the mechanical properties of the material.

The data from the test was then processed to derive various mechanical properties as described below and in FIG. 6:

Break Load, Fu, is the maximum load sustained by the specimen.

Break Deflection, Du, is the deflection, corrected to zero, at which the final maximum load, Fu, was recorded (i.e. The deflection at which the break load is recorded)

Linearization Points are the points on the load deflection curve used to calculate zero deflection. Loads for the 1st and 2nd linearization are 40% and 60%, respectively, of the Break Load.

Zero Deflection (0) is defined by the Linearization Points from which an extrapolation is extended to zero load to determine the corresponding zero deflection.

Offset Base, D₄₀, is the deflection corresponding to the base load of 40% the Break Load.

Offset is the displacement of a line drawn parallel to the line through the linearization points to calculate the proof load. The offset is given as a percentage of the offset base and is 10% of D₄₀.

Proof Load, Fp, is equal to or above the intersection of the load deflection curve and a line drawn parallel to the linearization points but displaced by the offset deflection. The proof load may be very close to the break load in very brittle materials.

Proof Deflection, Dp, is the deflection corresponding to the proof load, Fp.

Span, S, is the distance between the centre of the supports.

Thickness, t, is the average thickness measured at 4 points spaced out evenly around the specimen.

Width, w, is the average width measured at each end of the specimen.

Mechanical Property Calculations

Modulus of Rupture (MOR) is the maximum flexural stress supported by the specimen, and can be determined according to the following formula:

$$MOR(MPa) = \frac{3FuS}{2t^2w}$$

Energy B is an estimate of the specific total energy absorbed by the specimen before breaking load. The specific total energy is proportional to the area of region B shown on the load/deflection curve. This value is obtained by integration of the area B divided by specimen volume within the test span. (kJ/m³)

Strain Ultimate is the strain at breaking load and can be calculated by the following formula:

$$\text{Strain Ultimate (um/m)} = \frac{6Dut}{S^2}$$

The results are set out in the table below:

Sample	Test Condition	Test Span mm	Strain Rate Ult Microns/mm	Thickness mm	Width mm	Length mm	Mass g	Density g/cm ³	Break		M.O.R. MPa	Strain Ult. Micro mm/mm	Energy B Joule/m ³
									Load N	Defn mm			
No mesh	EQ	360	960	19.2	127.3	397	964	0.99	1258	6.9	14.5	6146	6.9
Mesh CAP80	EQ	360	975	19.5	127.3	398	970	0.98	1786	12.7	19.9	11503	18.6
No mesh	SAT	360	1003	19.2	129.0	400	1493	1.51	810	13.0	9.2	11556	10.2
Mesh CAP80	SAT	360	976	19.1	129.0	400	1469	1.50	1118	13.9	12.9	12304	12.5

-continued

Sample	Test Condition	Test Span mm	Strain Rate Ult Microns/	Thickness mm	Width mm	Length mm	Mass g	Density g/cm ³	Break Load N	Break Defl mm	M.O.R. MPa	Strain Ult. Micro mm/mm	Energy B Joule/m ³
No mesh	OD	360	1172	18.9	130.0	400	900	0.92	1203	3.2	14.0	2788	2.4
Mesh CAP80	OD	360	943	18.9	130.0	400	922	0.94	1532	7.1	17.8	6207	7.9

As can be seen, the sealed reinforced product has significantly improved performance in all measured properties. It can be seen in virtually all areas namely Break Load, Break, Deflection, Modulus of Rupture, Strain Ultimate and Energy B the board treated in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the present invention has significantly improved properties as compared with the control board.

Material Variations

Substrate

The rigid substrate material is preferably a moisture stable sheet material such as cellulose fibre reinforced cement of a density range from 0.80 g/cc to 1.5 g/cc. Typical materials are James Hardie™ Fibre cement internal linings, external claddings and sheet flooring. When the invention is used as a reinforced sheet structural flooring material, it is preferable to use ≥ 15 mm thick, nailable lower density fiber cement which is lighter weight, more workable and more nailable using conventional pneumatic and power nailing equipment than conventional compressed fibre cement products (approx. 1.6 g/cc dry density).

Preferably, the sheets must be strong enough to meet loading requirements for domestic construction flooring on supporting members spaced at 450 mm and 600 mm centres as specified, for example, in AS/NZS 1170.1:2002.

In line with the United States requirements, the supporting members need to be spaced out 16 inches, 19.2 inches and 24 inch centers in the US as specified in ASTM E330 and E661.

The preferred fibre cement sheets may be formulated according to embodiments disclosed in U.S. Pat. No. 6,346,146 entitled "Building Products" and also according to embodiments disclosed in Australian Patent No. 515151, entitled "Fibre Reinforced Cementitious Articles" the full contents of these documents expressly incorporated herein by way of cross-reference. Most preferably, when used for structural flooring, the sheet is configured to include connecting means such as in the form of grooves formed in opposite longitudinal edges of each sheet configured either to interact with corresponding tongues formed on edges of adjacent sheets or with a complimentary elongate joining member adapted for simultaneous engagement with the respective adjacent grooves of adjoining sheets.

In general terms it is preferable for the face of the substrate to which the sealer and reinforcing is to be applied to be relatively flat. However, where this is not possible, use of a sufficiently flexible reinforcing material, along with a deformable or contoured applicating device should assist in ensuring bonding to the contoured surface.

Reinforcing Material

The reinforcing material is any continuous strand, ribbon, rod or sheet material of significantly higher strength and similar or higher modulus of elasticity to that of the substrate material where radiation curing can pass sufficiently through and/or around the material to cure the embedding resin sufficiently to adhere the reinforcing material to the sheet flooring and preferably also provide load transfer that results in an

improved strength and toughness material by greater than 5%. Examples of reinforcing material are continuous fibres such as glass fibre, alkali resistant glass fibre or carbon fibre.

The reinforcing material may be coated or uncoated. In some embodiments the reinforcing material may include a coating which is compatible with the radiation curable material to assist in adherence.

The supplier of the glass fibre used in the example described above is: —

A Jiangsu Jiuding New Material Co., Ltd., No. 219 East Yuejin Road, Rugao City Jiangsu Province China. The glass fibres used were from this supplier were uncoated and coated fiberglass mesh CAP60-20*10 or polymer coated fiberglass mesh CAP80-20*20. The technical properties of this glass are listed below.

		Supplier Item Number	
		CAP60-20*10	CAP80-20*20
Weave:		Plain	Plain
Material (Tex):	Warp	22*1*2	22*1*2
	Weft	44	44
Density (counts per inch):	Warp	20	20
	Weft	10	20
Unit Weight (g/m ²)	Raw	54 $\pm$ 5	69 $\pm$ 5
	Finished	60 $\pm$ 5	80 $\pm$ 5
	Product		
Content of Resin:		$\geq 12\%$	$\geq 14\%$
Tensile Strength (N/50 mm):	Warp	≥ 650	≥ 1130
	Weft	≥ 650	≥ 1130
Tensile strength after 28 days	Warp	$\geq 60\%$ of original	$\geq 60\%$ of original
	Weft	$\geq 60\%$ of original	$\geq 60\%$ of original
conditioning in 5% NaOH:			

The uncoated mesh was found to be more pliant and better able to follow irregularities in the base sheet.

Radiation Curable Material

The radiation curable material, resin or sealer is applied in layers which may be from 1 to 1000 μ m thick, with 5 to 200 μ m being more preferable and 10 to 120 μ m being most preferred. The curable or polymerisable components used in forming the radiation curable materials and blends of the present invention include, but are not limited to, urethane, acrylic, epoxy and polyesters or compounds having multiple functional types such as polyester epoxies and urethane acrylics.

The curable or polymerisable components may be monomers, oligomers or polymers. The oligomers are prepared from a range of monomers with functionality including, but not limited to, isocyanate, hydroxyl, polyether, epoxy, carboxylic acid and ethylenic unsaturation. The monomers used in such a composite, include but are not limited to acrylate functionalized alcohols, diols and polyols, acrylate functional ethoxylated and/or propoxylated alcohol, diols and polyols, and acrylate functional ethylene and propylene glycols and ethylene and propylene polyglycols. Other mono-

mers effective in preparing such composites include but are limited to derivatives of unsaturated carboxylic acids and diacids such as acrylate, methacrylate, maleate and fumarate esters, and vinylic functional materials such as vinyl ethers, and vinyl pyrolidones. Blends or mixtures of the polymerisable components as herein described may also be used.

It is particularly preferred to use polymerisable compounds based on including ethylenically unsaturated monomers.

It is preferable that the curable resin compositions used in the present invention have high solids content. Particularly, it is preferred that the curable resin has a solids content higher than 50%, more preferably higher than 70% and even more preferable if the resin forming compositions have a solids content of around 80-100%.

It is preferable to use a combination of lower molecular weight monomers and higher molecular weight oligomers in order to achieve the most desirable viscosity for application, the best cure behaviour once exposed to radiation, and the most desirable physical and mechanical properties once cured. Lower molecular weight monomers may be present in amounts ranging from 10-50% by weight, with 10-30% being more preferable, and 15-25% being most preferred. Higher molecular weight oligomers may be present in amounts ranging from 10-50% by weight, with 15-40% being more preferable, and 20-35% being most preferred.

If inorganic filler is used, it may be present in amounts ranging from 5 to 80% by weight on the basis of the whole, whereas surface treatment additives are preferably used in amounts ranging from 0.01 to 2% by weight, with respect to the filler, and from 0.01 to 0.5% by weight, with respect to the whole of the composition.

The above mentioned polymerisable compounds can be used as such or in mixture with additives such as catalysts, photo initiators, mineral or organic fillers, anti-wetting agents, dyes, plasticizers, pigments, stabilizers, shockproofing agents, insulating agents, flame retarding agents and the like, which are added in order to improve the physical-chemical properties of the finished product.

Examples of radiation curable material/resin/sealer:

1. A commercially available radiation curable resin such as U/V sealer: Akzo Nobel Clear Sealer R60301-001
2. A specifically formulated UV sealer such as that described in the table below:

UV Sealer Composition	% w/w	Description	Supplier	Supplier Location
Tripropylene Glycol Diacrylate (TPGDA)	20	SR306	Sartomer	Hong Kong, China
Bisphenol A Based Epoxy Acrylate	29	CN120	Sartomer	Hong Kong, China
Anti-Settling Additive	0.40%	Byk 410	Byk-Chemie	Wesel, Germany
2-Hydroxy-2-Methyl-1-Phenylpropan-1-one	1.80%	Darocur 1173	Ciba	NSW, Australia
2,4,6-Trimethylbenzoyl-Diphenyl-Phosphineoxide	1.50%	Lucirin TPO	BASF	Victoria, Australia
Calcium Carbonate	46.8%	Omyacarb 20	Omya	NSW, Australia
Defoamer	0.50%	Byk077	Byk-Chemie	Wesel, Germany

Different techniques can be used for the preparation of the composite sheets. For example, a radiation curable compound may be flood coated, roller or brush coated or spray coated onto fibre cement.

To cure a UV curable form of the resin at a film build of 40-50 gsm a UV-A dose of at least 0.15 J/cm² is required for full cure and a UV-A intensity >1 W/cm². At 60 m/minute this equates to 3 medium pressure mercury lamps running at a power input of 450 W/inch.

The preferred forms of resin/sealer are curable by V, infra-red, or near infra-red.

In one example of the invention formation process, a fibre cement board is coated with a radiation curable material and a glass fibre mesh is immediately placed on top, this can then be cured with a suitable radiation source such as UV.

In another example the fibre cement board is coated with a radiation curable material which is partially radiation cured with just enough dose to create a tacky surface. A glass fibre mesh is applied to the tacky surface and a subsequent layer of radiation curable material is applied over the glass fibre mesh, and fully cured with a suitable radiation source.

In another embodiment the radiation curable material is a pressure sensitive adhesive. Such pressure sensitive adhesives which are radiation curable are known but have not been used for the purpose described. Suitable formulations include:

- a hydrogenated polybutadiene liquid oligomer (100 pts by wt) which has one or more ethylenically unsaturated terminal radicals, and a chain transfer agent (0-20 pts by wt).
- an oligomer having one or more acrylic double bonds in its molecule (100 pts by wt), a chain transfer agent (0-20 pts by wt) and an aliphatic polar monomer having a carboxyl group (0-30 pts by wt).
- poly (vinyl alkyl ether) oligomer, a liquid monoacrylate monomer and photoinitiator.
- polystyrenic block copolymers;
- epoxyfunctional liquid rubbers

METHOD OF MANUFACTURE

While the methods and apparatus detailed herein are ideally suited to achieving simultaneous sealing and reinforcing of the substrate, it will be appreciated that in the broadest form sealing of the substrate need not be achieved. Accordingly, the invention in at least one aspect is intended to include all methods by which a reinforcing material is adhered to a rigid substrate using a radiation curable resin. For example, rather than applying a full sealing coating of the resin to the substrate, a pattern of resin may be applied sufficient only to bond the reinforcing material to the substrate. Alternatively, the resin may be applied to the reinforcing material by methods such as dipping, rolling or spraying, prior to the reinforcing material being brought into bonding contact with the board. Such methods may include the steps of applying multiple layers of resin, with or without intermediate partial cure or gel cure steps along the lines outlined herein.

ADVANTAGES OF INVENTION

The invention in one of its broadest forms provides a simple but effective method of providing a building element with enhanced strength characteristics achieved by adhering a reinforcing material to a rigid substrate using a radiation curable resin. The use of a radiation curable resin as the adhesive makes the manufacturing process easy to automate as a continuous process and is readily adapted for most substrates and particularly suited for use with the preferred substrate fibre reinforced cement.

15

Similar advantages are obtained with that form of the invention that uses a meltable and resettable polymer solely to adhere the reinforcing material to the rigid substrate.

The invention in its preferred forms provides a very simple cost and time effective means of both sealing and simultaneously reinforcing building materials so as to improve their water resistance and strength characteristics.

This can result on the one hand, in products of only slightly increased thickness having substantially improved strength characteristics, which increases their potential range of applications, in that the products are potentially less brittle, easier to handle and more durable in terms of improved weather resistance and impact resistance.

Alternatively, the invention can be used to provide products having at least equivalent or potentially better strength characteristics to existing products, but in a form that is lighter in weight and easier to transport and handle.

The invention has particular advantages when applied to the specific field of structural flooring for use in wet area flooring and external decking. In this regard, fibre cement materials are potentially suited to such applications in terms of their durability and resistance to rot but the brittle nature of fibre cement and its reduced load bearing capabilities when wet, does in many ways limit its applications. However, as can be seen from the example above, modification of these basic flooring substrates in accordance with the invention, dramatically improves the strength characteristics of these boards. This also facilitates extended use of fibre cement products in decking applications where there may be some current resistance due to the brittleness of the base product. By having an integral reinforcing material, the product will be less prone to brittle type failure, but where this does occur the reinforcing may act to retain the fragments of the substrate in a similar manner to laminated glass products.

As mentioned above the building element of the present invention is particularly suitable for structural flooring as it does not require a tile backerboard to adhere to the structural flooring. Similarly, the element is suitable for external decking due to the inventive synergistic combination of moisture resistance and increased structural integrity.

The invention also allows more conventional fibre cement products to be readily adapted for use in impact resistant walling applications such as is required in hospitals and schools.

Another advantage of the invention is that the applied reinforcing helps to resist edge break out when nailing the perimeter of a building sheet, or when the fastened sheet is exposed to shear or racking forcing when fastened to framing.

It should be mentioned, that while the invention was developed primarily for use with fibre cement substrate materials, it can clearly be seen that it will have useful application with a variety of other base materials including manufactured wood, plywood etc.

Similarly, while the invention has been described in relation to the preferred application to building sheets and building panels, the invention can be applied to non-planar building elements made from similar materials such as trim components and the like, the reinforcing elements serving to increase bending strength and thereby improve handle-ability etc.

Although the invention has been described with reference to specific examples it will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that the invention may be embodied in many other forms.

16

The invention claimed is:

1. A reinforced building element including:

a rigid cementitious substrate having a first face, wherein said cementitious substrate has a density range from 0.8 g/cc to 1.5 g/cc;

a layer of ultraviolet (UV) radiation curable resin, said UV radiation curable resin is formed on the first face of the rigid cementitious substrate, said UV radiation curable resin comprising about 10 to 50% by weight of lower molecular weight monomers and about 10 to 50% by weight higher molecular weight oligomers; and

a layer of reinforcing material having an upper surface, wherein said reinforcing material is adhered to said first face of said rigid substrate by the UV radiation curable resin which is disposed between the reinforcing material and the first face of the rigid substrate, wherein the reinforcing material is partially embedded in the layer of UV radiation curable resin in a manner such that the upper surface of the reinforcing material stands proud of the radiation curable resin, said reinforcing material having substantially the same or higher modulus of elasticity to that of the cementitious substrate such that UV radiation curing can pass sufficiently through or around the reinforcing material to cure the resin embedded therein sufficiently to adhere the reinforcing material to the cementitious substrate.

2. The reinforced building element of claim 1, wherein the rigid substrate is constructed from fibre reinforced cement.

3. The reinforced building element of claim 1, wherein the rigid substrate is a cellulose fibre reinforced cementitious article.

4. The reinforced building of claim 1, wherein the radiation curable resin covers the entire first face of the rigid substrate.

5. The reinforced building element of claim 1, wherein the radiation curable resin is provided over a portion of the first face to give sufficient adherent contact with the reinforcing material.

6. The reinforced building element of claim 1, wherein the reinforced building element comprises a further coating to cover the reinforcing material.

7. The reinforced building element of claim 1, wherein the reinforcing material is selected from the group consisting of continuous strand, ribbon, rod, mesh material, sheet material and combinations thereof.

8. The reinforced building element of claim 1, wherein the reinforcing material comprises continuous organic or inorganic fibres.

9. The reinforced building element of claim 1, wherein the reinforced building element includes an arrangement at least along its edges adapted to interlock with adjacent reinforced building elements and thereby form a panel or floor.

10. The reinforced building element of claim 1, wherein a layer of reinforcing material is provided and adhered to both the first face and a second face of the rigid substrate.

11. The reinforced building element of claim 1, wherein the radiation curable resin is a sealer.

12. The reinforced building element of claim 1, wherein the reinforced building element comprises one or more layers of radiation curable material above and below said reinforcing material.

13. A method of manufacturing a reinforced building element including the steps of:

applying an ultraviolet (UV) radiation curable resin to a first face of a rigid cementitious substrate, said UV radiation curable resin having a high solids content and a thickness of between 1-1000 micrometers;

17

applying a reinforcing material to the UV radiation curable resin after the UV radiation curable resin is formed on the first surface of the rigid substrate in a manner such that the UV radiation curable resin is disposed between the reinforcing material and the first surface of the rigid substrate and the reinforcing material is partially embedded in the UV radiation curable resin such that an upper surface of the reinforcing material stands proud of the UV radiation curable resin;

curing the UV radiation curable resin to thereby adhere said reinforcing material to the rigid substrate; and wherein the steps are performed in a continuous automated process.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein the rigid substrate is constructed from fibre reinforced cement.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein the rigid substrate is a cellulose fibre reinforced cementitious article.

16. The method of claim 13, wherein the radiation curable resin is provided in a quantity sufficient to at least partially embed the reinforcing material therein.

17. The method of claim 13, wherein the radiation curable resin covers the entire first face of the rigid substrate.

18. The method of claim 13, wherein in the radiation curable resin is provided over a portion of the first face, said portion being sufficient to provide adherent contact with the reinforcing materials.

19. The method of claim 13, wherein prior to applying the reinforcing material, the radiation curable resin is at least partially cured.

20. The method of claim 13, wherein prior to applying the reinforcing material, the radiation curable resin is at least partially cured to achieve a predetermined tackiness in the resin.

21. The method of claim 13, wherein the radiation curable resin is fully cured prior to addition of the reinforced material.

22. The method of claim 13 further comprising applying one or more further coatings of radiation curable material to cover the reinforcing material.

18

23. The method of claim 13, wherein the radiation curable resin is applied as a series of coatings with or without partial curing there between each coating.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein the one or more further coatings of radiation curable resin are fully or partially cured in combination with mechanical keying with surface scuffing prior to application of another resin coat.

25. The method of claim 23, wherein the steps of applying are to both faces of the rigid substrate such that a layer of reinforcing material is provided and adhered to both the first face and a second face of the rigid substrate.

26. The method of claim 13, wherein the radiation curable resin is a sealer.

27. A method of manufacturing a reinforced building element including the steps of:

combining a reinforcing material with an ultraviolet (UV) radiation curable resin, the quantity of resin being sufficient to adhere the reinforcing material to a rigid cured cementitious substrate;

applying the combined reinforcing material and resin to a first face of the rigid cured substrate in a manner such that an upper surface of the reinforcing material stands proud of the UV radiation curable resin and the resin is disposed between the reinforcing material and the first face of the rigid cured substrate;

curing the resin to thereby adhere said reinforcing material to the rigid cured substrate; and

applying an outer layer of UV radiation curable resin to the reinforcing material, said outer layer of UV radiation curable resin encapsulate the upper surface of the UV radiation curable resin combined with the reinforcing material.

28. The method of claim 27, wherein the rigid substrate is constructed from fibre reinforced cement.

29. The method of claim 27, wherein the rigid substrate is a cellulose fibre reinforced cementitious article.

* * * * *