the parts of E18 which refer to E1 and to the opposed patent are therefore admitted into the procedure (Rule 116 (1) (EPC). This concerns slides 2-5 and 9-13. The question of admissibility of slides 6-8 was not addressed.

3.1.2 Late-filed novelty attack based on E9 (late-filed fact).

The opponent had contested novelty based on E9. He argued that this attack was only made during oral proceedings for the first time, because he was assigned to take care of this opposition-case at a very late stage.

The proprietor requested not to admit this attack into the procedure.

The opposition-division does not admit the late filed novelty-objection based on E9 into the proceedings (Rule 116(1) EPC). Prima facie, the opposition-division cannot identify an "edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet". Figure 5 of E9, see below, only shows a rounded continuous structure which connects side wall (3) to top sheet (33). Therefore already feature (ii) of claim 1 is not disclosed in E9, which is therefore prima facie not relevant for assessing novelty.

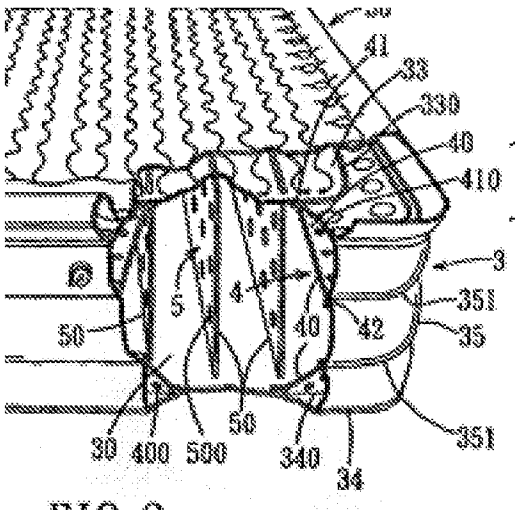


FIG. 2

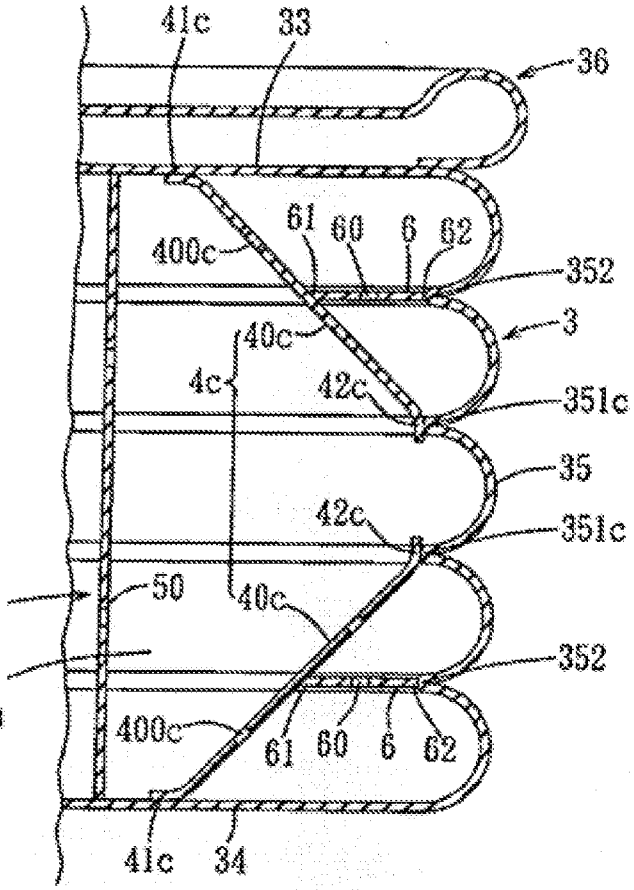


FIG. 5

3.1.3 Late-filed document E16

The opponent requested to admit E16, since it was prima facie relevant in relation to novelty of claim 1. The document E16 was further filed two days before the oral proceedings, on 12-1-2021. This should be considered as not very late filing.

The proprietor requested not to admit E16 into the procedure.

The opposition-division does not admit E16 into the proceedings (Rule 116(1) EPC). The opposition-division considers that the filing of E16 only two days before the oral proceedings is still considered as very late. During filing it was further not indicated that this document was considered as being relevant for novelty. This makes it difficult for the other party to prepare a reply to the attack. The opposition-division is further of the opinion that E16 does not disclose "at least two outside edges" (features (ix) and (xi) of claim 1) of the second and third tensioning structure. The opponent had indicated (190) of Fig. 9 in E16 as outside edge, arguing that there was an edge (190) on the long side and on the short side (see figure below), making it "at least two". The opposition-division already did not follow such an interpretation for E1. For E16 a new assessment prima facie does not appear to lead to any other outcome.

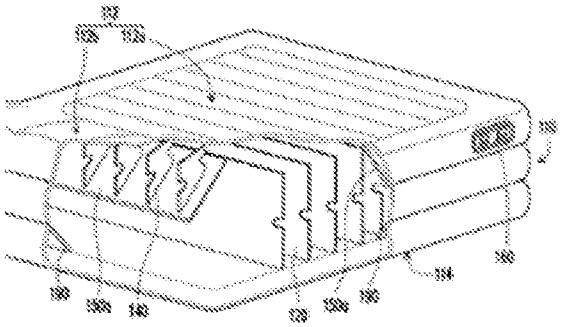


FIG. 9

3.1.4 Model

During oral proceedings, the opponent requested to file a model during the oral proceedings in order clarify the disclosure of E1, figure 2. As reason for the late filing of this request the opponent mentioned that he was assigned to this opposition only at a late stage.

The opposition-division does not admit the model into the proceedings (Rule 116 (1) (EPC)). A studying of a model is considered as not being helpful for the interpretation of E1, since the ambiguities in the disclosure of E1 would still persist. The opposition-division is further of the opinion that the opponent has made himself perfectly clear

about his interpretation of the disclosure of E1, especially by filing E18. Lastly it is to be considered as putting the proprietor in a difficult position, since they have not had the chance to prepare a reaction to the presentation of this model.

3.1.5 Late-filed attack in relation to inventive step based on E1+E9 (late-filed fact)

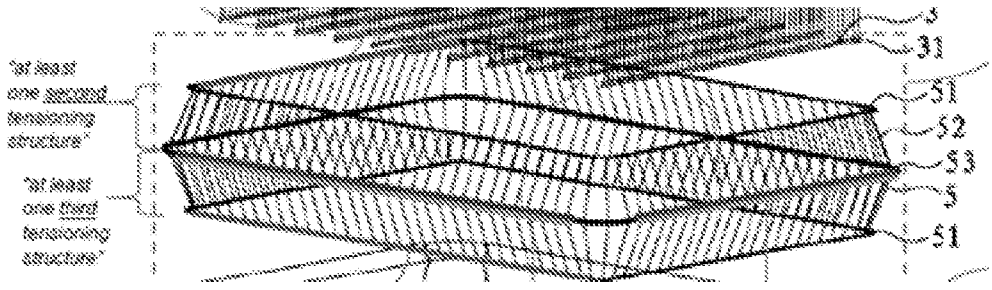
The proprietor argued that the combination of E1 with E9 was never mentioned before and therefore surprising. This late filed fact should not be admitted into the procedure.

The opposition-division does not follow this reasoning. E1 was already discussed in detail in the written procedure with respect to novelty. It must be expected by the proprietor that starting from E1 the opponent would argue that other documents - already present in the proceedings - would clarify the disclosure of E1. The late-filed objection in relation to inventive step based on E1+E9 is therefore admissible (Rule 116(1) EPC).

3.2. Novelty (Article 54 EPC)

3.2.1 The opponent argued that E1 could be read in three different ways, which would all disclose the features of claim 1. E1 first interpretation:

The opponent argued that plastic strip (53) shown in Figure 2 of E1 implicitly has an upper edge and a lower edge (as indicated in E18), since every three-dimensional body a has outer boundaries, which are to be considered as edges. The upper edge of (53) together with the upper cables (52) and upper strip (51) would form the second tensioning structure. The lower edge of (51) together with the lower cables (52) and lower strip (51) would form the third tensioning structure. This interpretation is shown in the figure below which is taken from E18, second slide.

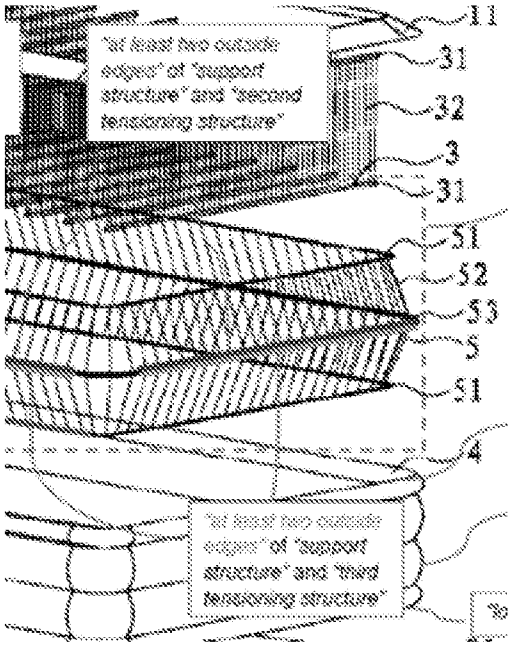


The opponent further argued that the plastic strip (53) had a rectangular shape and that each side of this rectangle represents and edge of the tensioning structure. This interpretation is shown in the figure below, which is taken from E18, second slide. Therefore E1 discloses (feature ix):

- "at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent"

And E1 further discloses (feature xi):

- "at least two outside edges of said third tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent"



The opposition-division cannot follow this interpretation of E1.

The opposition-division considers it as unreasonable to split the plastic strip (53) into an upper edge and a lower edge as foreseen by the opponent. The geometry of plastic strip (53) is not recognizable in E1. Therefore strip (53) could have a circular cross-section for which the opposition-division considers that a circular geometry has no edge at all. Therefore assigning the upper part of strip (53) to the second tensioning structure and the assigning lower part of strip (53) to the third tensioning structure (as argued by the opponent) appears to be a reading purely for artificially creating two edges, which in E1 are not disclosed. Reading two edges into a geometry which is not visible would not fall within the normal understanding of the word "edge" by the person skilled in the art.

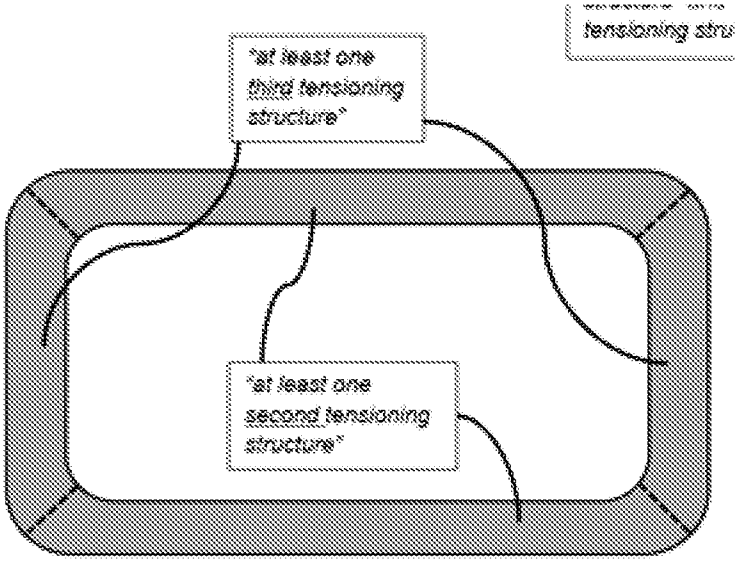
The opposition-division considers it as unreasonable to interpret two sides of the plastic strip (53) as two separate outside edges, as required by features (ix) and (xi) of claim 1. The opposition-division is of the opinion that strip (53) is one single strip going

completely around a circumference. Whereas the plastic strip therefore might have four "sides" it seems unreasonable to says that it has "at least two outside edges". Edges are neither mentioned in the description, nor appearing in the drawings, nor are considered to be implicit.

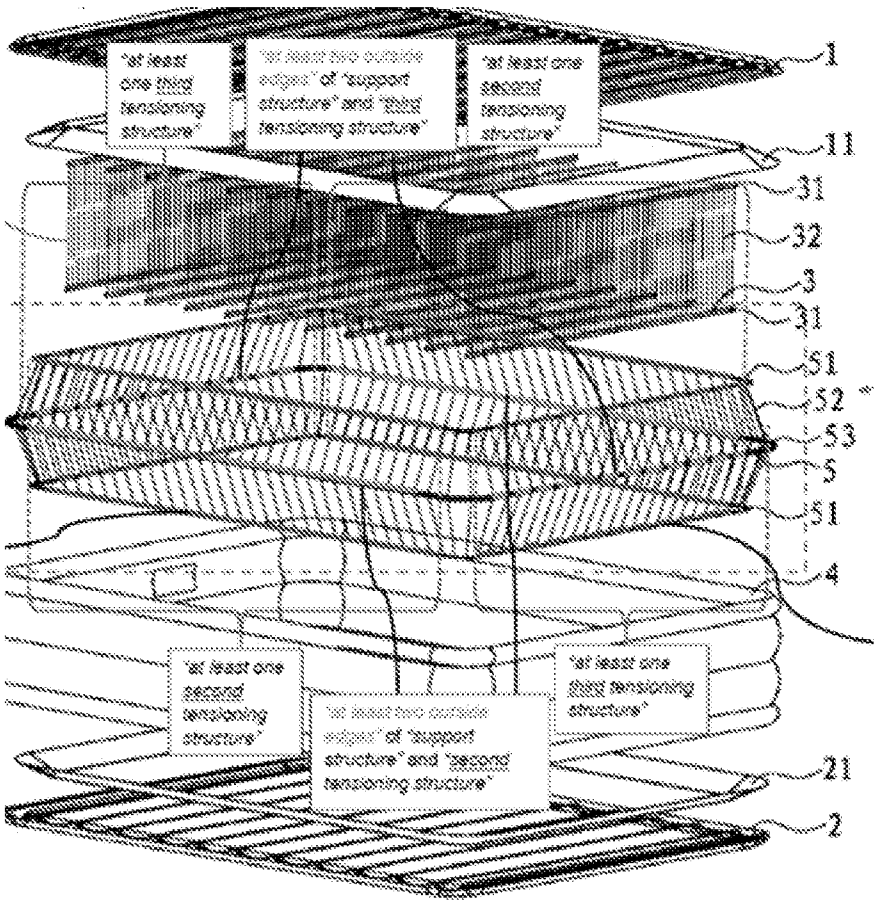
The opposition-division therefore considers that E1 does not disclose features (ix) and (xi) of claim 1.

3.2.2 E1 - second interpretation:

The opponent argued that the two long sides of element (5) could be read as second tensioning element and the two short sides as third tensioning element, as shown in the figure below from slide 3 of E18.



The opponent argued further that the outer side of plastic strip (53) could be read as "outside edges". Since two short sides and two long sides were present, this would lead to two outside edges of the second tensioning structure and two outside edges of the third tensioning structure, as shown in the figure below from slide 3 of E18.



The opposition-division cannot follow this reasoning. The opposition-division considers it as unreasonable to interpret two sides of the plastic strip (53) as two separate outside edges, as required by features (ix) and (xi) of claim 1. The opposition-division is of the opinion that strip (53) is one single strip going completely around a circumference. Whereas the plastic strip therefore might have four "sides" it seems unreasonable to says that it has "at least two outside edges". Edges are neither mentioned in the description, nor appearing in the drawings, nor are considered to be implicit.

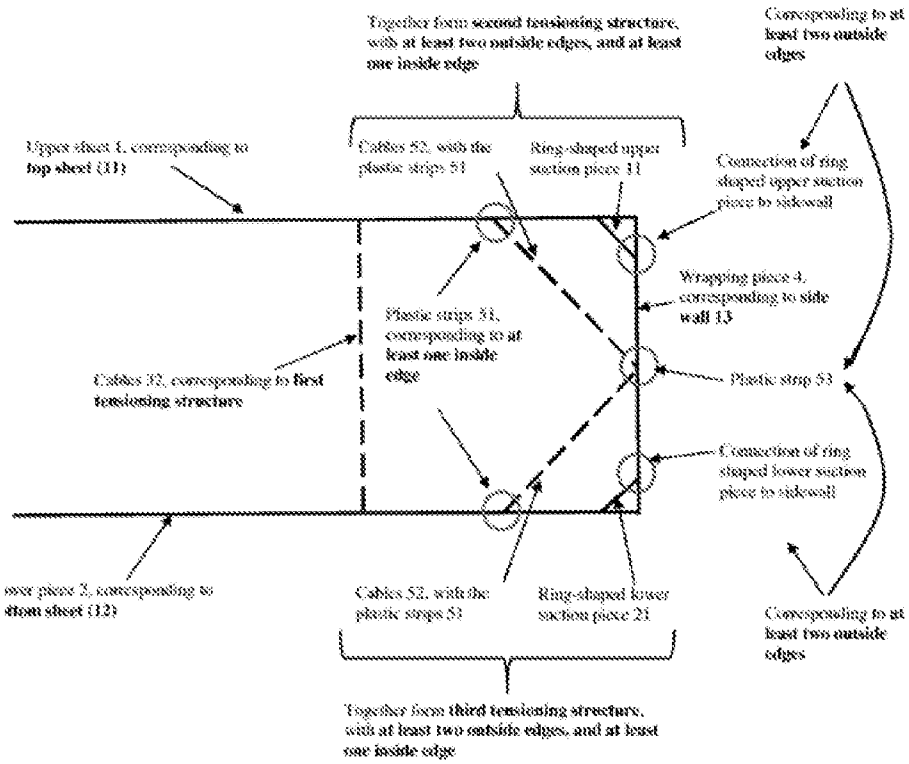
The opposition-division is further of the opinion that two opposite sides long sides of the wrapping belt (5) would not be considered as one tensioning structure by the person skilled in the art, since this structure is interrupted by the short sides. Therefore in consequence, it seems unreasonable to artificially assign each long side of plastic strip (53) as "outside edge".

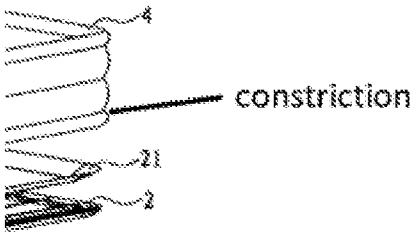
The opposition-division therefore considers that E1 does not disclose features (ix) and (xi) of claim 1.

3.2.3 E1 - third interpretation:

The opponent argued that the "suction piece" (11) and (21) can be read as being the second "outside edge" of the second and third tensioning structure, as shown in the opponents drawing (from the notice of opposition) below.

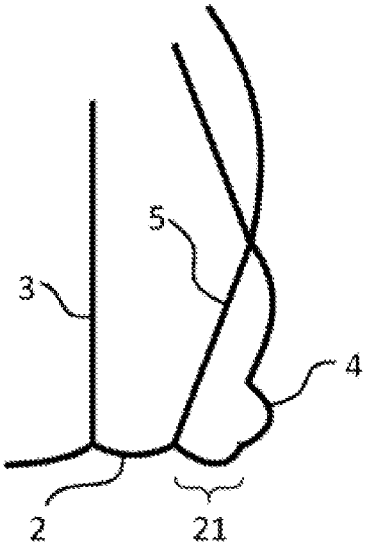
The opponent further argued that it was clear that the ring-shaped lower suction piece was attached to the inside of the side wall, due to the constriction visible on figure 2,3 and 4 of D1 (see figure on the right, below). He further argued that the exploded view in figure 2 leads to such an interpretation of E1.



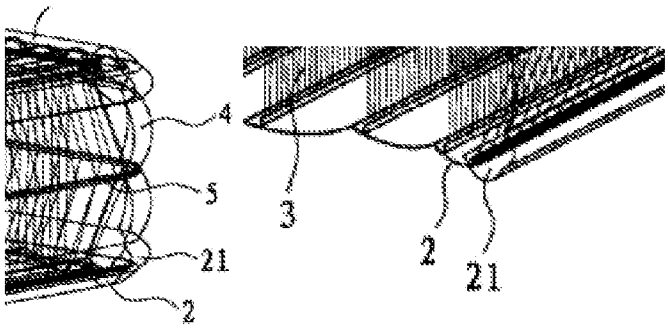


The opposition-division cannot follow this reasoning, since t remains doubtful if in E1 the ring-shaped lower suction piece (21) passes on the inside of the air chamber as shown in the drawing of th e opponent. As argued by the proprietor (see figure provided by the proprietor below), suction piece (21) could also pass on the outer side of the air

chamber. In this case the lower edge of the side wall would not be coupled to an outer edge of the bottom sheet, which means that feature (ii) of claim 1 would not be present in E1.



The opposition-division is further of the opinion that whereas the exploded view in figure 2 gives the impression that suction piece (21) passes on the inside, figures 3 (see below) has a reference to (21) which seems to be on the outside of the bed. Figure 4 (see below) also relates to (21) and appears to confirm that (21) passes on the outside.



(parts of figures 3 and 4 of E1)

The opposition-division is further of the opinion that the description (translation page 5, 2nd paragraph) is not conclusive on this matter, since it only mentions that the lower suction piece 21 is disposed between lower piece 2 and wrapping piece 4. This however is the case for both interpretations.

In summary, the opposition-division comes to the conclusion that both interpretations of the the disclosure of E1 are equally possible. For this reason the opposition-division considers that in E1 there is no direct and unambiguous disclosure of features (ix) and (xi) of claim 1. The subject-matter of claim 1 is therefor new (Article 54 EPC).

3.3 Inventive step (Article 56 EPC)

combination E1 with E9:

The opponent argues that since the disclosure of E1 is ambiguous in relation to the features (ix) and (xi) of claim 1, the person skilled in the art would turn to E9 looking for clarification on what is likely to be disclosed in E1. As a technical problem he defined "how to prevent overprotrusion / overbulging of the side wall". This technical problem was confirmed by the present patent-publication, see paragraph 6,7 and 63. E1 also mentions as a problem "improving aesthetics", which is to be considered as a clear pointer to look for a solution for the problem.

The opposition-division cannot follow this reasoning. E9 appears to be of a completely different construction compared to E1. Whereas E1 (see figure 2 below) has cables (51) (see translation, page 4) for connecting top sheet and side wall, E9 (see figure 5 below) discloses a belt (4) ("ceinture") for this purpose. Whereas the tensioning structure in E1 has two connection-points (51) and (21) to the lower sheet, the tensioning structure of E9 only has one single connection point at (41c), see figures below. Further, the opposition-division cannot identify an "edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet" in E9, whereas this feature seem to be present in E1. Figure 5 of E9 only shows a rounded continuous structure which connects side wall (3) to top sheet (33).

The opposition-division is therefore of the opinion that the person skilled in the art would not turn to E9 for solving the technical problem as defined by the opponent.

The opposition-division is therefore of the opinion that the subject-matter of claim 1 involves an inventive step (Article 56 EPC).

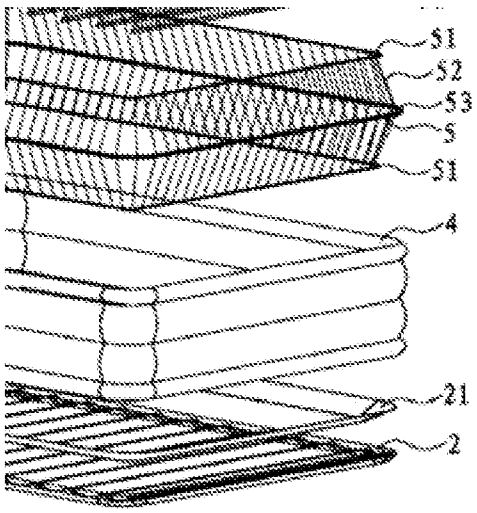


图 2

3.4 The opposition division therefore considers that the ground of opposition according to Article 100(a) EPC does not prejudice the maintenance of the patent.

III. Conclusion

None of the grounds of opposition prejudices maintenance of the patent as granted. The opposition is rejected (Art. 101(2) EPC).

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 914
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

European Patent Office
Postbus 5818
2280 HV Rijswijk
NETHERLANDS
Tel: +31 70 340 2040
Fax: +31 70 340 3016

Inchingalo, Simona
Bugnion S.p.A.
Viale Lancetti, 17
20158 Milano
ITALIE

Formalities Officer
Name: Suero Gallego, V
Tel: +31 70 340 - 2078
or call
+31 (0)70 340 45 00

Application No. / Patent No.	Ref.	Date
16 191 360.3 - 1011 / 3 192 401 /	27D8343A,12EP42	03.02.2021
Proprietor Bestway Inflatables & Material Corp.		

Decision rejecting the opposition (Art. 101(2) EPC)

The Opposition Division - at the oral proceedings dated 14.01.2021 - has decided:

The opposition(s) against the European patent EP-B- 3 192 401 is/are rejected.
The reasons for the decision are enclosed.

Possibility of appeal
This decision is open to appeal. Attention is drawn to the attached text of Articles 106 to 108 and Rules 97 to 98 EPC.

Opposition Division:

Chairman:	Krasenbrink, B
2nd Examiner:	Kus, Slawomir
1st Examiner:	Lehe, Jörn

Suero Gallego, V
Formalities Officer
Tel. No.: +31 70 340-2078 **Branch at The Hague**

Enclosure(s): 15 page(s) reasons for the decision (Form 2916)
Wording of Articles 106 - 108 and Rules 97 - 98 EPC (Form 2019)
Minutes of oral proceedings

to EPO postal service: 27.01.21

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

European Patent Office
Postbus 5818
2280 HV Rijswijk
NETHERLANDS
Tel: +31 70 340 2040
Fax: +31 70 340 3016

Application No.: 16 191 360.3

Patent No.: EP-B-3 192 401

Direct Decision:

☐ **yes** ☒ **no**

Rejection of the opposition (Art. 101(2) EPC)

The Opposition Division - at the oral proceedings dated 14.01.2021 - has decided:

The opposition(s) filed against the European Patent No. EP-B-3 192 401 is/are rejected.

The Grounds for the decision (Form 2916) are enclosed.

19-01-2021
.....
Date

Chairman	1st Examiner	2nd Examiner	Legally qualified member
Krasenbrink, B	Lehe, Jörn	Kus, Slawomir	

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 917
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

1.0. The chairman opened the oral proceedings at 09:00, introduced the division and identified the persons attending the oral proceedings.

1.1. The chairman asked the parties to confirm the present requests.

1.2. The parties confirmed their requests as mentioned in the written procedure.

2.0. Sufficiency of the disclosure (Article 100(b) EPC).

2.1. The chairman asked the parties to present their arguments concerning sufficiency of disclosure.

2.2. The opponent informed that he already expressed all arguments in the written procedure and that he does not wish to add more arguments.

2.3. The proprietor also stated that he does not have any more comments.

2.4. The chairman of the Opposition Division interrupted the oral proceedings from 9:25-9:30. After resuming the oral proceedings, the chairman informed the parties that the ground according to Article 100(b) EPC does not prejudice the maintenance of the granted patent.

3.0. Admissibility of the novelty objections regarding E1 in view of E18

3.1. The opponent argued that the subject-matter of claim 1 is not novel over E1. In the written procedure he used an interpretation of E1 according to E18 slide 4. Additional to this interpretation of E1 he introduced during the Oral Proceedings two further interpretations of E1 (according to E18 slide 2 and according to E18 slide 3). To support his reasoning, the opponent used the presentation E18. This presentation was first only presented by the ShareScreen functionality, later by sharing the presentation with the Opposition Division and the proprietor. The Opposition Division and the proprietor have been given time to familiarize with E18 and the further interpretations of E1.

3.2. The proprietor argued that the two further interpretations of E1 (according to E18 slide 2 and E18 slide 3) are introduced for the first time in the Oral Proceedings, that they are late filed, and that they are not prima facie relevant. Therefore, he requested not to admit the novelty objections based on these further interpretations of E1 into the procedure.

3.3. The proprietor requested for the same reasons not to admit the presentation E18 into the procedure.

3.4. The opponent provided arguments to admit E18 and the novelty objections based on the new interpretations of E1 into the procedure.

3.5. Since E18 also comprises other slides not referring to E1, the chairman clarified that the discussion regarding the admittance of E18 refers only to the slides of E18 which refer to E1.

3.6. Several breaks were provided for giving the parties preparation time and the opposition division deliberation time (9:40-9:45, 9:45-10:00, 10:30-10:35). After the last break for deliberation from 10:45-11:00, the chairman of the Opposition Division informed the parties that the novelty objections based on the further interpretations of E1 and the presentation E18, when it refers to E1, are admitted into the procedure.

4.0. Novelty (Article 100(a) EPC and Article 54 EPC) of claim 1 in view of E1

4.1. The opponent argued that the subject-matter of claim 1 is not novel over E1 interpreted according to slide 2 of E18. He argued that the support structure 5 could be interpreted as two separate upper and lower structures having each a separate outside edge formed by plastic strip 53.

4.2. The proprietor argued that the there is only one plastic strip 53, which cannot be artificially divided in two entities to form two separate upper and lower structures.

4.3. The chairman of the Opposition Division interrupted the oral proceedings from 11:15-11:20. After resuming the oral proceedings, the chairman informed the parties about the opposition division's opinion that the subject-matter of claim 1 is novel over E1 interpreted according to slide 2 of E18.

4.4. The opponent argued that the subject-matter of claim 1 is not novel over E1 interpreted according to slide 3 of E18. The opponent argued that the support structure 5 could be interpreted as two separate longer and shorter side structures.

4.5. The proprietor argued that the there is only one structure 5, which cannot be artificially divided in two shorter side and longer side structures.

4.6. The chairman of the Opposition Division interrupted the oral proceedings from 11:30-11:45. After resuming the oral proceedings, the chairman informed the parties about the opposition division's opinion that the subject-matter of claim 1 is novel over E1 interpreted according to slide 3 of E18.

4.7. The opponent argued that the subject-matter of claim 1 is not novel over E1 interpreted according to slide 4 of E18. He argued that the ring shaped element 21 should be interpreted according to the exploded view of figure 2 of E1 as being placed between the bottom sheet 2 and the inside wall 4, forming at the lower inside wall 4 a connection kink.

4.8. The proprietor argued that the argument of the opponent is only one of the possible interpretations of figure 2 of E1. He referred to the translated description E2 of E1 on page 5, line 4, which discloses the ring shaped element 21 providing improved aesthetics of the mattress, therefore the element 21 should be located outside of the inner chamber of the mattress.

4.9. To support his reasoning, the opponent proposed to show a physical model of the mattress of E1 which he had manufactured.

4.10. The proprietor requested not to admit this model into the procedure, since it is late filed and not prima facie relevant.

4.11. The chairman of the Opposition Division interrupted the oral proceedings from 12:20-12:25. After resuming the oral proceedings, the chairman informed the parties that the physical model is not admitted to the procedure.

4.12. The chairman of the Opposition Division interrupted the oral proceedings from 12:30-12:40. After resuming the oral proceedings, the chairman informed the parties about the opposition division's opinion that the subject-matter of claim 1 is novel over E1 interpreted according to slide 4 of E18.

4.13. The chairman of the Opposition Division interrupted the oral proceedings from 12:45-13:30.

5.0. E9

5.1. The opponent argued that the subject-matter of claim 1 is not novel over E9.

5.2. The proprietor requested not to admit this novelty objection into the procedure since this objection has not been raised before. He argued that said objection is late filed and not prima facie relevant.

5.3. Both parties presented their arguments concerning the prima facie relevance.

5.4. The chairman of the Opposition Division interrupted the oral proceedings from 13:55- 14:10. After resuming the oral proceedings, the chairman informed the parties about the opposition division's opinion that said novelty objection is not admitted into the procedure since E9 does prima facie not disclose all features of claim 1.

6.0. E16

6.1. The opponent argued that the subject-matter of claim 1 is not novel over E16.

6.2. The proprietor requested not to admit the document E16 into the procedure since it has been filed only a few days in advance of the Oral Proceedings. He argued that mentioning of E16 in the introductory part of the patent's description does not make it automatically part of the procedure and that E16 is not prima facie relevant.

6.3. Both parties presented their arguments concerning E16.

6.4. The chairman of the Opposition Division interrupted the oral proceedings from 14:25- 14:35. After resuming the oral proceedings, the chairman informed the parties about the opposition division's opinion that E16 is not admitted into the procedure since it is prima facie not relevant for the assessment of novelty of claim 1.

7.0. Inventive Step (Article 100(a) EPC and Article 56 EPC)

7.1. The opponent argued that the subject-matter of claim 1 is not inventive starting from E1 in combination with E9.

7.2. The proprietor requested not to admit this inventive step objection into the procedure since this objection has not been raised before. He argued that said objection is late filed and not prima facie relevant.

7.3. Both parties presented their arguments regarding the admissibility of said inventive step objection.

7.4. The chairman of the Opposition Division interrupted the oral proceedings from 14:40-14:45 After resuming the oral proceedings, the chairman informed the parties about the opposition division's opinion that the inventive step objection is admitted into the procedure.

7.5. Both parties presented their arguments concerning the inventive step combination of E1 with E9.

7.6. The chairman of the Opposition Division interrupted the oral proceedings from 14:50- 14:55. After resuming the oral proceedings, the chairman informed the parties about the opposition division's opinion that the combination of E1 with E9 is not prejudicial to an inventive step of the subject-matter of claim 1.

8.0. The parties did not have any further remarks or requests.

8.1. The chairman of the Opposition Division asked the parties whether the oral proceedings were run well in a technical sense. The parties acknowledged that the oral proceedings have run well without any major technical issues.

8.2. The chairman announced the decision of the opposition division to reject the opposition and to maintain the patent as granted (Art. 101(2) EPC).

8.3. The chairman referred to the right to file an appeal according to Article 106 EPC.

8.4. The proceedings were closed at 15.15.

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

European Patent Office
80298 MUNICH
GERMANY

Questions about this communication ?
Contact Customer Services at www.epo.org/contact

Inchingalo, Simona
Bugnion S.p.A.
Viale Lancetti, 17
20158 Milano
ITALIE

Formalities officer
Suero Gallego, Veronica

Date: 03.02.2021

Reference	Application No./Patent No.
27D8343A,12EP42	16191360.3 - 1011 / 3192401
Applicant/Proprietor: Bestway Inflatables & Material Corp.	

EPA/EPO/OEB Formblatt/Form/Formulaire : 2330

Empfangsbescheinigung über den Zugang des vorstehend bezeichneten Schriftstücks
Acknowledgement of receipt of the document specified above
Récépissé du document spécifié ci-dessus

Unter Bezugnahme auf die Mitteilung im ABl EPA 7/2010, 377 wird gebeten, die Empfangsbescheinigung mit Empfangsdatum und Unterschrift zu versehen und **umgehend** an das EPA zurückzusenden:

With reference to the Notice in OJ EPO 7/2010, 377, you are requested to date and sign the acknowledgement of receipt and return it to the EPO **immediately**:

Conformément au communiqué paru au JO OEB 7/2010, 377, vous êtes prié d'indiquer sur le récépissé la date de réception du document, de signer le récépissé et de le renvoyer **sans délai** à l' OEB:

- **über die Online-Dienste des EPA** (als Anlage zu EPA Form 1038) / **through EPO Online Services** (as annex to EPO Form 1038) / **par les services en ligne de l'OEB** (en tant que pièce jointe au formulaire OEB 1038),
- **per Fax / by fax / par téléfax (+49 (0) 89 2399-4465 or +31 (0) 70 340-3016)**
- oder per Post / or by post / ou par courrier.

Empfangen am / Received on / Reçu le :

8/2/2021

Unterschrift / Signature:

Empfangsberechtigter/authorised recipient/
le destinataire ou la personne dûment mandatée

Rücksende-Adresse / Return address / Adresse de retour
(Umschlag / envelope / enveloppe ISO C4 / DL / C6/C5 / C6)

Europäisches Patentamt
80298 MÜNCHEN
DEUTSCHLAND

Rücksende-Adresse / Return address / Adresse de retour

EPA/EPO/OEB Form 2936 08.10

VS51524

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 923
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Received at the EPO on Feb 09, 2021 10:45:41. Page 1 of 1
Duration: 02.09.2021 10:44:30 AM - 02.09.2021 10:45:41 AM. This page 1 of 1 was completed at 02.09.2021 10:45:41 AM

REDDIE & GROSE

1 April 2021

European Patent Office
D-80298 Munich
Germany

BY E-FILING ONLY

Dear Sirs

European Patent No. 3192401 (the "Patent")
Opposition against EP 3192401 of Bestway Inflatables & Materials Corp (the "Patentee/Respondent")
On behalf of Intex Recreation Corp. (the "Opponent/Appellant")
Our ref: M/P19609.EP01/JMV/JP

The Opponent, Intex Recreation Corp., hereby appeals against the decision of the Opposition Division (the "Decision") dated 3 February 2021 rejecting the Opponent's opposition against European patent EP3192401.

The Decision is appealed in its entirety.

The name and address of the Appellant-Opponent are:

Intex Recreation Corp.
4001 Via Oro Avenue, Suite 210
Long Beach, CA 90810 / US

Instructions for payment of the appeal fee are being made with this letter. In the event of non-payment or underpayment, you are hereby authorised to debit any shortfall in the fee payment from deposit account number 2805.0007 in the name of Reddie & Grose LLP.

The Appellant's statement of grounds of appeal will be follow in due course.

Yours faithfully

[Electronically signed]

PARSI MENDIOLA, Joshua
PROFESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVE
epo@reddie.co.uk

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Letter accompanying subsequently filed items

Representative:

Mr. Joshua PARSI MENDIOLA
Reddie & Grose LLP
10 Whitechapel High Street
London Greater London E1 8QS
United Kingdom

Phone: 442072420901
Fax: 442072423290
E-mail: epo@reddie.co.uk

80298 Munich
Germany
Tel. +49(0)89 2399-0 | Fax -4465

P.O. Box 5818
2280 HV Rijswijk
Netherlands
Tel. +31(0)70 340-2040 | Fax -3016

10958 Berlin
Germany
Tel. +49(0)30 25901-0 | Fax -840

The document(s) listed below is (are) subsequently filed documents pertaining to the following application:

Application number	16191360.3
Applicant's or representative's reference	M/P19609.EP01

	Description of document	Original file name	Assigned file name
1	Notice of appeal	MP19609.EP01 - Letter to EPO (Notice of Appeal) - 01.04.21.pdf	APPEAL.pdf

	Fees	Factor applied	Fee schedule	Amount to be paid
15-1	011 Appeal fee for an appeal filed by an entity other than those referred to in Rule 6(4) and (5) EPC	1	2 705.00	2 705.00
	Total:		**EUR**	**2 705.00**

	Payment	
1	Method of payment	Debit from deposit account
	Currency:	EUR
	The European Patent Office is hereby authorised, to debit from the deposit account with the EPO any fees and costs indicated on the fees page.	
	Deposit account number:	28050007
	Account holder:	Reddie & Grose LLP
2	Refund/Reimburserment	
	Reimbursement (if any) to be made to EPO deposit account:	28050007
	Account holder:	Reddie & Grose LLP

Signatures

Place:	**LONDON, UK**
Date:	**01 April 2021**
Signed by:	**Joshua Parsi Mendiola 65949**
Representative name:	**Joshua PARSI MENDIOLA**

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 925
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Capacity: **(Representative)**

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Acknowledgement of receipt

We hereby acknowledge receipt of the following subsequently filed document(s):

Submission number	9663393
Application number	EP16191360.3
Date of receipt	01 April 2021
Receiving Office	European Patent Office, The Hague
Your reference	M/P19609.EP01
Applicant	All applicants as on file
Documents submitted	package-data.xml epf1038.pdf (2 p.) ep-sfd-request.xml APPEAL.pdf\MP19609.EP01 - Letter to EPO (Notice of Appeal) - 01.04.21.pdf (1 p.)
Submitted by	CN=Joshua Parsi Mendiola 65949
Method of submission	Online
Date and time receipt generated	01 April 2021, 17:53 (CEST)
Message Digest	38:30:0D:A1:73:43:0D:B2:6F:AD:9F:A1:B5:D6:1D:3B:69:F3:6D:6A

/European Patent Office/

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Beschwerdekammern
Boards of Appeal
Chambres de recours

Boards of Appeal of the
European Patent Office
Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8
85540 Haar
GERMANY
Tel. +49 (0)89 2399-0
Fax +49 (0)89 2399-4465

Inchingalo, Simona
Bugnion S.p.A.
Viale Lancetti, 17
20158 Milano
ITALIE

Datum/Date
12.04.21

Zeichen/Reference/Référence	
27D8343A,12EP42	/ APPR
Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°//Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°	16191360.3 / 3192401
Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur//Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire	
Bestway Inflatables & Material Corp.	

File number: **T0311/21-3.2.01**

Commencement of proceedings before the Board of Appeal

The letter dated 01.04.21 filed by the opponent
against the decision of the European Patent Office of 03.02.21
has been referred to Board of Appeal 3201.

The reference number is mentioned above.

Any further communications should be addressed to the Boards of Appeal of the European Patent Office and should quote this reference number.

The Registrar A. Vottner
Tel.: 089 / 2399 - 3211

Annexe(s): copy of the notice of appeal for the other party(ies)
Practical instructions

Registered letter

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 928
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Beschwerdekammern
Boards of Appeal
Chambres de recours

Boards of Appeal of the
European Patent Office
Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8
85540 Haar
GERMANY
Tel. +49 (0)89 2399-0
Fax +49 (0)89 2399-4465

File number: **T0311/21-3.2.01**

Practical instructions for parties to appeal proceedings

Submissions should preferably be filed electronically using either EPO online filing (OLF) or the EPO case management system (CMS). Please note that Web-Form Filing is not permitted in appeal proceedings (see Decision of the President of the EPO dated 9 May 2018 concerning the electronic filing of documents (OJ EPO 2018, A45)).

Please annex all documents, if possible with a list of complete references, and number them in a sequence that is consistent with the numbering used in the first-instance proceedings and, if appropriate, the numbering used by other parties.

Documents annexed by parties as patent documents and as non-patent literature are available for inspection via the European Patent Register at www.epo.org/register. They will be provided to parties in paper form upon request only (see Notice of the President of the Boards of Appeal dated 31 October 2020 on introducing a consolidated list of documents submitted by parties during inter partes appeal proceedings and on discontinuing the forwarding of cited documents to the other parties, OJ EPO 2020, A131).

Please also forward copies of submissions to all other parties to the appeal proceedings direct, prior to the date of the oral proceedings.

Your attention is drawn to Rule 103 EPC, which provides for reimbursement of the appeal fee in certain cases if the appeal is withdrawn. For the version in force from 1 April 2020, see OJ EPO 2020, A5.

Your attention is further drawn to the provisions of the new Rules of Procedure of the Boards of Appeal (in force from 1 January 2020 - RPBA 2020, see OJ EPO 2019, A63), in particular Articles 12, 13, 15 and 16 RPBA 2020.

For more information on the Boards of Appeal, please consult the Boards of Appeal web page, to be found on the EPO website under "Boards of Appeal".

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 929
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Beschwerdekammern
Boards of Appeal
Chambres de recours

Boards of Appeal of the
European Patent Office
Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8
85540 Haar
GERMANY
Tel. +49 (0)89 2399-0
Fax +49 (0)89 2399-4465

Parsi Mendiola, Joshua
Reddie & Grose LLP
The White Chapel Building
10 Whitechapel High Street
London E1 8QS
ROYAUME UNI

Datum/Date
12.04.21

Zeichen/Reference/Référence MP19609.EP01/JV	/ OPPO01
Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°//Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°	16191360.3 / 3192401
Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur//Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire Bestway Inflatables & Material Corp.	

File number: **T0311/21-3.2.01**

Commencement of proceedings before the Board of Appeal

The letter dated 01.04.21 filed by the opponent
against the decision of the European Patent Office of 03.02.21
has been referred to Board of Appeal 3201.

The reference number is mentioned above.

Any further communications should be addressed to the Boards of Appeal of the European Patent Office and should quote this reference number.

The Registrar A. Vottner
Tel.: 089 / 2399 - 3211

Annexe(s): copy of the notice of appeal for the other party(ies)
Practical instructions

Registered letter

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 930
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Beschwerdekammern
Boards of Appeal
Chambres de recours

Boards of Appeal of the
European Patent Office
Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8
85540 Haar
GERMANY
Tel. +49 (0)89 2399-0
Fax +49 (0)89 2399-4465

File number: **T0311/21-3.2.01**

Practical instructions for parties to appeal proceedings

Submissions should preferably be filed electronically using either EPO online filing (OLF) or the EPO case management system (CMS). Please note that Web-Form Filing is not permitted in appeal proceedings (see Decision of the President of the EPO dated 9 May 2018 concerning the electronic filing of documents (OJ EPO 2018, A45)).

Please annex all documents, if possible with a list of complete references, and number them in a sequence that is consistent with the numbering used in the first-instance proceedings and, if appropriate, the numbering used by other parties.

Documents annexed by parties as patent documents and as non-patent literature are available for inspection via the European Patent Register at www.epo.org/register. They will be provided to parties in paper form upon request only (see Notice of the President of the Boards of Appeal dated 31 October 2020 on introducing a consolidated list of documents submitted by parties during inter partes appeal proceedings and on discontinuing the forwarding of cited documents to the other parties, OJ EPO 2020, A131).

Please also forward copies of submissions to all other parties to the appeal proceedings direct, prior to the date of the oral proceedings.

Your attention is drawn to Rule 103 EPC, which provides for reimbursement of the appeal fee in certain cases if the appeal is withdrawn. For the version in force from 1 April 2020, see OJ EPO 2020, A5.

Your attention is further drawn to the provisions of the new Rules of Procedure of the Boards of Appeal (in force from 1 January 2020 - RPBA 2020, see OJ EPO 2019, A63), in particular Articles 12, 13, 15 and 16 RPBA 2020.

For more information on the Boards of Appeal, please consult the Boards of Appeal web page, to be found on the EPO website under "Boards of Appeal".

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 931
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

REDDIE & GROSE

14 June 2021

European Patent Office
D-80298 Munich
Germany

BY E-FILING ONLY

Dear Sirs

APPEAL NUMBER T0311/21-3.2.01

Opposition against European Patent No. 3192401 (the "Patent")
of Bestway Inflatables & Materials Corp (the "Proprietor/Respondent")
On behalf of Intex Recreation Corp. (the "Opponent/Appellant")
Our ref: M/P19609.EP01/JMV/JP

We write with reference to the Notice of Appeal filed 1 April 2021, against the Decision of the Opposition Division dated 3 February 2021 to reject the Opposition against European Patent Number 3192401, to provide the Appellant's Statement of Grounds of Appeal setting out the reasons why the above-identified Decision should be set aside.

1. REQUESTS

Intex Receation Corp., the Appellant, requests:

1. that the Decision of the Opposition Division to reject the Opposition filed 17 June 2019 and to maintain EP 3192401 as granted (the Main Request) be set aside, and the patent be revoked in its entirety;

2. that Oral Proceedings be appointed unless Request 1 is allowed; and

3. if Request 1 is allowed and if the case is not to be remitted to the Opposition Division for their decision on any additional requests subsequently filed by the Patentee in response to these submissions, that an opportunity for the Appellant to submit further written submissions be provided.

REDDIE & GROSE LLP
Patent and Trade Mark Attorneys
London | Cambridge

The White Chapel Building
10 Whitechapel High Street
London E1 8QS

Tel: +44 (0)20 7242 0901
Fax: +44 (0)20 7242 3290
enquiries@reddie.co.uk

www.reddie.co.uk
VAT: GB 243 9087 49

Reddie & Grose LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales with registered number OC360746, and registered office address The White Chapel Building, 10 Whitechapel High Street, London E1 8QS. Regulated by the Intellectual Property Regulation Board (IPREG).

2. THE IMPUGNED DECISION

The following sets out various aspects of the first instance proceedings, after which the Opposition Division issued its decision, that are being referred to for the purposes of the present Appeal.

2.1 Evidence filed during Opposition (first instance) proceedings

The evidence filed during Opposition proceedings and being relied upon in the present Appeal is the following:

E1 - CN 203137719 U
E2 - Translation of CN 203137719 U
E3 - US 2007/0277324 (Liu, Feng)
E4 - US 9,254,047 (Schermel et al.)
E5 - US 4,941,223 (Santo, Philip J)
E6 - US 5,669,091 (Chung, Ming-Chun)
E7 - US 2015/0335164 (Liu, Feng)
E8 - WO 2013/130117 (Intex Recreation Corporation)
E9 - FR 2 914 545 (Song Rong)
E9a - English translation of E9
E10 - GB 434,098 (P. B. Cow & Co Ltd)
E11 - US 6,568,013 (Perez et al.)
E12-US 6,671,910 (Hsu et al.)
E13 - US 6,701,559 (Boso et al.)
E14- US 7,039,972 (Chaffee, Robert B)
E15 - US 2015/0201760 (Lin et al.)
E16 - US2013/0145560 A1
E17 - US2009/0165211 A1
E18 - Powerpoint presentation filed during Oral Proceedings

E9a, E16 & E17 were submitted on 12 January 2021. A colour version of E18 was submitted on 14 January 2021, at oral proceedings. Slides 2-5 and 9-13, which mainly consisted of annotated versions of figures from E1, were admitted by the Opposition Division into the proceedings.

2.2 Main request

Grant independent claim 1 of the Patent reads as follows, broken down in the similar manner as it was in the first instance proceedings:

An inflatable bed (10), comprising:

i) *a top sheet (11) and a bottom sheet (12) disposed vertically at an interval;*

ii) *at least one side wall (13), an upper edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet, a lower edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said bottom sheet,*

iii) *an air chamber formed between said top sheet, said bottom sheet and said side wall;*

iv) *at least one first tensioning structure disposed in said air chamber, an upper end and a lower end of said first tensioning structure being respectively coupled to said top sheet and said bottom sheet; and*

v) *at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber, said support structure being disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls,*

vi) *at least two outside edges (152,162) of said support structure being respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent,*

vii) *at least one inside edge (153,163) of said support structure being coupled to the top sheet or bottom sheet adjacent,*

viii) *wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure,*

ix) *at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent,*

x) *at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the top sheet adjacent;*

xi) *and at least two outside edges of said third tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent,*

xii) *at least one inside edge of said third tensioning structure is coupled to the bottom sheet adjacent.*

2.3 Summary of objections and corresponding decisions from the Opposition Division

During first instance proceedings, it was submitted by the Appellant that:

- Independent claim 1 lacks novelty in view of E1, supported by an English-language translation (E2) and annotated figures of slides 2-5 and 9-13 of E18.
  - The Opposition Division decided that claim 1 is novel in view of E1 because there is no direct and unambiguous disclosure of features (ix) and (xi) in E1.
- Independent claim 1 lacks novelty in view of E9, supported by an English-language translation (E9a).
  - The Opposition Division decided not to admit such a line of argument into the proceedings as it was considered late-filed. The Opposition Division did not enable consideration of E9a during the proceedings, nor allow the Appellant to refer to it.
- Independent claim 1 lacks novelty in view of E16.
  - The Opposition Division decided not to admit such a line of argument into the proceedings as E16 was considered late-filed.
- Independent claim 1 lacks an inventive step based on E1 in view of E9.
  - The Opposition Division decided claim 1 involves an inventive step.

3. REASONS WHY THE IMPUGNED DECISION SHOULD BE SET ASIDE

3.1 Facts and evidence on which the Appeal is based

The present Appeal is to be based on the facts and evidence filed in the first instance proceedings, which includes references E1 to E18 mentioned above, along with the following documents being filed herewith in line with RPBA Article 12(3)(a):

E19 – 2014 INTEX COMFORT REST catalogue (original version in colour);

E20 – US copyright registration certification for E19;

E21 – Compilation of website extracts from https://issuu.com/zapf/docs/colchones_intex_2014 showing the public accessibility of the entire content of E19 (accessed on 28 May 2021) (original version in colour);

E22a – Website extract from https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/edge of the definition of *"edge"* (accessed on 10 June 2021) (original version in colour);

E22b – Website extract from https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/edge of the definition of *"edge"* (accessed on 10 June 2021) (original version in colour);

E22c – Website extract from https://www.macmillandictionary.com/dictionary/british/edge_1 of the definition of *"edge"* (accessed on 10 June 2021) (original version in colour); and

E23 – Website extract from https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/strip of the definition of *"strip"* (accessed on 10 June 2021) (original version in colour).

E19 has a copyright date of 2013, as shown on its final page. E20 further supports E19's copyright date of 2013 and E21 supports the fact that a copy of E19 has been publicly available since 23 July 2013. Any date in 2013 pre-dates the 13 January 2016 of the Patent.

Reference is also made to settled EPO case law (e.g. T 743/89 and T 804/05) which confirms that advertising or commercial brochures printed in good time before a priority date are to be considered to have been made available to the public before said priority date.

3.2 Reasons

A feature-by-feature version of Claim 1 of the Main Request has been set out above. Following the Decision, it is clear that the scope of claim 1 is primarily subject to the interpretation of the terms *"outside edges"*, *"inside edge"* and *"structure"* in the context of the expression *"tensioning structure"*.

3.2.1 Novelty of claim 1 in view of E1 (with support of E2, E18, E19, E20 & E21)

Features (i) to (iv)

Referring to page 4, lines 5-7 of E2, E1 discloses a rectangular inflatable product including an upper piece 1 and a lower piece 2 *"disposed vertically at an interval"*, as shown in Figures 2 – 7. E1 therefore discloses feature (i) of claim 1.

Referring to page 4, lines 7, 9-11 of E2, E1 discloses a wrapping piece 4 having upper and lower side respectively connected with a periphery of the upper piece 1 and a periphery of the lower piece 2, thereby forming an inflatable product having an air chamber. E1 therefore discloses features (ii) & (iii) of claim 1.

Referring to page 4, lines 5-12 of E2, E1 discloses a plurality of drawbelts 3, where two end of each of the drawbelts 3 are respectively connected to a lower surface of the upper piece 1 and an upper surface of the lower piece 2. Furthermore, page 4, lines 19-22 of E2 mention that the drawbelts 3 are formed by plastic strips 31 for welding to the upper and lower pieces 1, 2 and cables 32 extending between the plastic strips 31 in order to bear a strong *"traction force"*. E1 therefore discloses feature (iv) of claim 1.

Features (v) to (xii)

Claim 1 recites that the inflatable bed comprises at least one support structure according to features (v) to (viii) and that comprises a *"second tensioning structure"* having features (ix) & (x) and a *"third tensioning structure"* having features (xi) & (xii). In view of features (v) to (xii) of claim 1, E1 is relevant to the rather broad language of such features under different interpretations. For ease of reference, these features read as follows:

v) *at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber, said support structure being disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls,*

vi) *at least two outside edges (152,162) of said support structure being respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent,*

vii) *at least one inside edge (153,163) of said support structure being coupled to the top sheet or bottom sheet adjacent,*

viii) *wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure,*

ix) *at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent,*

x) *at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the top sheet adjacent;*

xi) *and at least two outside edges of said third tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent,*

xii) *at least one inside edge of said third tensioning structure is coupled to the bottom sheet adjacent.*

Discussion of the terms "edge" and "structure" and relevance of E1

Claim 1 places no limitation on the terms *"outside edges"* and *"inside edge"*. An edge of an element or component is the place, line or border where said element or component effectively stops. This definition or interpretation is supported by documents E22a to E22c, which should admitted into the present proceedings as a legitimate reaction to the impugned Decision and the Opposition Division's narrow reading of claim 1 presented in Items 3.2.1. to 3.2.3. of the Decision.

E22a refers to an edge as *"the outer or furthest point of something"* (see page 1). E22b recites *"the edge of something is the place or line where it stops, or the part of it that is furthest from the middle"* (see page 2) and refers to an edge as *"the border, brim, or margin of a surface, object, etc"* (see page 5). E22c refers to an edge as *"the part of something that is furthest from its centre"* (see page 2).

For example, by way of analogy, the upper surface of a rectangular table will have at least four edges defining where the limits or boundary of the table. It is not customary to say that a rectangular table has a single edge. Similarly, a knife will have at least a cutting edge and an opposing edge often referred to as a spine. The spine and the cutting edge of a knife are also not referred to as a single edge. E22a uses a similar analogy of a *"bottom edge of the sail is called the foot"* (see bottom of page 8), which implies a sail that has continuous border to have multiple edges.

The meaning of an *"edge"* is therefore supported by E22a to E22, which are dictionary extracts taking account of the established meanings of words. The linguistic structure of claim 1 does not allow for a narrower definition of the term *"edge"*, even in view of the rest of the Patent as filed, where there is no specific disclosure overriding the true, well established meaning of the term *"edge"*.

E2 discloses a side wrapping belt 5 (see page 4, lines 7-15) connected to a middle of an inner surface of the wrapping piece 4. In the embodiment shown in Figures 2-4, the side wrapping belt 5 is formed by two plastic strips 51 connected to both ends of a plurality of cables 52 with a plastic strip 53 being fixed in the middle of the plurality of cables 52. The plastic strips 51 are respectively connected to the upper piece 1 and the lower piece 2 and the plastic strip 53, as mentioned above, is connected to the middle of an inner surface of the wrapping piece 4. As shown in Figure 2, a skilled person would derive that the term *"ring-shaped"* intends to refer to a component that extends continuously in a closed loop, and not necessarily being shaped like a ring, as it could also be rectangular shaped (see page 4, line 6 and Figure 2 of E2).

A skilled person would readily understand from the overall disclosure of E1 (read from E2) that the side wrapping belt 5 in the fully assembled configuration of the inflatable product of E1 forms a *"support structure"* disposed in the air chamber.

As shown in Figure 2, the wrapping piece 4 (i.e. the side wall) has at least four flat or straight faces and therefore the side wrapping belt 5 has at least four straight sides. A skilled person would derive that the inflatable product of E1 is preferably rectangular, as shown in Figure 2 and mentioned at page 4, line 6 of E2.

As a result of the side wrapping belt 5 having at least four straight sides, it must inevitably have at least four edges. Therefore, the strips 51, 53 must also have at least four straight sides or edges. Claim 1 does not provide any specific limitations concerning the term *"edge"*, nor does the rest of the Patent provide a specific definition of the term *"edge"*.

Furthermore, claim 1 does not provide any additional limitations concerning the usage of the term *"structure"* apart from its usage in the expressions *"support structure"*, *"first tensioning structure"*, "second *tensioning structure"*, *"third tensioning structure"* and the language associated with such features. In accordance with the normal use of the term in English, a *"structure"* generally refers to an arrangement of different components. Accordingly, the Opposition Division has read limitations into claim 1 that are not present in the claim and has therefore erroneously discounted the relevance of the side wrapping belt 5 to features (v) to (xii) of claim 1.

Claim 1 merely requires that the support structure comprise two tensioning structures and that particular edges of such structures are coupled to particular components of the inflatable bed (see features (viii) & (xii) of claim 1). There are no requirements concerning the relative interaction or positioning of and between the two tensioning structures of the at least one support structure.

As discussed above, the side wrapping belt 5 is formed from three strips 51, 53 and a plurality of cables 52. The side wrapping belt 5 therefore defines at least one structure and, as shown in the Figures of E1, defines edges or sides.

In particular, the upper strip 51 has at least four sides or edges, the lower strip 51 has at least four sides or edges, and the plastic strip 53 has at least four sides or edges, in the same manner that a rectangular table may be considered to have at least four edges. As shown in Figure 2 of E1, the plastic strip 53 defines outer edges (c.f. *"outside edges"*) of the side wrapping belt 5 (c.f. *"at least one support structure"*) and the upper and lower strips 51 define the inner edges (c.f. *"inside edges"*) of the side wrapping belt 5 (c.f. *"at least one support structure"*).

In view of the broad language of claim 1, it is derivable from E1 that the side wrapping belt 5 comprises at least two tensioning structures. In other words, the language of claim 1 does not exclude the consideration of the side wrapping belt 5 as being formed by multiple structures. For example, each pair of opposing sides of the side wrapping belt 5 can each be considered to be a tensioning structure or even each of the upper and lower portions of the side wrapping belt 5 can be considered to be a tensioning structure, as shown in Slides 2 & 3 of E18 (which were filed during the first instance proceedings). It is also clear and unambiguous that the side wrapping belt 5 provides support and tension during use of the inflatable bed of E1.

The description of the Patent does mention that the structures may take various forms and that the tensioning structures can comprise threads, which is equivalent to the use of cables 52 in E1. As mentioned in paragraph [0068] of the Patent, the structures may be formed from threads that are coupled

integrally to and sandwiched between plastic strips. This further supports the relevance of the side wrapping belt 5 to the tensioning structures of the support structure of claim 1 because the side wrapping belt 5 is also formed by cables 52 and plastic strips 51, 53.

Further, the Patent does also mention that components of the second and third tensioning structures are *"of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure"* (see paragraph [0066]). It is also unclear what the implications on the scope of the terms *"outside edge"* and *"inside edge"* would be if the tensioning structures were *"segmental annular structures"*. Surely, if the terms *"outside edge"* and *"inside edge"* were to cover embodiments having continuous and segmental annular structures (as shown in Figures 8, 11, 14, 15 & 18 of the Patent, some of which are reproduced below), then a logical and consistent interpretation of the term *"edge"* would correspond to a side or lateral edge of the tensioning structures. For example, the edges in the segmental second and third tensioning structures 15, 16 of the embodiments shown in Figures 15 & 18 reproduced below could constitute sides.

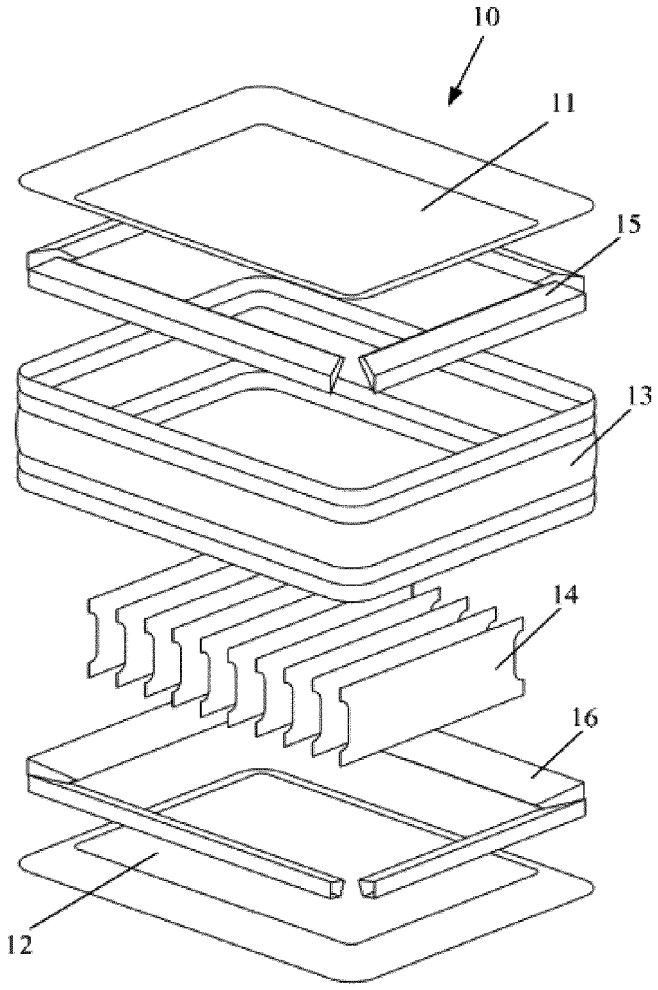


Fig. 15

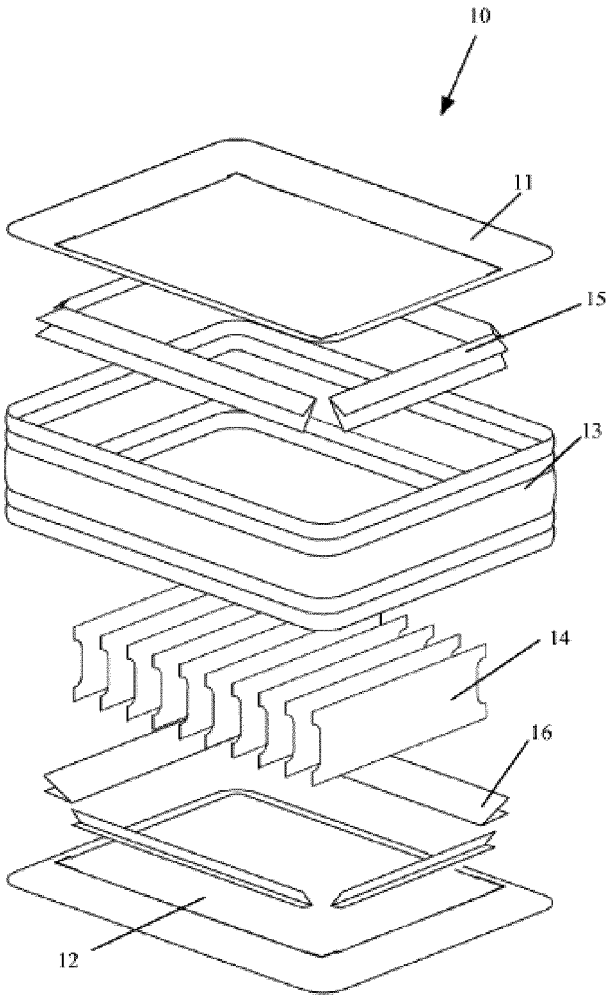


Fig. 18

A first interpretation of the relevance of E1 to claim 1

According to the submissions above, under one interpretation (the 'first interpretation' referred to in Item 3.2.1 of the Decision), the long sides of the side wrapping belt 5 correspond to a *"second tensioning structure"* and the short sides of the side wrapping belt 5 correspond to a *"third tensioning structure"*. As a result:

- the two long sides of the plastic strip 53 (as seen in Figure 2 of E1 and slide 3 of E18) coupled to the wrapping piece 4 define the *"at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent"* (c.f. features (vi) & (ix) of claim 1);

- at least one of the long sides of the upper or lower plastic strips 51 (as seen in Figure 2 of E1 and slide 3 of E18) coupled to the upper piece 1 defines the *"at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the top sheet adjacent"* (c.f. features (vii) & (x) of claim 1);

- the two short sides of the plastic strip 53 (as seen in Figure 2 of E1 and slide 3 of E18) coupled to the wrapping piece 4 define the *"at least two outside edges of said third tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent"* (c.f. features (vi) & (xi) of claim 1); and

- at least one of the short sides of the upper or lower plastic strips 51 (as seen in Figure 2 of E1 and slide 3 of E18) coupled to the upper piece 1 defines the *"at least one inside edge of said third tensioning structure is coupled to the bottom sheet adjacent"* (c.f. features (vii) & (xii) of claim 1).

Alternatively, one long side and one short side of the rectangular side wrapping belt 5 together can define a second tensioning structure and the other long and short sides can define a third tensioning structure.

A second interpretation of the relevance of E1 to claim 1

Under another interpretation (the 'second interpretation' referred to in Item 3.2.2 of the Decision), the upper portion of the side wrapping belt 5 can be considered to define a second tensioning structure and the lower portion of the side wrapping belt 5 can be considered to define a third tensioning structure (see slide 2 of E18). As a result, any side of the upper strip 51 constitutes *"at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the upper sheet adjacent"* and any side of the lower strip 51 constitutes *"at least one inside edge of said third tensioning structure is coupled to the bottom sheet adjacent"* (see slide 2 of E18).

In relation to the *"outside edges"*, a skilled person would readily derive from E1 that the plastic strip 53 must have two edges defining its width. The reasons for this are twofold.

Firstly, the term *"strip"*, generally speaking and particularly in the field of inflatable products, refers to a relatively long, flat, narrow piece of something, in this case plastic. This definition or interpretation is supported by document E23, which should admitted into the present proceedings as a legitimate reaction to the impugned Decision and the Opposition Division's narrow reading of claim 1 presented in Items 3.2.1 and 3.2.2 of the Decision. E23 mentions on page 3 that a *"strip"* refers to *"a long, flat, narrow piece"*.

Secondly, E2 alludes to the fact that the strip 53 is used for being fixed to the middle of the cables 52 and as an element to be connected to a middle of an inner surface of the wrapping piece 4 (see page 4, lines 22-28 of E2). A skilled person attempting to reproduce E1 would derive that such a component or element would preferably be flat, or end up being flat once the airbed is assembled, in order to ensure the connection of the cables 52 to the wrapping piece 4 (i.e. side wall). As a result, such a flat element would intrinsically have longitudinally extending edges or sides. This is further supported by the common general knowledge of a skilled person in the field of inflatable products, particularly beds. Such common general knowledge may represented in the disclosure of E8 (see Figures 1 & 2, which are reproduced below), which shows plastic weld strips 31 having at least two longitudinal edges.

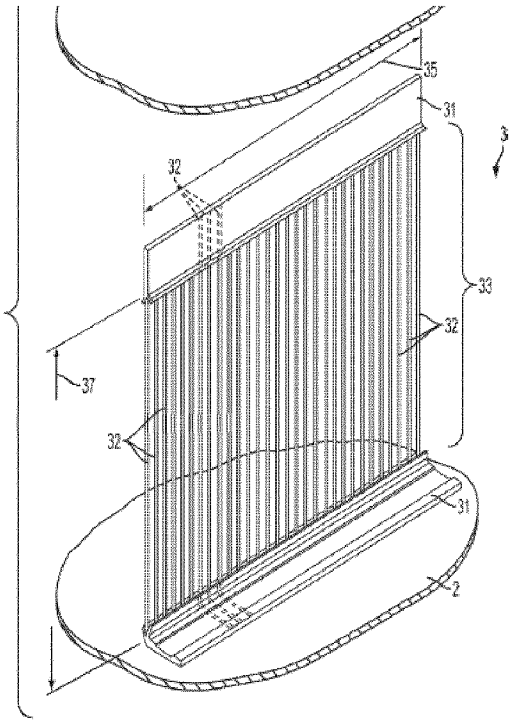


FIG. 1

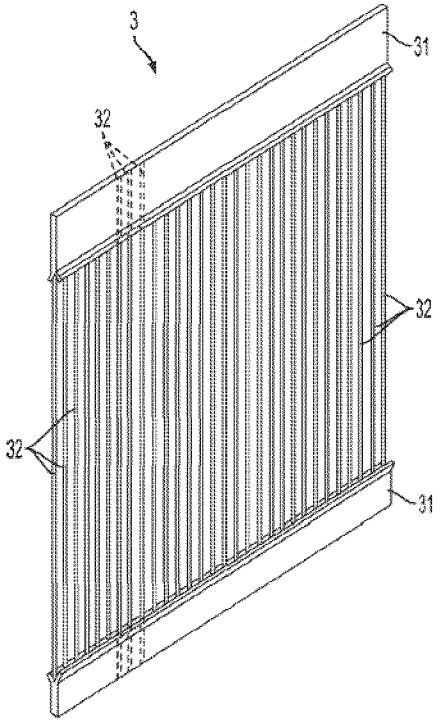


FIG. 2

Under this interpretation, an upper half portion of the plastic strip 53, the upper half portion of the plurality of cables 52 and the upper strip 51 form the *"second tensioning structure"*. Two sides or edges of the upper half portion of the plastic strip 53 correspond to the *"at least two outside edges"* of the *"second tensioning structure"* and one edge or side of the upper strip 51 corresponds to the *"at least one inside edge"* of the *"second tensioning structure"*.

Similarly, a lower half portion of the plastic strip 53, the lower half portion of the plurality of cables 52 and the lower strip 51 form the *"second tensioning structure"*. Two sides or edges of the lower half portion of the plastic strip 53 correspond to the *"at least two outside edges"* of the *"second tensioning structure"* and one edge or side of the lower strip 51 corresponds to the *"at least one inside edge"* of the *"second tensioning structure"*.

In Item 3.2.1 of the Decision, the Opposition Division had considered it unreasonable to split the plastic strip 53 into an upper edge and a lower edge and that the geometry of the plastic strip is not recognisable

in E1, as the strip could have a circular cross-section with no edge at all. The Appellant respectfully disagrees.

As extensively discussed above, the geometry of a strip is, at the very least, implicitly derivable by a skilled person in the field of inflatable articles. A strip alludes to a flat component, which inherently means that it will have at least two longitudinal edges or sides.

Claim 1 refers to outside edges of the *"second tensioning structure"*. Regardless of the geometry of the plastic strip 53, the plastic strip will inherently represent an outer border of the *"second tensioning structure"* and *"third tensioning structure"*. Even if the strip 53 were to represent a single edge, claim 1 of the Patent does not exclude an arrangement where outside edges of the second and third tensioning structures are shared.

Furthermore, the Opposition Division also mentioned that *"whereas the plastic strip therefore might have four sides it seems reasonable to say that it has at least two outside edges"* and that the term *"edges"* is not mentioned in the description of E1, nor is visible from the drawings of E1 (see top of sheet 10 of the Decision). It is clear that the Opposition Division has imposed limitations on claim 1 that are not present and has failed to appreciate the broader and true meaning of both the term *"edge"* and the overall language of claim 1, as extensively discussed above.

A third interpretation of the relevance of E1 to claim 1

E1 is further relevant to the language of claim 1 in that it describes providing upper and lower ring-shaped suction pieces 11, 21 respectively between the upper piece 1 and the wrapping piece 4 and between the lower piece 2 and the wrapping piece 4 (see page 5, lines 4-10 of E2).

During the first instance proceedings, it was argued that the upper ring-shaped suction piece 11 together with the upper portion of the wrapping belt 5 correspond to the *"second tensioning structure"* and the lower ring-shaped suction piece 21 together with the lower portion of the wrapping belt 5 correspond to the *"third tensioning structure"*.

The two outside edges of the *"second tensioning structure"* are derivable from the connection of the upper ring-shaped suction piece 11 with the wrapping piece 4 and the connection of the upper portion of the wrapping belt 5 (i.e. the upper portion of the plastic strip 53) with wrapping piece 4. Similarly, the two outside edges of the *"third tensioning structure"* are derivable from the connection of the lower ring-shaped suction piece 21 with the wrapping piece 4 and the connection of the lower portion of the wrapping belt 5 (i.e. the lower portion of the plastic strip 53) with wrapping piece 4.

An inside edge of the *"second tensioning structure"* is derivable from the connection of the upper ring-shaped suction piece 11 with the upper piece 1 or the connection of the upper strip 51 with the upper piece 1. Similarly, an inside edge of the *"third tensioning structure"* is derivable from the connection of the lower ring-shaped suction piece 21 with the lower piece 2 or the connection of the lower strip 51 with the lower piece 2.

In Item 3.2.3 of the Decision, the Opposition Division considered it doubtful whether the lower ring-shaped suction piece 21 *"passes on the inside of the air chamber"*. The Patentee had argued that, in view of the

language of the description of E1 and Figure 4 of E1, that the suction piece 21 connects the outer periphery of the lower piece 2 to the outer periphery of the wrapping piece 4, thereby implying that it would not be located within the air chamber (see Figures presented on sheet 13 of the Decision).

Particular portions of the disclosure of E1 could be considered to lack specificity. However, according to settled EPO case law, the technical disclosure in a prior art document must be considered **as a whole**.

Blue **dash-dot lines clearly and unambiguously indicate that the corners of upper and lower pieces 1, 2 align with the corners of the upper and lower peripheries of the wrapping piece 4**

Red **long-dashed lines clearly and unambiguously indicate that the inner and outer corners of the upper and lower suction pieces 11, 21 do <u>not</u> align the upper and lower pieces 1, 2 such that the suction pieces 11, 21 surround the upper and lower pieces 1, 2 as incorrectly interpreted by the Patentee**

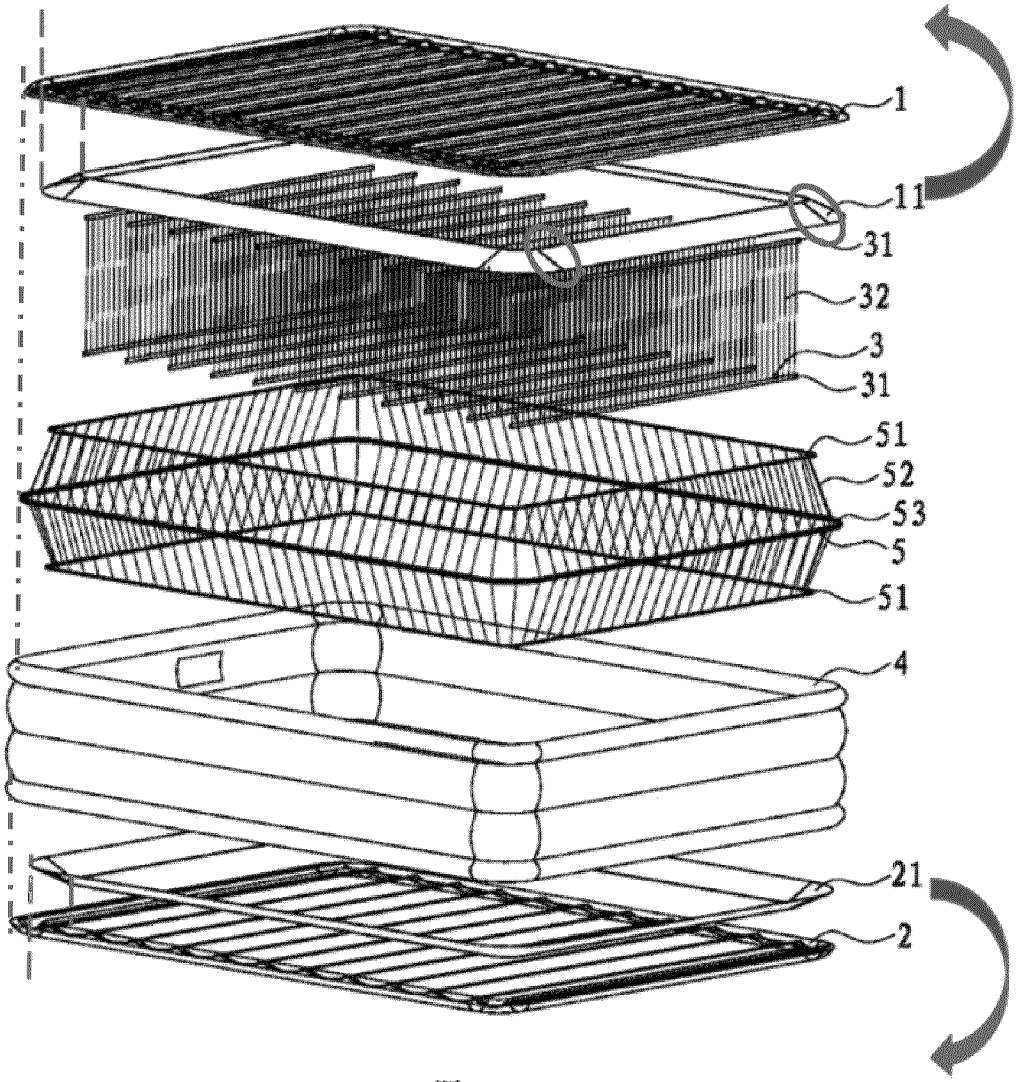


图 2

Source(s): Figure 2 of E1

Under such a principle, a skilled person reviewing the disclosure of E1 would be taught that that the upper and lower ring-shaped suction pieces 11, 21 are respectively provided between the upper piece 1 and the wrapping piece 4 and between the lower piece 2 and the wrapping piece 4 (see page 5, lines 4-10 of E2). A skilled person would understand this portion of the disclosure to be incomplete and would consider the rest of the disclosure to seek further clarification on how to replicate its contents. The skilled person would therefore need to consider the disclosure **as a whole** and their common general knowledge, before drawing a conclusion on what is directly and unambiguously derivable from a disclosure.

A skilled person in the field of inflatable products would, for example, consider the contents of Figures 2 to 4 to seek clarification on how to reproduce the contents of E1, in particular how the upper and lower suction pieces are assembled into the inflatable bed.

Figure 2 of E1 is an exploded perspective view of a first embodiment, and Figures 3 & 4 of E1 are schematic and partial cross-sectional views respectively of the same embodiment.

In Figure 2, the skilled person would directly and unambiguously derive that the upper suction piece 11 is at a location below the upper piece 1 and that the lower suction piece 21 is at a location above the lower piece 2. The skilled person would understand the manner and order in which components are shown in an exploded drawing is purposeful. Due to the nature of exploded views, they would understand that each of the components are shown in order of assembly and that the relative sizing amongst the components is an indicator of how the components interact upon being assembled.

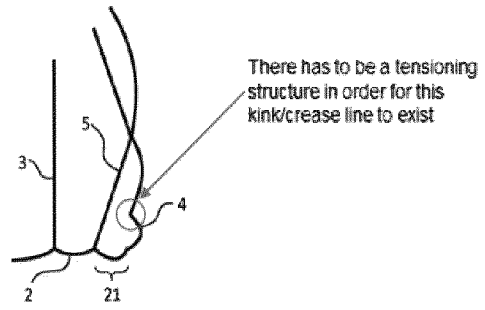
As indicated by the red arrows in the annotated version of Figure 2 presented above, if the upper and lower suction pieces 11, 21 were to be bigger in size than the upper and lower pieces 1, 2 so as to surround them respectively, then a skilled person would expect the upper and lower suction pieces 11, 21 to be represented in the exploded view of Figure 2 above and below respectively the upper and lower pieces 1, 2. However, this is clearly not the case.

From Figure 2 (see annotated version above), it is clear that the suction pieces 11, 21 are smaller in effective planform area (when viewed from above or below) than the upper and lower pieces 1, 2. This would confirm that the suction pieces 11, 21 are not large enough for their inner peripheries to respectively couple to the outer peripheries of the upper and lower pieces 1, 2. Further, the positioning, in the exploded view of Figure 2, of the suction pieces 11, 21 between the upper and lower pieces 1, 2 instructs a skilled person that the suction pieces 11, 21 are to be positioned within the air chamber defined within the inflatable product once assembled.

Additionally, three different constrictions or kinks can be seen on the outer surface of the wrapping piece 4. The skilled person is shown, and would regardless readily derive from their common general knowledge, that the connection of the plastic strip 53 to the middle portion of the interior of the wrapping piece 4 is responsible for the formation of the central kink or constriction. There are also another two constrictions formed; one between the upper periphery of the wrapping piece 4 and the central constriction and another between the lower periphery of the wrapping piece 4 and the central constriction (see slide 12 of E18). From all of the components shown and derived from the disclosure of E1 as a whole, there are no other components that could create such constrictions when the inflatable product is assembled and inflated, other than the suction pieces 11, 21.

During the first instance proceedings, the Opposition Division relied upon the Patentee's graphical representation (see Patentee's submissions of 9 November 2019 and Figures presented in sheet 13 of the Decision) of what might be shown in a lower portion of Figure 4 of E1. In such a graphical representation, the Patentee is exploiting an incorrect designation of reference number 21, which is clearly pointing to a portion of the lower sheet 2. While the Patentee's interpretation of what is solely shown in Figure 4 may be in line with the rather broad specific description (see page 5, lines 4-10 of E2) associated with the upper and lower suction pieces 11, 21, a skilled person would discount such an interpretation in view of what is directly and unambiguously derivable from the disclosure of E1 as a whole, because:

- The kink or constriction shown in the Patentee's representation is technically inconsistent with the common general knowledge of a skilled person in the field of inflatable products, particularly beds. As discussed above, a skilled person would understand that such a kink or constriction would not exist upon inflation on its own without a tensioning component restricting the outward movement of the side wall. The Patent itself inherently teaches that such constrictions can only be created by the connection of tensioning structures 151, 161 to the side wall 13 (see Figure 5 of the Patent, for example, and slide 12 of E18, reproduced below).



Picture 4 - Sketch of the structure of E1 as derived from Figure 4 of E1 itself

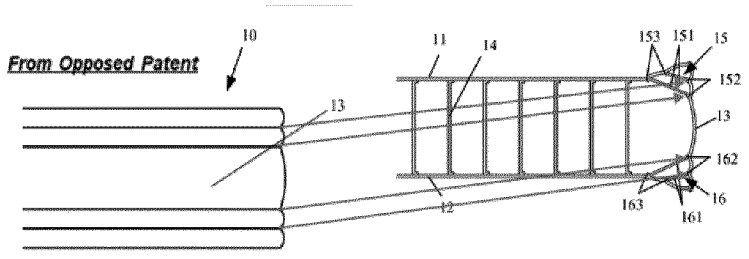


Fig. 2

Fig. 5

Source(s): Figures 2 & 5 of the Patent

- Prior to any discussion about the upper and lower suction pieces 11, 21, the description of E1 directly and unambiguously teaches the skilled person that:

    - the upper and lower sides of the wrapping piece 4 are respectively connected to a periphery of the upper piece 1 and a periphery of the lower piece 2; and

    - such connections amongst the upper, lower and wrapping pieces 1, 2, 4 form the air chamber of the inflatable product (see page 4, lines 4-12 of E2).

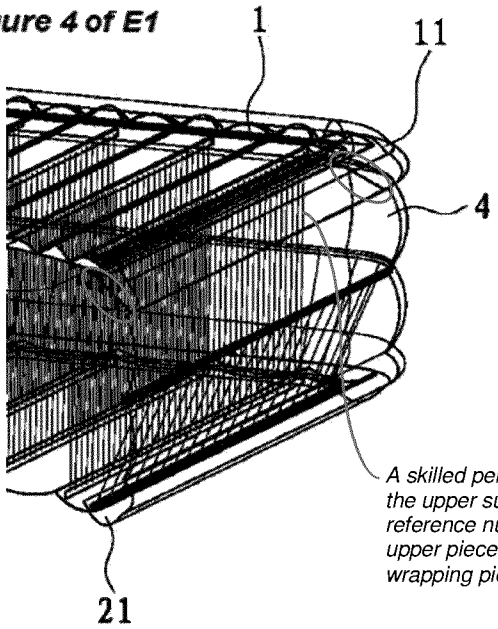
  The disclosure of E2 therefore implicitly teaches that the air chamber is primarily defined by the upper, lower and wrapping pieces 1, 2, 4 (i.e. the upper, lower and side walls) and not also by the suction pieces 11, 21. The suction pieces 11, 21 are discussed once the skilled person has settled on the definition of the air chamber in E1.

- The clear and unambiguous teachings the skilled person would derive from the exploded view of Figure 2, as extensively discussed above (see annotated Figure 2 of E1 above).

- In both Figures 3 & 4, the reference sign 11 for the upper suction piece is also incorrectly pointing towards an upper portion of the wrapping piece 4 rather than the upper suction piece itself. The profile of the upper suction piece 11, as shown in Figure 2, is directly and unambiguous shown in Figures 3 & 4; it can be seen that there is a component that is connected to an inner surface of the upper piece 1 and to an inner surface of the wrapping piece 4 (see the annotated figures of slide 11 of E18, reproduced below). Accordingly, the skilled person would have readily derived from the disclosure of E1 as a whole that the lower suction piece 21 is equivalent in terms of function and structure to the upper suction piece 11. Further, the skilled person would understand that there are mistakes in the usage of reference signs 11, 21 in Figures 3 & 4 as they are indicating two

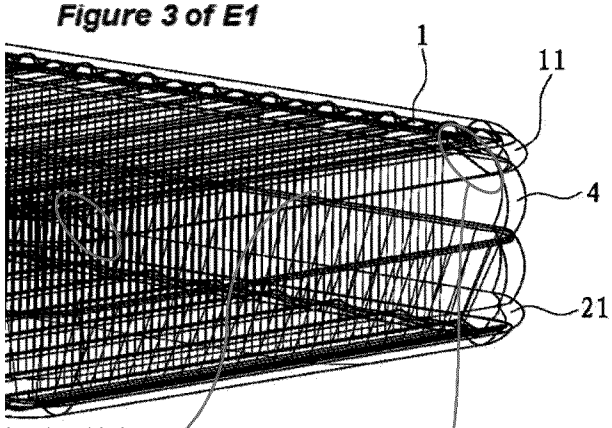
different components in both figures and they are directly and unambiguously inconsistent with what is shown in Figure 2. Therefore, the skilled person would discount the erroneous usage of reference sign 21 in Figures 3 & 4.

Figure 4 of E1



A skilled person would derive that this is the upper suction piece 11, despite the reference number 11 pointing towards the upper piece 1 in Figure 4 and or the wrapping piece 4 in Figure 3.

Figure 3 of E1



Encircled portions clearly and unambiguously correspond to encircled portions of the upper suction piece 11 shown in Figure 2 reproduced above.

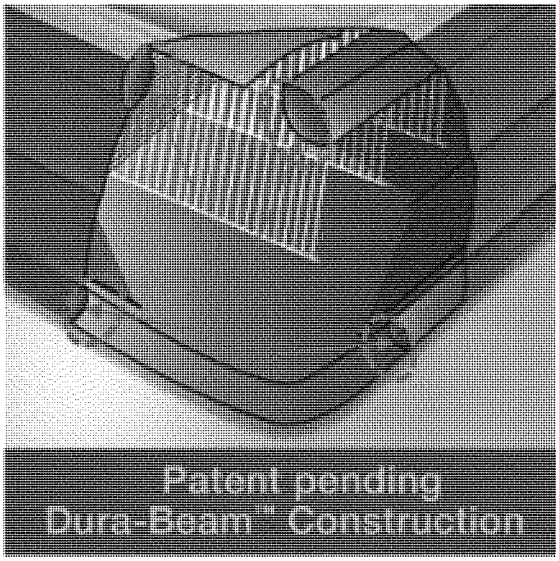
According to the observations presented above, it is respectfully submitted that the Opposition Division failed to consider the disclosure of E1 as a whole and, therefore, failed to acknowledge that a skilled person would discount the incorrect interpretation that the lower suction piece 21 passes on the outside, thereby discounting the artificial interpretation presented by the Patentee during the first instance proceedings.

The Opposition Division mentioned that both interpretations – either the lower suction piece 21 is located within the air chamber of the mattress or it passes on the outside, as submitted by the Patentee – *"are equally possible"* (see top of sheet 14 of the Decision). This is incorrect. The only material supporting the latter interpretation are the clear mistakes concerning the reference sign 21 in Figures 3 & 4, while all other facts and arguments presented during the first instance proceedings and above support the former interpretation, under which the upper suction piece 11 together with an upper portion of the belt 5 would anticipate the *"second tensioning structure"* and the lower suction piece 21 together with a lower portion of the belt 5 would anticipate the *"third tensioning structure"* of claim 1.

While it would be directly and unambiguously derivable from E1 alone that the lower suction piece 21 is equivalent to the upper suction piece 11 but connects to the lower piece 2, the common general knowledge available to the skilled person would further lead the skilled person to confirm such teachings.

E19 represents the common general knowledge available to the skilled person at the priority date of the Patent. As shown on page 16 of E19, two equivalent components to the upper and lower suction pieces 11, 21 are shown to be located within the air chamber defined by the upper, lower and side walls (see arrows and encircled elements in the annotated version of a relevant figure present on page 16 of E19, reproduced below). Further, the connection of such equivalent components to the side wall create a

constriction on the side wall. This further supports the common general knowledge of a skilled person that a constriction will arise from an internal connection to the side wall.



Source: Page 16 of E19

The filing of E19 as evidence at appeal is admissible as it supports the reasoning presented to date and supports the observations raised above concerning what a skilled person would derive from E1 as a whole in combination with their common general knowledge. Furthermore, the filing of E19, and supporting evidence E20 & E21, constitutes a legitimate reaction to the Opposition Division's incorrect findings in the impugned Decision.

Conclusion

Accordingly, features (viii) to (xii) of the second and third tensioning structures of claim 1 are derivable from E1 and, as a result, E1 inherently discloses features (v) to (vii) of the *"at least one support structure"*, as the support structure comprises both of the second and third tensioning structures.

As extensively discussed above, a skilled person would have directly and unambiguously derived from E1 an arrangement falling within the scope of the language of claim 1. It is clear that the relevance of E1 to the language of claim 1 has been misunderstood by the Opposition Division, mainly because it had taken an unjustified narrow view of its language and had not appropriately considered what a skilled person would directly and unambiguously derive from the disclosure of E1 as a whole.

Therefore, the Appellant maintains that at least claim 1 of the Main Request lacks novelty in view of E1.

3.2.2 Novelty of claim 1 in view of E9 (with support of E9a)

During first instance proceedings, the Appellant attempted to contest the novelty of claim 1 based on E9 and its English-language translation E9a. The Opposition Division however decided not to admit such a novelty objection into the proceedings, which the Appellant believes was incorrect.

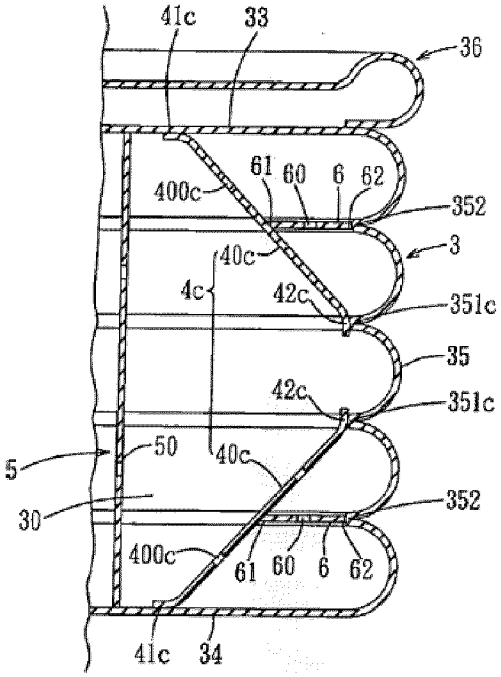


FIG. 5

Source: Figure 5 of E9

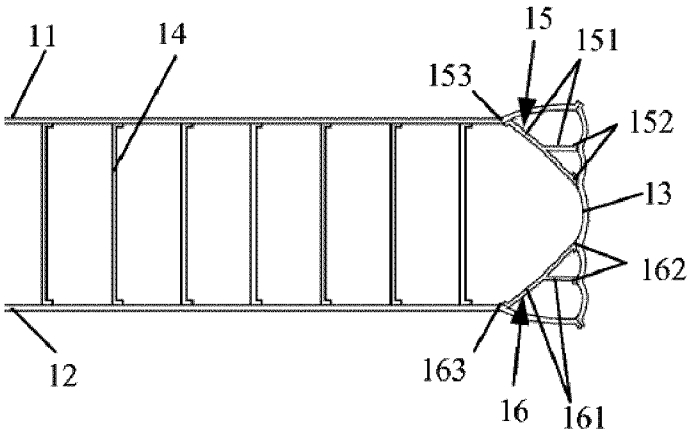


Fig. 9

Source: Figure 9 of the Patent

It has become clear that the Opposition Division had overlooked the Appellant's submissions and failed to appreciate the prima facie relevance of E9, which shows, with little investigative effort, an arrangement somewhat identical to what is shown in Figure 9 of the Patent (reproduced above). In particular, the figures of E9 are particularly relevant and Figure 5 of E9 (reproduced above) clearly shows a partial sectional view of an inflatable bed 3 having of all of the features of claim 1 as listed below:

i) An inflatable bed body 3 having an upper layer 33 and a lower layer 34;

ii) A border layer 35 interconnecting the peripheries of the upper and lower layers 33, 34 – see page 3, lines 19-24 of E9: *"Le corps de lit gonflable 3 présente une couche 20 supérieure 33, une couche inférieure 34, et une couche de bordure 35 reliant entre elles les périphéries des couches supérieure et inférieure 33, 34 et agissant conjointement avec les couches supérieure et inférieure 33, 34 pour définir un espace gonflable 30."* and page 2, lines 53-56 of E9a: *"The inflatable bed body 3 has an upper layer 33, a lower layer 34, and* ***a border layer 35 interconnecting the peripheries of the upper and lower layers 33, 34*** *and acting in conjunction with the upper and lower layers 33, 34 to define an inflatable space 30."*;

iii) An inflatable space 30 being defined by the upper, lower and border layers 33, 34, 35;

iv) A second reinforcing belt unit 5 disposed in the inflatable space 30 and interconnecting the upper and lower layers 33, 34;

v) A first reinforcing belt unit 4c comprising bevelled buckle belts 40c in conjunction with the auxiliary buckle belts 6;

vi) Outer peripheries 42c of the bevelled buckle belts 40c and the outer peripheries 62 of the auxiliary buckle belts 6;

vii) The inner peripheries 41c of the bevelled buckle belts 40c;

viii) The upper bevelled buckle belt 40c in conjunction with the upper auxiliary buckle belt 6 corresponds to the *"second tensioning structure"* and the lower bevelled buckle belt 40c in conjunction with the lower auxiliary buckle belt 6 corresponds to the *"third tensioning structure"*;

ix) Outer periphery 42c of the upper bevelled buckle belt 40c and the outer periphery 62 of the upper auxiliary buckled belt 6;

x) The inner periphery 41c of the upper bevelled buckle belt 40c;

xi) Outer periphery 42c of the lower bevelled buckle belt 40c and the outer periphery 62 of the lower auxiliary buckled belt 6; and

xii) The inner periphery 41c of the lower bevelled buckle belt 40c.

The Opposition Division's decision came after discussions concerning the relevance of E1, supported by E2 & part of E18. As discussed above, the Opposition Division arrived at the conclusion that E1 failed to directly and unambiguously disclose at least features (xi) & (xii) of claim 1, depending on the interpretation of E1. It was submitted that such features were indeed clearly derivable from Figure 5 of E9. However, the Opposition Division incorrectly decided that E9 did not disclose a rather trivial feature (ii) – *"at least one side wall (13), an upper edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet, a lower edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said bottom sheet"* – in the field of inflatable products and, for that reason, decided it was not prima facie relevant (see Item 3.1.2 of the Decision).

The Opposition Division should have determined that the disclosure of E9, and therefore its English-language translation E9a, was in fact highly relevant to the patentability of claim 1 as it would clearly prejudice the maintenance of the main request, as clearly laid out above.

Under the Opposition Division's incorrect assessment of the relevance of E1, E9 was clearly more relevant than E1 to the patentability of claim 1 because of its clear and unambiguous disclosure of the *"second tensioning structure"* and *"third tensioning structure"*. With little investigative effort into E9 and even its English-language translation E9a, the Opposition Division should have determined that E9 was prima facie relevant to all features of claim 1, even feature (ii), and required a further, full examination.

Accordingly, it is clear from the prima facie relevance of E9, particularly the disclosure associated with Figure 5, that the Opposition Division had not exercised its discretion to admit E9a and a novelty objection based on E9 in a reasonable way in line with EPO case law. The Appellant therefore respectfully requests that E9a and the novelty objection based on E9 be admitted into the present proceedings.

To the extent that the Board does not decide to overrule the Opposition Division's incorrect discretionary decision, the Appellant submits that the facts and arguments raised herein based on E9 and E9a constitute an objectively appropriate reaction to the Opposition Division's interpretation of claim 1 developed in the impugned Decision and should nevertheless be admitted into the proceedings at the discretion of the Board, for reasons equivalent to those presented above. The disclosure of E9 casts serious doubt on the prima facie validity of at least claim 1.

The Appellant maintains that at least claim 1 of the Main Request lacks novelty in view of E9.

3.2.3 Novelty of claim 1 in view of E16 (with support of slide 1 of E18)

During first instance proceedings, the Opposition Division decided not to admit late-filed E16. E16 was a document cited in the description of the Patent and raised in the European Search Report of the corresponding application.

The Division's decision came after developing a narrow view of the language of claim 1 in relation to E1.

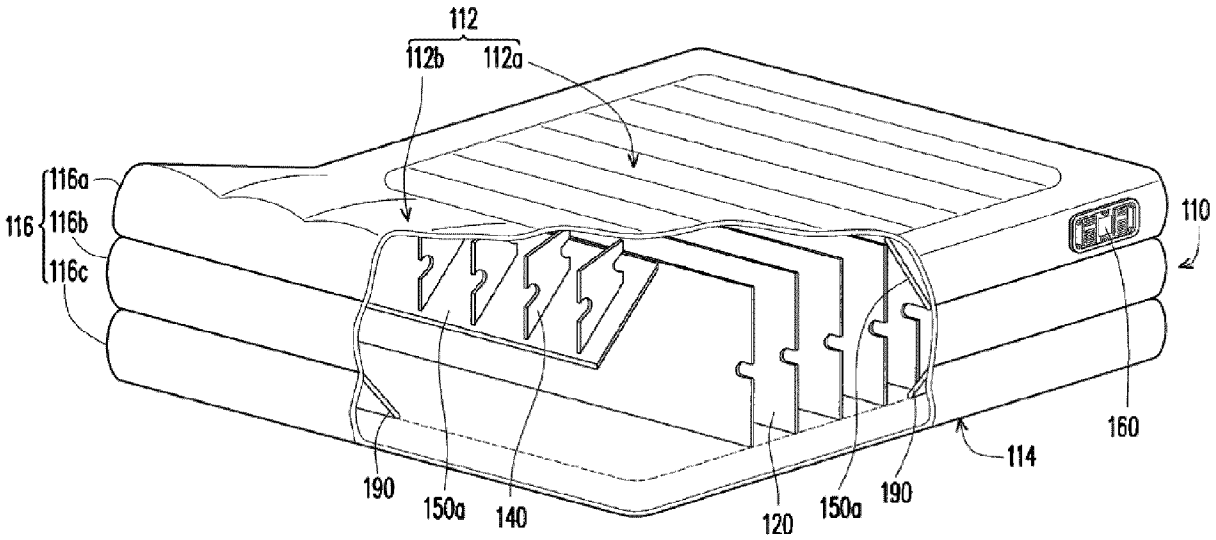


FIG. 9

It has also become clear that the Opposition Division had overlooked the Appellant's submissions and failed to appreciate the prima facie relevance of E16, with little investigative effort. In particular, Figure 9 of E16 (reproduced above and also see annotated version presented in slide 1 of E18) clearly shows a partial sectional view of an inflatable bed 100 having of all of the features of claim 1 as listed below:

i) Air mattress 100 comprising a top wall 112 and a bottom wall 114 (see Figure 9 & paragraph [0068] of E16);

ii) A side wall 116 surrounding peripheries of the top wall 112 and bottom wall 114 (see Figure 9 & paragraph [0068] of E16);

iii) An inflatable compartment 110 (see Figure 9 & paragraph [0068] of E16);

iv) A plurality of strips 120 (see Figure 9 & paragraph [0068] of E16);

v) A first peripheral strip 150a and a second peripheral strip 190 (see Figure 9 and paragraphs [0068] & [0069] of E16);

vi) Any two of the outer edges of the first and second peripheral strips 150a, 190 connected to the side wall 116 (see Figure 9 and paragraphs [0068] & [0069] of E16);

vii) Any one of the inner edges of the first and second peripheral strips 150a, 190 connected to the top and bottom walls 112, 114 (see Figure 9 and paragraphs [0068] & [0069] of E16);

viii) A first peripheral strip 150a and a second peripheral strip 190 (see Figure 9 and paragraphs [0068] & [0069] of E16);

ix) Any two of the outer edges of the first peripheral strip 150a connected to the side wall 116 (see Figure 9 and paragraphs [0068] & [0069] of E16);

x) Any one of the inner edges of the first peripheral strip 150a connected to the top wall 112 (see Figure 9 and paragraphs [0068] & [0069] of E16);

xi) Any two of the outer edges of the second peripheral strip 190 connected to the side wall 116 (see Figure 9 and paragraphs [0068] & [0069] of E16);

xii) Any one of the inner edges of the second peripheral strip 190 connected to the bottom wall 114 (see Figure 9 and paragraphs [0068] & [0069] of E16);

Under the Opposition Division's incorrect determination of the relevance of E1, E16 was clearly as relevant as E1 or even more relevant in view of their opinion that the plastic strip 53 could not be split into an upper edge and a lower edge (see Item 3.2.1 of the Decision). E16 presents an arrangement where the tensioning structures, or corner bracing structures (c.f. first and second peripheral strips 150a, 190 of E16), are spaced from each other, thereby clearly defining separate *"outside"* edges where the strips 150a, 190 connect to the side wall 116.

The Opposition Division's decision to not admit E16 into the proceedings was based on its unjustified narrow reading of the language of claim 1, in particular the term *"outside edge"*. The peripheral strips 150a, 190 clearly have at least four outer edges corresponding to each of its sides, in line with the standard definition of the term *"edge"* as discussed in detail above in relation to E1.

Even if the Board does not decide to overrule the Opposition Division's decision to not admit E16 and slide 1 of E18 into the proceedings, the Appellant submits that the facts and arguments raised herein based on E16 and slide 1 of E18 also constitute an objectively appropriate reaction to the Opposition Division's interpretation of claim 1 in the impugned Decision and should nevertheless be admitted into the proceedings at the discretion of the Board. The disclosure of E16 casts serious doubt on the prima facie validity of at least claim 1.

The Appellant maintains that at least claim 1 of the Main Request lacks novelty in view of E16.

3.2.4 Inventive step of claim 1

According to the submissions above, the Opposition Division's finding that claim 1 was novel is incorrect. Nevertheless, should the Board decide not to agree with the Appellant, the Appellant submits that claim 1 lacks an inventive step.

When considering E1 under a third interpretation (see Item 3.2.3 of the Decision), the Opposition Division decided that it was not directly and unambiguously derivable that the upper and lower suction pieces 11, 21 had all of the features of the *"second tensioning structure"* and *"third tensioning structure"* of claim 1.

The reasoning provided by the Opposition Division is inconsistent. As discussed above, the Opposition Division considered that the lower suction piece 21 could *"pass on the outer side of the air chamber"* and would therefore not have feature (ii) of claim 1 as the lower edge of the side wall would not be coupled to an outer of said bottom sheet (see Item 3.2.3 of the Decision). However, claim 1 does not require a direct coupling or connection between the side wall and the bottom sheet. The fact that the lower suction piece 21 is deemed to pass on the outer side of the air chamber still means that the lower edge of the side wall 4 is coupled to the outer edge of the bottom piece 2 via the lower suction piece 21, thereby meeting the requirements of feature (ii). This portrays the Opposition Division's incomplete understanding of the overall language of the claim and supports the view that, throughout the first instance proceedings and particularly at oral proceedings, it has unduly read additional limitations into the claim.

Moreover, the Opposition Division failed to appreciate that, regardless of whether or not the suction pieces 11, 21 are located in or out of the air chamber, the requirements of features (ix) and (xi) of claim 1 are met. For example, the outer edges of the lower suction piece 21 are still coupled to the side wall 4 whether or not the lower suction piece 21 is located within or out of the air chamber. Therefore, the question is whether or not E1 fully discloses feature (v) – *"at least one support structure <u>disposed in said air chamber</u>..."*.

Therefore, under the Opposition Division's reasoning, it is not directly and unambiguously derivable whether or not the entirety of the support structure formed by the wrapping belt 5, the upper suction piece 11 and the lower suction piece 21 is *"disposed in said air chamber"*. The distinguishing feature of claim 1 in view of Opposition Division's reasoning should be feature (v) of claim 1.

The <u>objective technical problem</u> resulting from the technical effect of such a distinguishing feature can be defined as to prevent the overbulging or overprutrusion of the side wall. This definition of the problem is in line with that defined in paragraphs [0006], [0007] and [0008] of the Patent. Paragraph [0054] of the Patent further confirms this by stating that:

"The inflatable bed of the present invention ***overcomes the defect of outward bulging and deformation of the side walls of the inflatable beds and inflatable mattresses having a relatively large height in prior art, making their appearance more attractive****. The inflatable beds and inflatable mattresses have a good stability, which overcomes the problem of susceptibility of roll-over in the prior art. Furthermore, the inflatable bed of the present invention can also prevent the user from rolling down during use."*

Paragraph [0054] explicitly ties the reduction of outward bulging of the side walls with making the appearance of the inflatable bed more attractive, thereby improving the aesthetics of the bed.

E1 explicitly mentions the same problem above in the paragraph spanning pages 4 and 5 of E2. E2 mentions that the side wrapping belt 5 improves the aesthetics of an airbed having a relatively large height by prevent overprotruding. E2 then introduces the ring-shaped upper and lower suction pieces 11, 21 and explicitly mentions that such suction pieces 11, 21 are provided *"in order to improve the aesthetics of the bed";* in other words, prevent overprotruding in relatively large height beds (see lines 4-5 on page 5 of E2). Therefore, E1 (read from E2) clearly provides a pointer to the objective technical problem.

A skilled person is taught that the suction pieces 11, 21 are similar in function and structure and, as extensively discussed above, it is clear that the disclosure of E1 as a whole teaches that the suction pieces 11, 21 would be provided within the air chamber of the airbed of E1 and not outside. As mentioned above, E1 teaches that the air chamber is primarily defined by the upper and bottom sheets and the side wall and not by the upper and lower suction pieces 11, 21. Therefore, a skilled person, in view of the allegedly incomplete teaching of E1 and the objective technical problem, when attempting to reproduce the content of E1 would obviously position the upper and lower suction pieces 11, 21 in the air chamber, while also meeting the requirements of features (ix) to (xii) of claim 1.

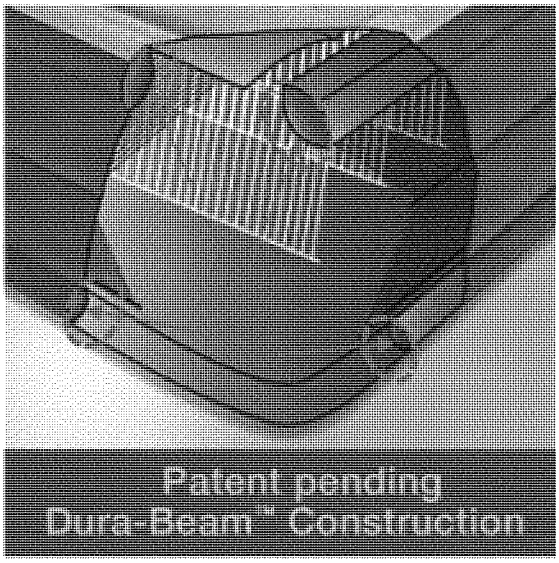
While a skilled person would obviously arrive at an arrangement in line with claim 1 in view of E1 alone, the skilled person would find it further obvious to supplement the allegedly incomplete teachings of E1 with their common general knowledge.

As discussed above in relation to novelty, it is common general knowledge that the provision of constrictions on the side wall prevents overbulging. As a result, the skilled person would find it obvious that the upper and lower suction pieces 11, 21 are intended to be connected to an inner surface of the side wall 4. The constrictions shown in the figures of E1, as extensively discussed above, would further confirm this to the skilled person. Such common general knowledge may be represented by E19.

Even if it is considered that claim 1 is inventive in view of E1 alone or E1 in combination with the common general knowledge available to a skilled person in the field of inflatable beds, claim 1 certainly lacks an inventive step in view of E1 combined with the disclosures of E19, E9 and E16.

Pages 16 & 17 of E19 show a *"high rise"* (i.e. a relatively large height) airbed having an equivalent construction to that of Figure 2 of E1. The partial sectional view shown on page 16 of E19 shows air chambers being defined by corner bracing structures (see arrows and encircled elements in annotated version of such a figure above and below). E19 therefore teaches an airbed of elevated height with *"horizontal air chambers provid[ing] added stability and support around the entire bed"* (see page 17 of E19), which are defined by said corner bracing structures. Accordingly, in light of E19 and the objective technical problem, a skilled person would find it obvious to provide the upper and lower suction pieces 11,

21 in the air chamber. E1 clearly mentions the need to reduce overprotruding in airbeds having a *"relatively large height"* (see lines 1-3 on page 5 of E2).



Source: Page 16 of E19

Furthermore, both E9 and E16 teach about the use of corner brace structures (elements 40 in Figure 2 and elements 40c in Figure 5 of E9 and peripheral strips 150a, 190 in E16) in inflatable beds. Similarly to E19, a skilled person would also find it obvious to provide the upper and lower suction pieces 11, 21 in the air chamber in view of E9 or E16.

In Item 3.3 of the Decision, how the Opposition Division considered the Opponent-Appellant's submissions regarding the combination of E1 and E9 under a duly formulated problem-solution approach is unclear.

According to the Opposition Division's reasoning (see Item 3.2.3 of the Decision), the difference between claim 1 and E1 is mainly whether or not the upper and lower suction pieces 11, 21 are certainly provided in the air chamber. Therefore, under the Opposition Division's interpretation of E1, the skilled person is taught by E1 that the air mattress is merely provided with upper and lower suction pieces *"in order to improve the aesthetics of the bed"* (see line 4, page 5 of E2).

Therefore, a skilled person is aware of the provision of such suction pieces but would not be able to directly and unambiguously derive how they are assembled into the bed of E1. As a result, in view of what is already derivable from E1 and the objective technical problem to be solved, a skilled person would be seeking clarification or confirmation on how the upper and lower suction pieces 11, 21 in E1 are being employed in order to solve the technical problem.

The Opposition Division failed to consider that in prior passages of E2, a skilled person is taught that improving aesthetics is synonymous with reducing overbulging. This aim to reduce overbulging clearly aligns with the objective technical problem defined above, which would lead a skilled person to seek clarification on how the suction pieces 11, 21 *"improve the aesthetics of the bed"*. At this point, a skilled person would find it obvious to draw from the teachings of E19, E9 and even E16 to confirm that the

suctions pieces 11, 21 are intended to be provided in the air chamber, thereby meeting the requirements of claim 1 and, importantly, solving the problem of reducing overbulging, which is clearly set out in E1.

The Opposition Division noted that E9 *"appears to be of a completely different construction compared to E1"* because E1 has cables 51 for connecting the top sheet and the side wall and E9 uses a belt 4. However, the Opposition Division has not stated how such an allegedly *"completely different construction"* would deter a skilled person from applying the teachings regarding the belt 4 of E9, for example, to the upper and lower suction pieces 11, 21.

It is reiterated that a skilled person would obviously use the teachings concerning the belt 4 of E9, for example, to confirm in E1 that the suction pieces 11, 21 are meant to be provided in the air chamber, thereby arriving at an arrangement in line with the language of claim 1. The structural aspects of the belt 4 of E9 would appear identical to the suction pieces 11, 21 and would not hinder a skilled person in drawing teachings concerning the belt 4 from E9.

The rest of the reasoning presented by the Opposition Division is also incorrect. It mentioned that *"whereas the tensioning structure in E1 has two connection-points (51) and (21) to the lower sheet, the tensioning structure of E9 only has one single connection point at (41c)..."*. As discussed above, the Opposition Division appears to have failed to understand that a skilled person is using the teaching of the single connection point at (41c) of E9 to clarify the connection-point (51) and not introduce another connection-point.

Finally, the Opposition Division appears to have overstated the relevance of the feature *"edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet"* of claim 1 with regard to E9. As discussed above, E9 does in fact disclose a border layer 35 interconnecting the peripheries of the upper and lower layers 33, 34, which clearly anticipates such a feature, even if it is not clearly portrayed in Figure 5. The disclosure of E9 as a whole needs to be considered. Nevertheless, this should have been derived on a prima facie basis.

Regardless, the nature of the connection between the border layer 35 (side wall) and the upper and lower walls 33, 34 should not and would not discourage a skilled person from drawing from the teachings concerning belts 4, 41c of E9. A skilled person would clearly be able to provide the upper and lower suction pieces 11, 21 within the air chamber by applying the teachings of E9, regardless of whether or not the side wall and upper/lower walls of E9 are separately connected entities or are integrally formed.

Accordingly, in line with the submissions presented above, claim 1 of the Main Request clearly lacks an inventive step in view of E1, either alone or in combination with the common general knowledge, E19, E9 and/or E16.

4. CONCLUDING REMARKS

Accordingly, for the reasons set out above, the Appellant respectfully submits that the Opposition Division's Decision should be set aside.

In the unlikely event that the Board is minded not to set the Opposition Division's Decision aside, oral proceedings are requested, as per Request 2 above. We request that oral proceedings take place in English with simultaneous translation into the English language should any other party use another official language of the EPO, or any other language used with the permission of the Board.

The Appellant reserves the right to present further submissions, particularly in view of any Auxiliary Requests submitted by the Patentee-Respondent.

Yours faithfully

[Electronically signed]

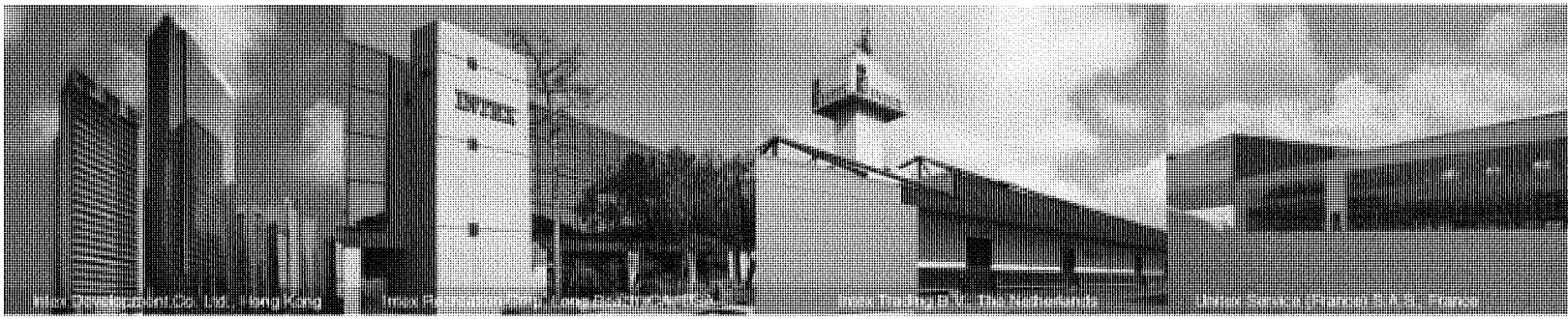
PARSI MENDIOLA, Joshua
PROFESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVE
epo@reddie.co.uk

INTEX®

2014 CATALOG

RESTTM

Comfort Rest™



INTRODUCTION

The Intex Family of companies is dedicated to developing and manufacturing the highest quality products that not only provide the best value in price, but are innovative, fun and exciting. Backed by excellent Customer Service, Intex also provides first-rate after sales support. The 100+ independently owned and locally operated companies that make up the Intex Family, all embrace this commitment to quality, service and price and are committed to working together to ensure the satisfaction of the families and individuals across the globe who enjoy these products. This has become the hallmark of Intex around the world.

As a true industry leader, Intex boasts state of the art factories, trained and motivated people, products that meet rigorous testing requirements, and a Customer Service organization that will go extra lengths to ensure our customers are satisfied and happy with their purchases.

That's why when you purchase an Intex product you can be confident that you are buying the best product, at the best price, backed by the best Customer Service organization in the industry.

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 958
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

AIRJACK



AIR ARCHERY
AIR ARCHERY
AIR ARCHERY

INTRODUCING
DURA-BEAM™ TECHNOLOGY
by INTEX
CONTOURED SUPPORT SYSTEM
Our new innovative, patent pending Dura-Beam™ Technology
airbeds are comprised of thousands of high-strength
polyester fibers. Unlike traditional airbed construction, these
high-strength polyester fibers do not stretch over time,
resulting in amazing durability for years of lasting comfort.
Dura-Beam™ interior construction provides the ideal firmness
for superb support and rejuvenating sleep.

Designed for Comfort
Engineered for Durability
DURA-BEAM™
TECHNOLOGY
AIR-Tech

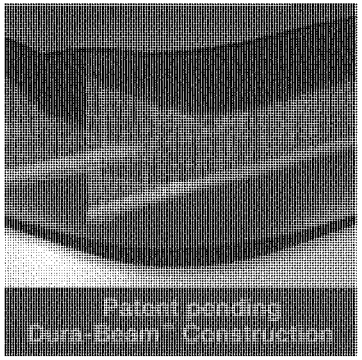
ROLL 'N GO™ BED

WITH DURA-BEAM™ CONSTRUCTION

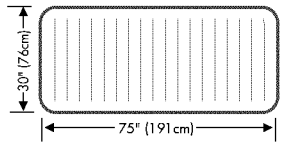
This PVC Free airbed is constructed of laminated TPE, which means it is:
- Super Tough – Softens up the rough outdoors with a very durable, eco-friendly material
- Strong Support System – Inflates up to three times the pressure of a regular PVC junior-twin airbed for a firmer sleeping surface
- Ultra Lightweight – Weighs approximately one fourth less than a common junior-twin PVC constructed airbed

AIRBED WITH HAND PUMP

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size	Hand Pump	Case Pack	Case Weight
68711 / E	JR Twin	30" x 75" x 6" (76cm x 191cm x 15cm)	68612	4 Ea	23.0 Lb (10.5kg)









new!



NO PVC™

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 964
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

For the true outdoor camper, Intex is proud to introduce an improved, ultra lightweight, eco-friendly Airbed.

This PVC-free laminated bed is built with our new, patent-pending Dura-Beam™ construction. Combined with an extra-strong, lightweight TPE outer surface, this Bed is ultra strong, ultra light, and ultra convenient. Perfect for the Great Outdoors! For extra convenience, the Roll 'N Go™ Bed comes with a hand-held manual air pump.

Ultimate Outdoor Bed with Inflating Pump

- Quality tested 14.4 gauge (0.36mm) specs
- Eco-friendly TPE laminated fabric – phthalate-free material
- Dura-Beam™ interior construction
- Hand-held hi-output lightweight manual air pump
- Folds compactly for storage
- Duffel bag with handle included
- Shelf box

NO PVC™

MAXIMUM DURABILITY

The strong TPE (Thermoplastic Elastomer) laminated material and innovative Dura-Beam™ inner construction transform the toughest ground into a refreshing night's sleep. It retains elasticity in temperature as low as -4° F/-20° C.

Made of TPE – A PVC-free eco friendly material



INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 965
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Battery-Operated Pump
(Included)

Built-in battery charging
compartment (Batteries not included)

Cordless operation
Quick-fill valve system

Use with AC adaptor
(Included)

AIRBED WITH BELLOWS FOOT PUMP

Item	Size	Unpackaged Inflated Size	Case Pack	Case Weight
68724 / E	Twin	39" x 75" x 18" (99cm x 191cm x 30cm)	4 Ea.	33.5 lb. (15.2kg)

AIRBED WITH BUILT-IN RECHARGEABLE BATTERY PUMP

Item	Size	Unpackaged Inflated Size	Case Pack	Case Weight
68727 / E	Twin	39" x 75" x 18" (99cm x 191cm x 30cm)	3 Ea.	28.7 lb. (13.1kg)

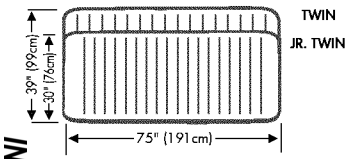
Intex is proud to introduce the ultimate Airbed for campers.

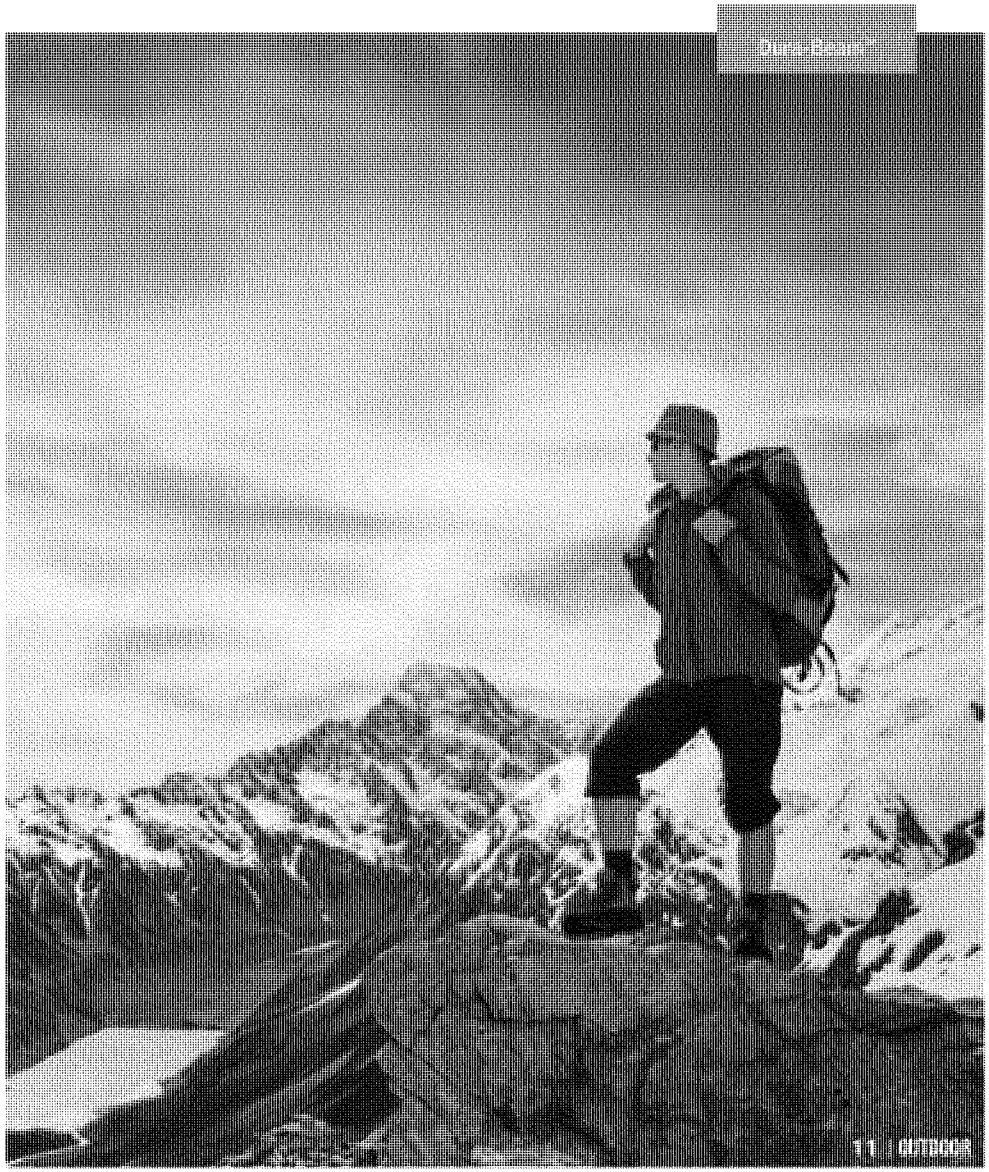
Our Super-Tough™ PVC and polyester laminate create a smooth yet highly puncture resistant surface, guaranteed to give campers a great night's sleep. This Super-Tough™ laminate, coupled with our all new Dura-Beam™ construction, makes this bed, the ultimate camping airbed.

For the ultimate in convenience, the Super-Tough™ bed is also available with a built-in, rechargeable battery pump.

STRENGTH, LIGHT-WEIGHT, CONVENIENCE & COMFORT

- Quality tested 16.8 gauge (0.42mm) specs
- Super-Tough™ laminated exterior surfaces
- Dura-Beam™ interior construction
- Includes carry bag
- Folds compactly for storage
- Shelf box





INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 967
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

AIRBED WITH BUILT-IN ELECTRIC PUMP

Item	Size	Raised Inflated Size	Built-in Pump	Case Pack	Case Weight
67745 / E 67766	Twin	39" x 75" x 13" (99cm x 191cm x 33cm)	110 – 120V 220 – 240V	3 Ea.	39.4 lb. (17.9kg)
67767 / E 67768	Full	54" x 75" x 13" (137cm x 191cm x 33cm)	110 – 120V 220 – 240V	2 Ea.	31.7 lb. (14.4kg)
67769 / E 67770	Queen	60" x 80" x 13" (152cm x 203cm x 33cm)	110 – 120V 220 – 240V	2 Ea.	35.8 lb. (16.3kg)

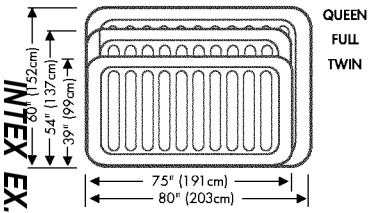
Intex is proud to introduce a Mid-Rise Airbed for demanding consumers that's sure to delight their guests.

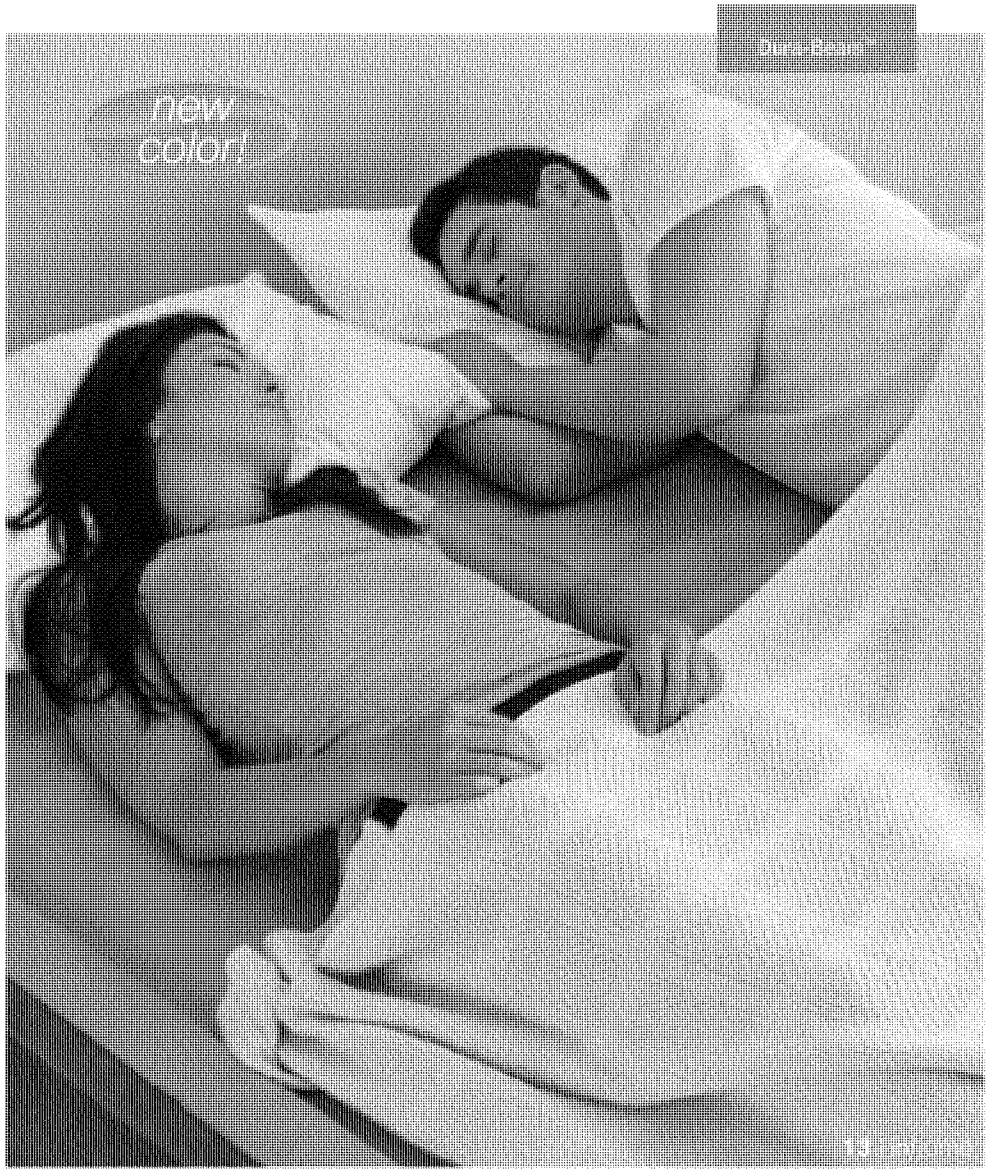
Our patent-pending Dura-Beam™ construction replaces traditional vinyl beams with beams comprised of thousands of high-strength spun polyester fibers. These revolutionary, eco-friendly Dura-Beam™ fibers are significantly stronger and lighter than traditional beams, and they do not stretch over time under air pressure. So they provide an amazingly comfortable and supportive sleeping surface with just the right amount of firmness.

The sleeping surface is covered in soft flocking for extra comfort, and for increased stability the entire bed is surrounded with an additional air chamber. A built-in electric pump provides further convenience.

Designed for Comfort. Engineered for Durability.

- Quality tested 21.2 gauge (0.53mm) waterproof flocked top and sides with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl bottom
- Dura-Beam™ interior construction
- Built-in electric pump
- Includes hand carry bag
- Folds compactly for storage
- Shelf box

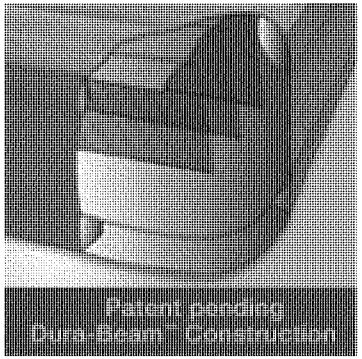


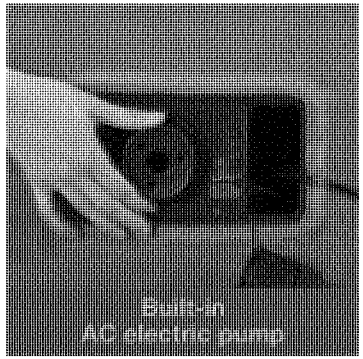


INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 969
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

COMFORT-PLUSH ELEVATED AIRBED

WITH DURA-BEAM® CONSTRUCTION





AIRBED WITH BUILT-IN ELECTRIC PUMP

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size	Built-in Pump	Case Pack	Case Weight
64411 / E 64412	Twin	39" x 75" x 18" (99cm x 191cm x 46cm)	110 – 120V 220 – 240V	3 Ea.	41.9 Lb. (19.1kg)
64413 / E 64414	Queen	60" x 80" x 18" (152cm x 203cm x 46cm)	110 – 120V 220 – 240V	2 Ea.	38.5 Lb. (17.5kg)



INFLATING TIMES*
[illegible]
Twin
Queen

** Inflating time varies by mattress size and desired firmness*

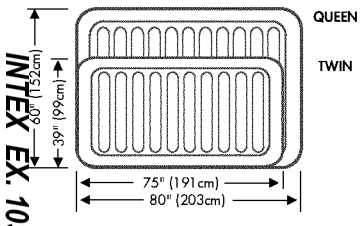
Our new Comfort-Plush Elevated Series is our latest edition to the revolutionary Dura-Beam™ Technology airbed line.

Innovative Dura-Beam™ Technology airbeds are comprised of thousands of high-strength polyester fibers. Unlike traditional airbed construction, these high-strength polyester fibers do not stretch over time, resulting in amazing durability for years of lasting comfort. Dura-Beam™ interior construction provides the ideal firmness for superb support and rejuvenating sleep.

Each bed is covered in plush flocking that is soft to the touch, and the horizontal air chambers provide added stability and support around the entire bed. The bed's elevated height makes it easier to get in and out of, much like a traditional mattress. For extra convenience, this bed comes with a powerful built-in electric pump for fast inflation and deflation.

Designed for Comfort. Engineered for Durability.

- Quality tested 21.2 gauge (0.53mm) waterproof flocked top and sides with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl bottom
- 18" (46cm) Elevated Height
- Dura-Beam™ Construction
- Built-in electric pump
- Includes hand carry bag
- Folds compactly for storage or travel
- Air Lock Tested
- Shelf box

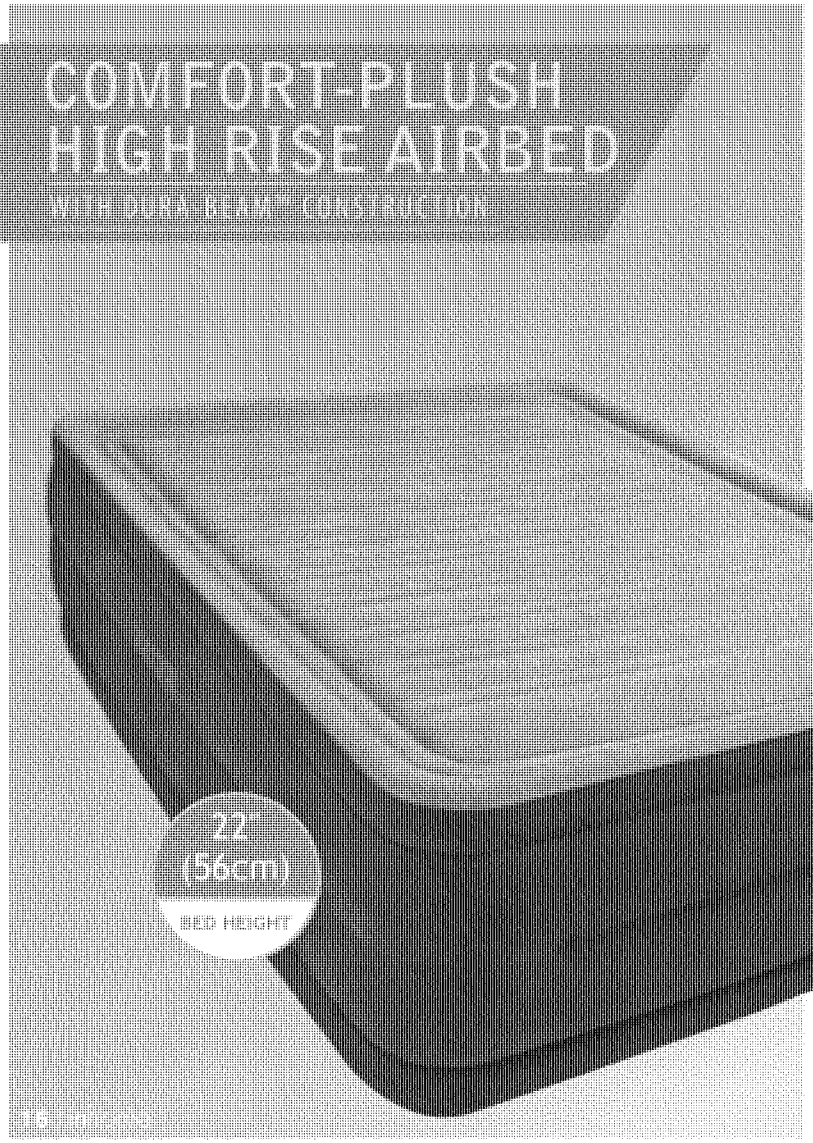


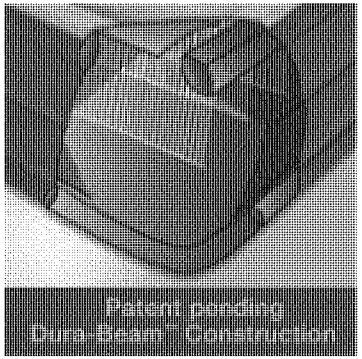


Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables
INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 971

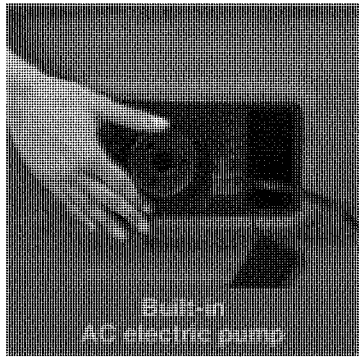
COMFORT-PLUSH HIGH RISE AIRBED

WITH DURA-BEAM® CONSTRUCTION





Patent pending
Dura-Beam® Construction



Built-in
A.C. electric pump

AIRBED WITH BUILT-IN ELECTRIC PUMP

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size	Built-in Pump	Case Pack	Case Weight
64417 / E	Queen	60" x 80" x 22" (152cm x 203cm x 56cm)	110 – 120V 220 – 240V	2 Ea.	43.6 Lb. (19.8kg)
64418					

INFLATING TIMES*	
Approximate Time	
110-120V	[illegible]
220-240V	[illegible]

** Inflating time varies by mattress size and desired firmness*

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 972
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

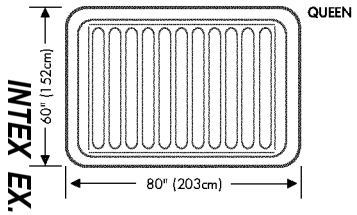
Our new Comfort-Plush High Rise bed offers the perfect combination of luxurious comfort and convenience.

The revolutionary Dura-Beam™ interior construction provides the ideal comfort and firmness for a rejuvenating night's sleep. The horizontal air chambers provide added stability and support around the entire bed. The bed's elevated 22" height makes it easier to get in and out of, much like a traditional mattress.

The bed is covered in soft flocking for an extra comfortable sleeping surface. For added convenience, this bed comes with a powerful built-in electric pump for fast inflation and deflation.

Designed for Comfort. Engineered for Durability.

- Quality tested 21.2 gauge (0.53mm) waterproof flocked top and 22.4 gauge (0.56mm) sides with 16.8 gauge (0.42mm) vinyl bottom
- 22" (56cm) High Rise Height
- Dura-Beam™ Construction
- Built-in electric pump
- Includes hand carry bag
- Folds compactly for storage or travel
- Air Lock Tested
- Shelf box

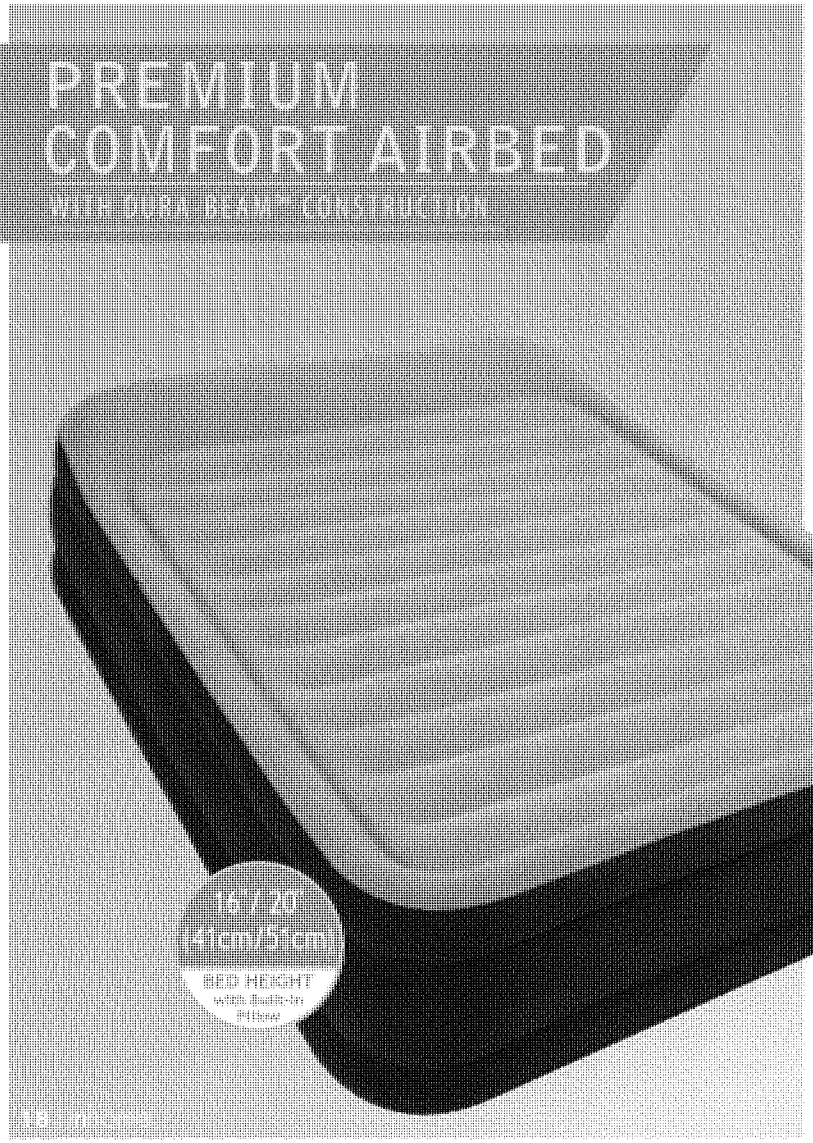


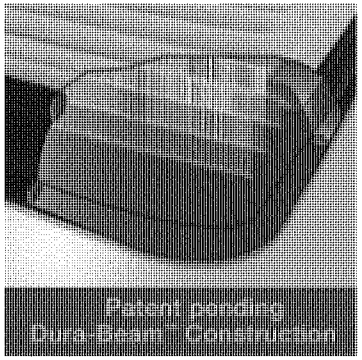


INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 973
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

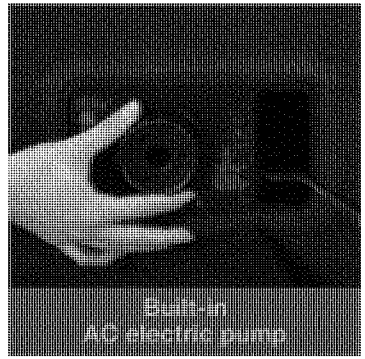
PREMIUM COMFORT AIRBED

WITH DURA-BEAM® CONSTRUCTION





Patent pending
Dura-Beam® Construction



Built-in
AC electric pump

AIRBED WITH BUILT-IN ELECTRIC PUMP

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size	Built-in Pump	Case Pack	Case Weight
64460 / E 64464	Queen	60" x 80" x 16" (152cm x 203cm x 41cm)	110 – 120V 220 – 240V	2 Ea.	34.3 Lb. (15.6kg)
64467 / E 64468	Queen	60" x 80" x 20" (152cm x 203cm x 51cm)	110 – 120V 220 – 240V	2 Ea.	36.7 Lb. (16.7kg)

16" / 20"
(41cm/51cm)
BED HEIGHT
with Built-in Pillow

INFLATING TIMES*	
Mattress Height	Approximate Inflating Time
16" (41cm)	3 minutes
20" (51cm)	4 minutes

** Inflating time varies by mattress size and desired firmness*

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 974
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

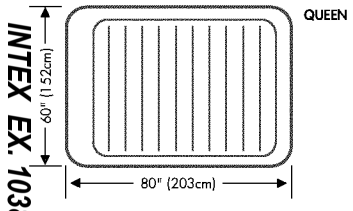
Our Premium Comfort Pillow Rest Series offers the perfect airbed for overnight guests or an upcoming vacation.

Innovative Dura-Beam™ Technology airbeds are comprised of thousands of high-strength polyester fibers. Unlike traditional airbed construction, these high-strength polyester fibers do not stretch over time, resulting in amazing durability for years of lasting comfort. Dura-Beam™ interior construction provides the ideal firmness for superb support and rejuvenating sleep.

Each bed is covered in soft flocking for extra comfort and the horizontal air chambers provide added stability and support around the entire bed. The bed's built-in pillow makes it the ideal for everyday indoor and outdoor use. For extra convenience, this bed comes with a powerful built-in electric pump for fast inflation and deflation.

Designed for Comfort. Engineered for Durability.

- Quality tested 22.4 gauge (0.56mm) waterproof flocked top and 21.2 gauge (0.53mm) sides with 16 gauge (0.40mm) vinyl bottom
- Includes Pillow Rest
- Dura-Beam™ Construction
- Mattress is raised 13" (33cm) and 18" (46cm) from the floor respectively
- Built-in electric pump
- Includes hand carry bag
- Folds compactly for storage or travel
- Air Lock Tested
- Shelf box





INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 975
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

CAMPING
Enjoy the Great Outdoors
Intex knows that disconnecting from the pace of modern life doesn't
mean giving up comfort. Intex Camping Airbeds have all been specifically
designed to provide an unforgettable level of style, durability, comfort,
and ease. Intex Camping Airbeds come in a variety of shapes, sizes,
and styles to suit nearly any outdoor adventure.


AIR-X
AIR-X

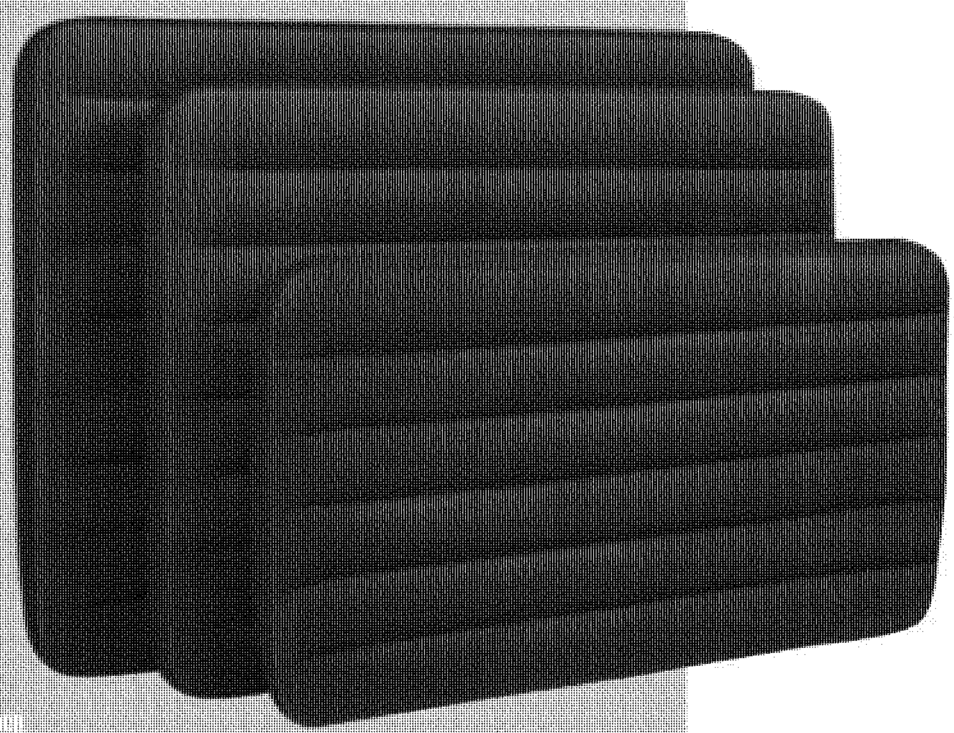
CAMPING MATS
Puncture-resistant
2-ply laminate

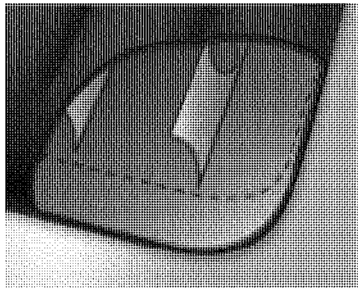
DOWNY BED

PRESTIGE DOWNY BED

AIRBED WITH SEPARATE BATTERY PUMP (6 X C-CELL)

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size	Case Pack	Case Weight
[illegible]	Twin	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	Full	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	Queen	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]





Wave Beam Construction
U.S. Patent No. D414,644



For home or camping
Operates on 6 C-cell batteries
(not included)



The perfect
camping companion

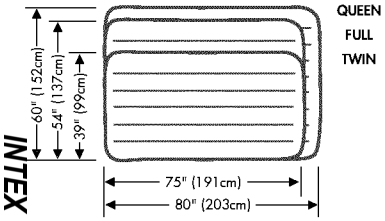
INFLATING TIMES*	
Twin	2 minutes
Full	2 minutes
Queen	2½ minutes

* Inflating time varies by mattress size and desired firmness

The perfect choice for the rugged outdoors. The flocked top provides a comfortable sleeping surface, cleans easily and is waterproof for camping. The powerful battery-operated (6 x C-cell) pump goes anywhere!

WITH HAND-HELD BATTERY PUMP

- Quality tested 20.8 gauge (0.52mm) waterproof flocked top with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl sides and bottom
- 3-in-1 valve has extra-wide openings for fast inflating and deflating
- Conventional mattress sizes (L x W) for more sleeping area and a better fit for sheets
- Battery pump can also be used on other inflatables
- 8¾" (22cm) mattress thickness for extra soft comfort
- Folds compactly for storage or travel
- Shelf box



QUEEN
FULL
TWIN



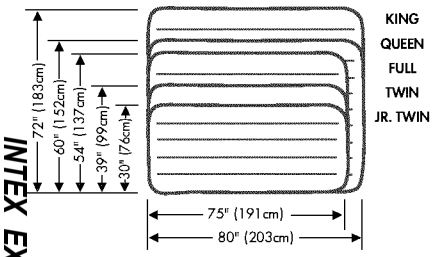
INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 981
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

CLASSIC DOWNY BED
AIRBED SET
Item Size Approximate Inflated Size Hand Pump Case Pack Case Weight
68765 / E Queen 60" x 80" x 9¾" (152cm x 203cm x 22cm) 68612 3 Ea. 34.9 Lb. (15.9kg)

You can't go wrong with this bed! Take it camping or use it for out of town guests. Our best selling Classic Downy Bed is versatile and perfect for both in-home and camping. The wave beam construction creates a uniform sleeping surface that is guaranteed to give you a good night's rest wherever you are. Plush flocking provides a luxurious sleeping surface while keeping sheets in place. It's also easy to clean and waterproofed for camping use. The Classic Downy Bed offers retailers and consumers the best value for their money at an opening price point.

PLUSH FLOCKED TOP FOR COMFORT

- Quality tested 20.8 gauge (0.52mm) waterproof flocked top with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl sides and bottom
- 2-in-1 valve has extra-wide openings for fast inflating and deflating
- Conventional mattress sizes (L x W) for more sleeping area and a better fit for sheets
- 8¾" (22cm) mattress thickness for extra soft comfort
- Folds compactly for storage or travel
- Shelf box





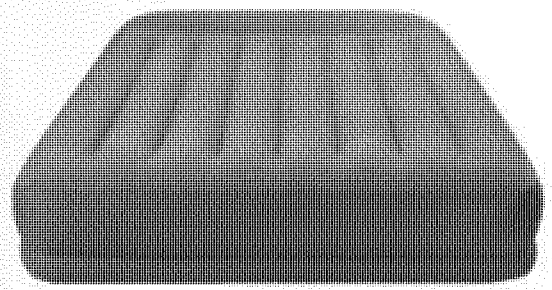
INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 983
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables



SINGLE

Comfort On the Go

With all of the demands of modern life, travel, whether for work or personal, has become a necessity. Intex Single Airbeds allow the modern traveler a way of taking a little bit of home with them in a compact and comfortable airbed. Let Intex make you feel at home.



AIR LOCK™

100% of our airbeds are quality tested to be air tight before they leave our factory.

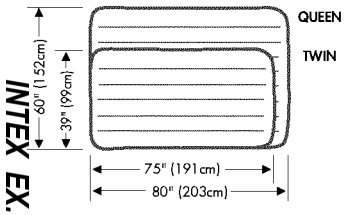
INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 985
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

2-IN-1 AIRBED

Our 2-in-1 Bed is still the most flexible, all-purpose airbed: Two beds in one! Attached by four snap-buckles, it easily converts from a flocked high-rise bed into two single height beds. Both beds have plush flocked surfaces for soft comfort and provide a restful night's sleep. It's incredibly easy to maintain and is the perfect bed for consumers who have multiple house guests, for kids' sleepovers and for family camping trips. Its versatility makes it one of the most popular beds in our collection!

ELEVATED BED CONVERTS TO TWO SEPARATE BEDS

- Quality tested 20.8 gauge (0.52mm) waterproof flocked top with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl sides and bottom
- 2-in-1 valve has extra-wide openings for fast inflating and deflating
- Four snap-buckles turn 1 high-rise bed into 2 single layer beds for more guests
- Dual wave beam construction provides an added level of sleeping comfort
- Flocked sleeping surface for extra comfort all night long
- Conventional mattress sizes (L x W) for more sleeping area and a better fit for sheets
- Folds compactly for easy storage or travel
- Shelf box





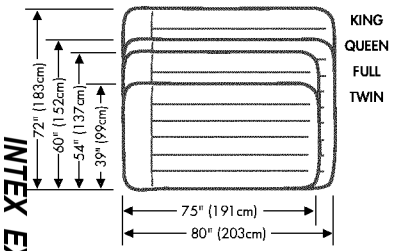
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables
INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 987

PILLOW REST
CLASSIC BED
INTEX
Built-in electric AC pump
Built-in pillow
Inflating time*
Inflating time*
* inflating time varies by mattress size and desired firmness

For those who need a pillow but lack the space to carry one, this luxurious flocked bed is the answer. The waterproof and stain resistant surface makes it easy to keep clean while providing the soft comfort of home.

ELEVATED FOR CONVENIENCE

- Quality tested 21.2 gauge (0.53mm) waterproof flocked top with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl sides and bottom
- Flocked sleeping surface for extra comfort
- A built-in pillow provides bed-like comfort
- Mattress is raised 9" (23cm) from the floor for convenience
- 3-in-1 valve on "Airbed Only" series has extra-wide openings
- Inflated dimensions fit standard sheet sizes
- Includes carry bag
- Shelf box





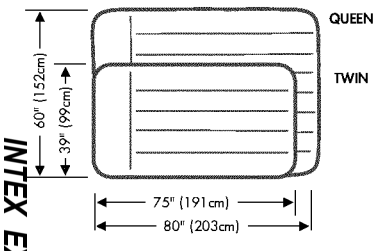
INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 989
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

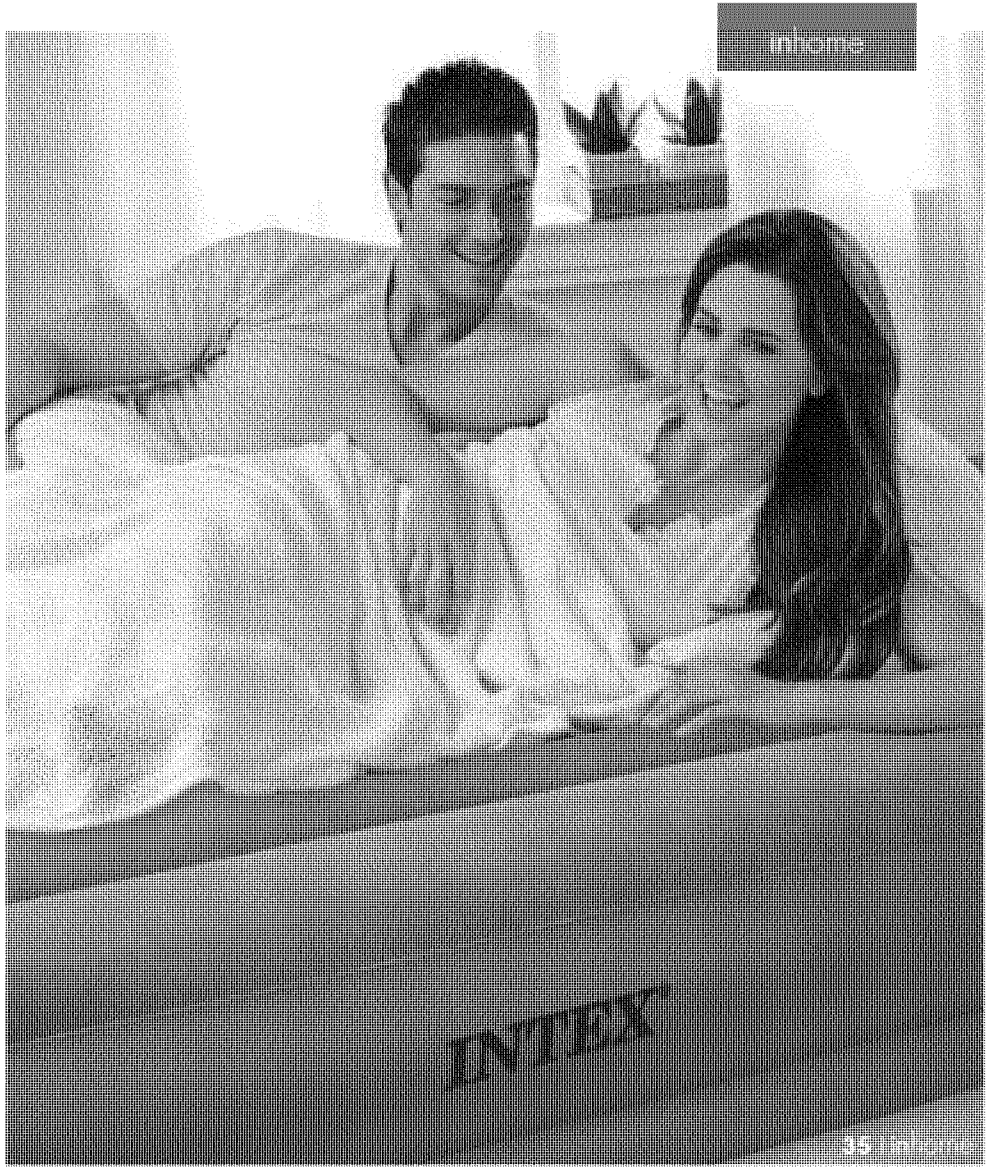
PILLOW REST
MID-RISE BED
INTEX

Our mid-rise airbed provides all of the great benefits of our high-rise airbed, but with the added advantage of lighter weight and easier portability. The bed features a contoured bottom which provides a better gripping effect to increase stability. Perfect for travelers who are looking for all of the comforts of a raised bed, plus the convenience of easy transportation. Twin size is also available.

ELEVATED FOR CONVENIENCE

- Quality tested 21.2 gauge (0.53mm) waterproof flocked top with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl sides and bottom
- Flocked sleeping surface for extra comfort
- A built-in pillow provides bed-like comfort
- Mattress is raised 13¾" (35cm) from the floor for convenience
- Inflated dimensions fit standard sheet sizes
- Includes hand carry bag
- Shelf box





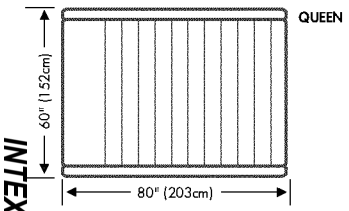
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables
INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 991

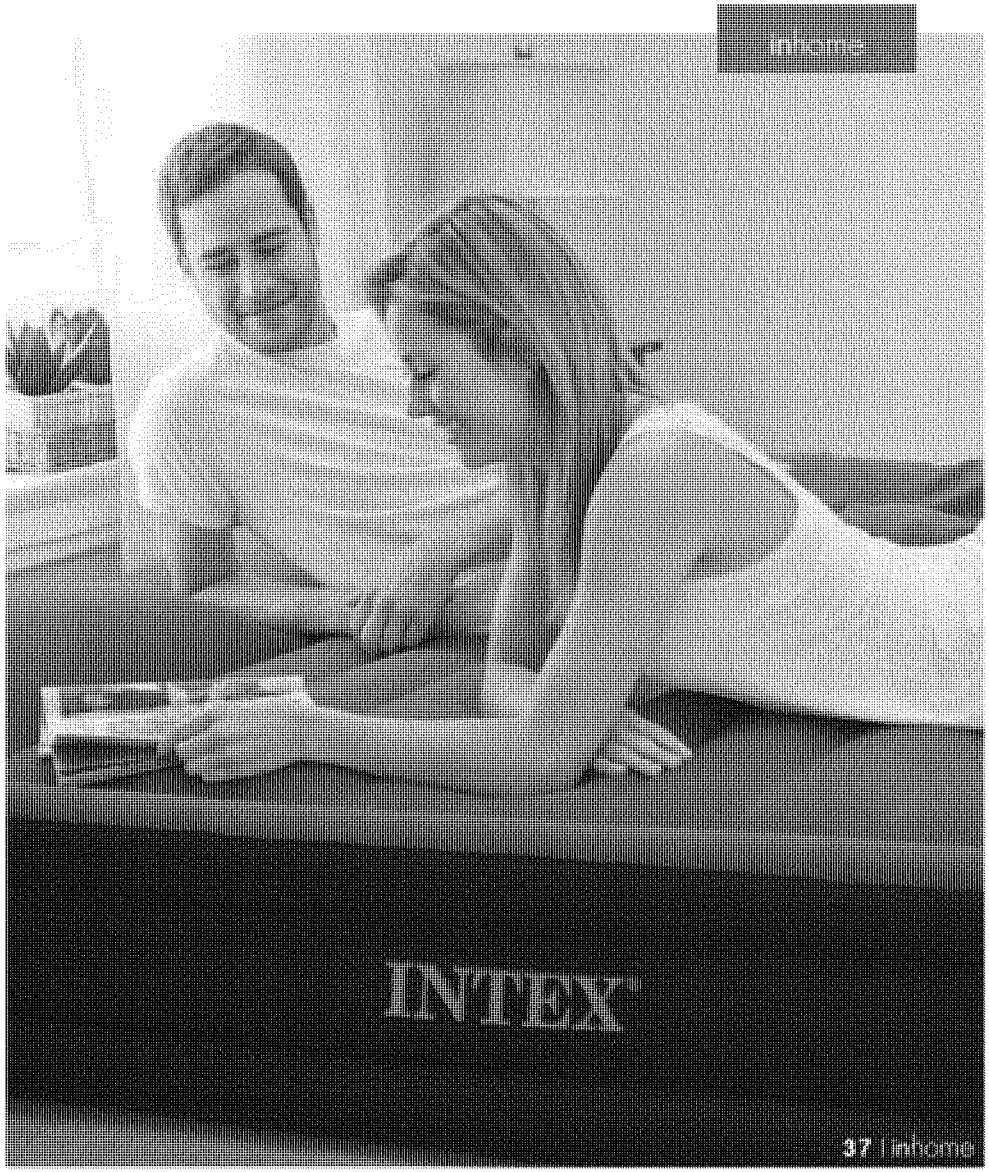
* Inflating time varies by mattress size and desired firmness

Introducing a revolutionary new flocking with the luxurious feel of velveteen corduroy! This bed has an elegant look to match. The I-Beam construction offers great stability as well as comfort to make this airbed a refined addition to any guest room.

DESIGNER ELEGANCE

- Quality tested 26.4 gauge (0.66mm) waterproof flocked top with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl sides and bottom
- Sturdy I-Beam construction
- Mattress is raised 13" (33cm) from the floor for convenience
- Folds compactly for storage
- Includes hand carry bag
- Shelf box





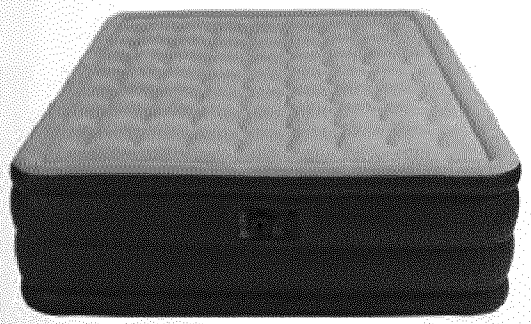
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables
INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 993



RAISED

Stylish. Convenient. Comfort.

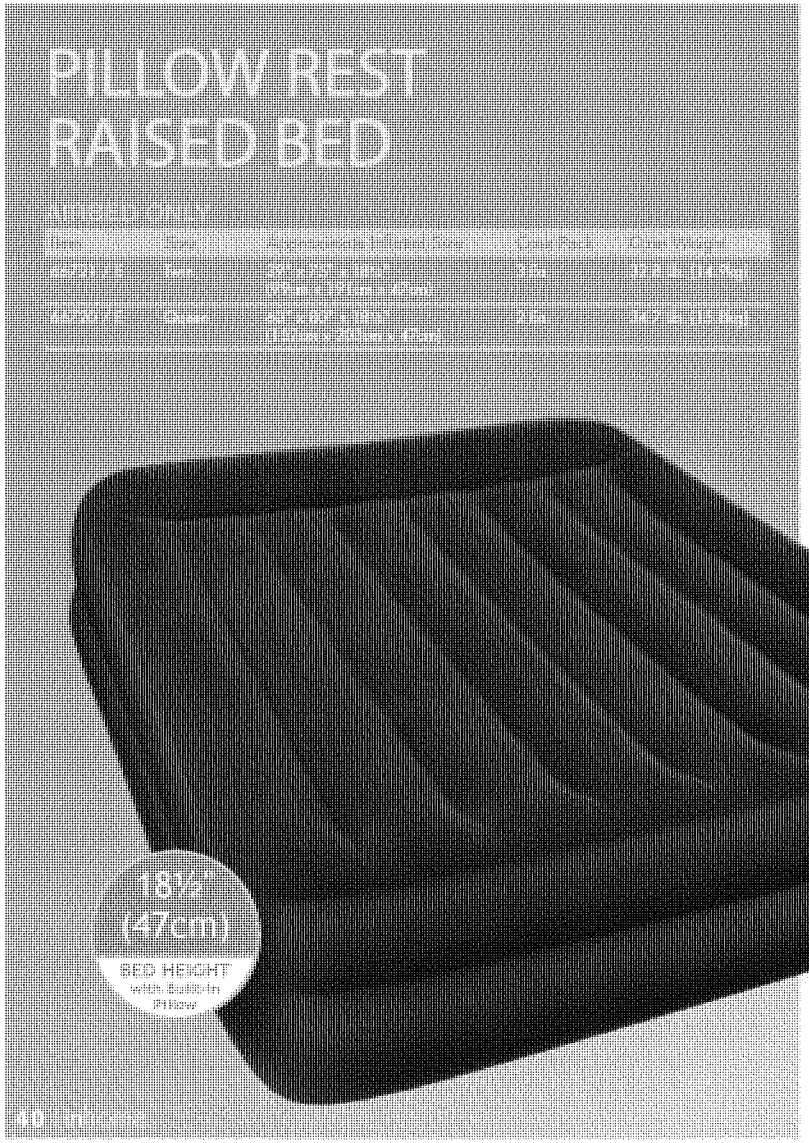
Intex Raised Airbeds are the perfect combination of form, function, style and comfort. Flocked surfaces and elevated airbed heights allow guests to enjoy a restful night's sleep away from home. Intex Raised Airbeds come in a variety of sizes to suit any room and allow hosts to create a cozy environment for their overnight guests.

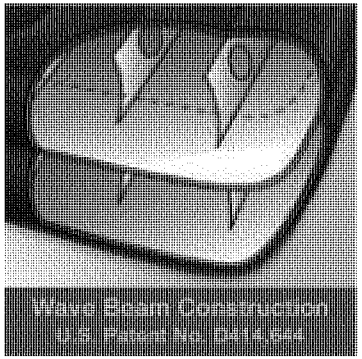


AIR LOCK™

100% of our airbeds are quality tested to be air tight before they leave our factory.

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 995
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables







AIRBED WITH BUILT-IN ELECTRIC PUMP

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size	Built-in Pump	Case Pack	Case Weight
66705 / E 66706	Twin	39" x 75" x 18½" (99cm x 191cm x 47cm)	110 – 120V 220 – 240V	3 Ea.	39.7 Lb. (18.1kg)
67701 / E 66702	Queen	60" x 80" x 18½" (152cm x 203cm x 47cm)	110 – 120V 220 – 240V	2 Ea.	39.1 Lb. (17.8kg)

INFLATING TIMES*
AC Electric Pump
Twin 2 Minutes
Queen 4 Minutes

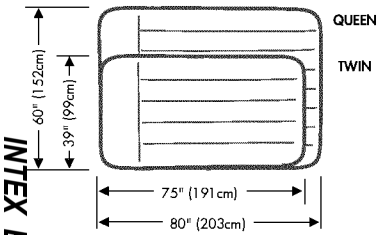
** Inflating time varies by mattress size and desired firmness*

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 996
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

The Pillow Rest Raised Bed is our best selling raised airbed. By providing all of the great benefits of a raised bed and built-in pump, this bed is perfect for house guests, dorm rooms and even camping trips! It's light, convenient and with a built-in pillow, it's as comfortable as your bed at home. This bed is truly a great value at a great price.

ELEVATED FOR CONVENIENCE

- Quality tested 21.2 gauge (0.53mm) waterproof flocked top with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl sides and bottom
- Mattress is raised 16½" (42cm) from the floor for convenience
- 3-in-1 valve on "Airbed Only" series has extra-wide openings
- A built-in pillow provides bed-like comfort
- Includes hand carry bag
- Shelf box





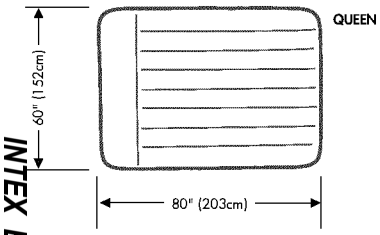
INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 997
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

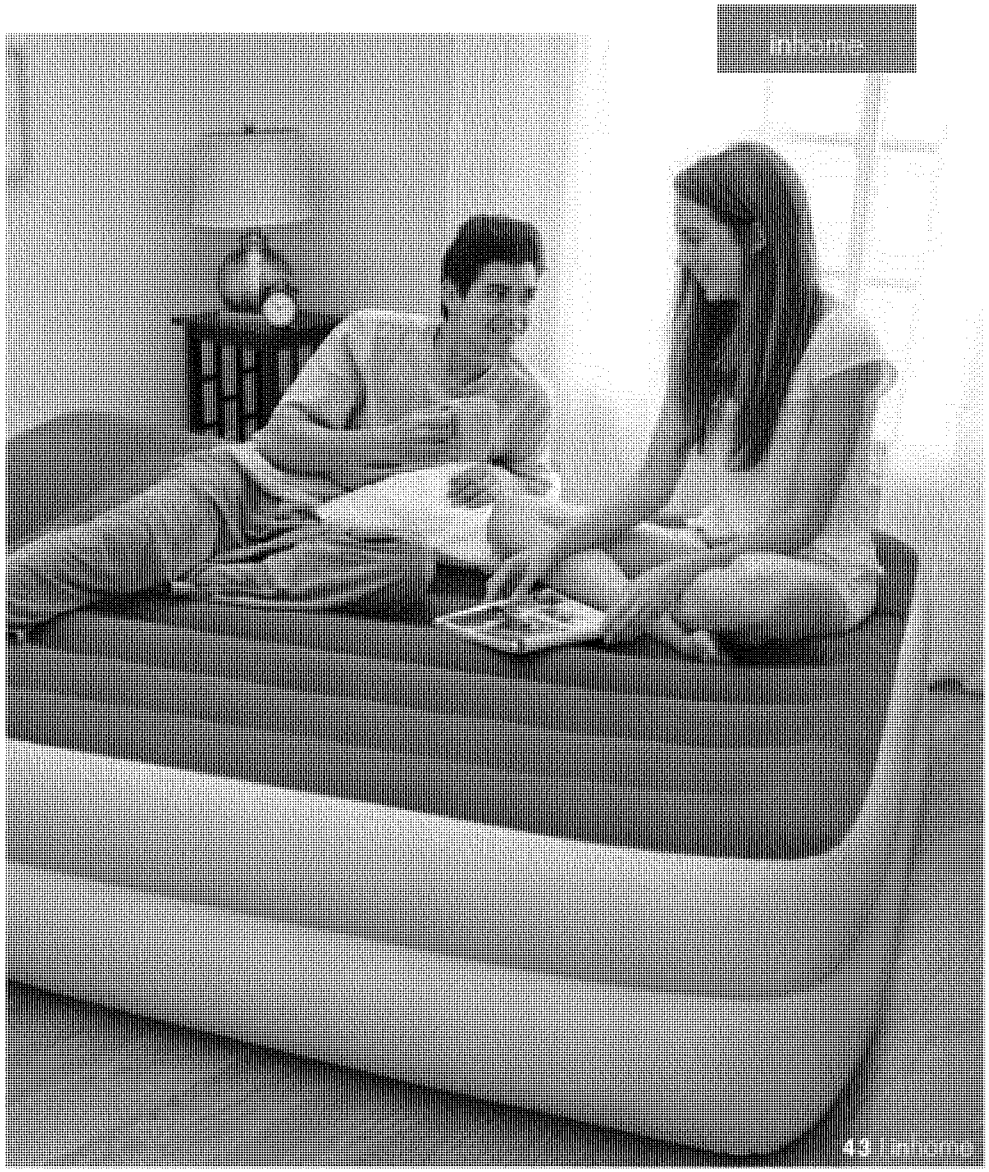
PILLOW REST
RAISED BED
18½"
(47cm)
BED HEIGHT
with built-in
PUMP
* Inflating time varies by mattress
size and desired firmness

Our evergreen Pillow Rest Raised Bed is now also available in this fashion-forward two-toned color combination. This attractive periwinkle blue and sand combination is sure to be a great addition to any room.

ELEVATED FOR CONVENIENCE

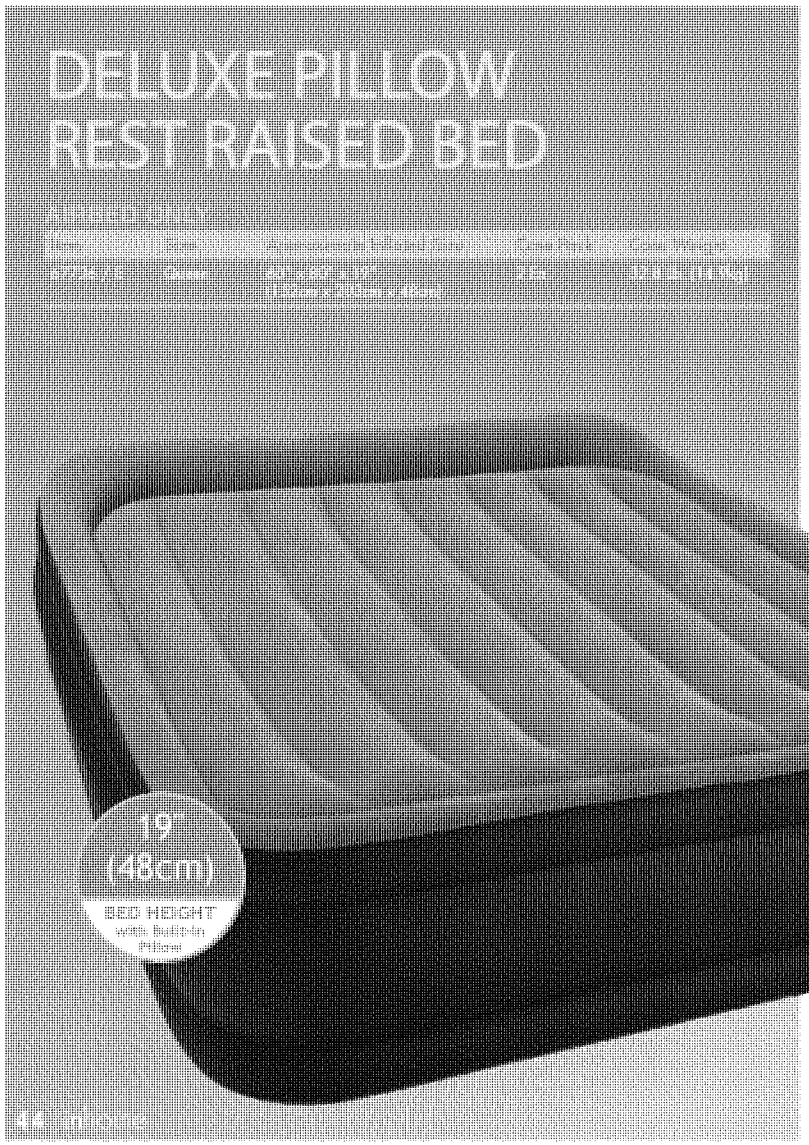
- Quality tested 21.2 gauge (0.53mm) waterproof flocked top with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl sides and bottom
- Mattress is raised 16½" (42cm) from the floor for convenience
- A built-in pillow provides bed-like comfort
- Includes hand carry bag
- Shelf box

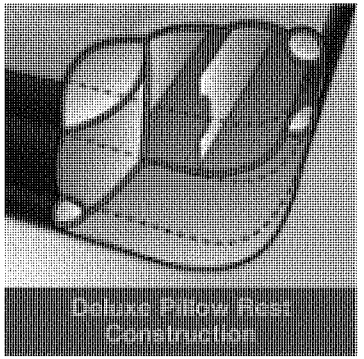




INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 999
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

DELUXE PILLOW REST RAISED BED







AIRBED WITH BUILT-IN ELECTRIC PUMP

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size	Built-in Pump	Case Pack	Case Weight
67731 / E 67732	Twin	39" x 75" x 19" (99cm x 191cm x 48cm)	110 – 120V 220 – 240V	3 Ea.	39.2 Lb. (17.8kg)
67737 / E 67738	Queen	60" x 80" x 19" (152cm x 203cm x 48cm)	110 – 120V 220 – 240V	2 Ea.	37.3 Lb. (16.9kg)

INFLATING TIMES*	
Twin	4 minutes
Queen	5 minutes

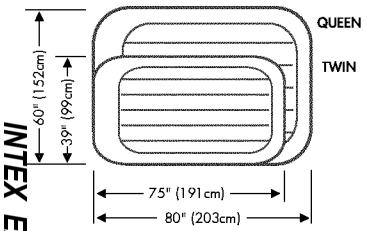
** Inflating time varies by mattress size and desired firmness*

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1000
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

A deluxe version of our best selling Pillow Rest Raised Bed! This style features an outer perimeter frame on the sleeping surface that provides added stability. This outer frame prevents your guests from accidentally rolling off – especially useful when the bed sleeps two! The two-tone color is pleasing to the eye and the soft plush flocking of the built-in pillow makes this bed a premium sleeping experience.

BUILT-IN PILLOW AND SOFT FLOCKED TOP FOR COMFORT

- Quality tested 21.2 gauge (0.53mm) waterproof flocked top with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl sides and bottom
- 3-in-1 valve on "Airbed Only" series has extra-wide openings for fast inflating and deflating
- Mattress is raised 16¾" (43cm) from the floor for convenience
- Indented sides to better grip standard size sheets
- Includes hand carry bag
- Shelf box





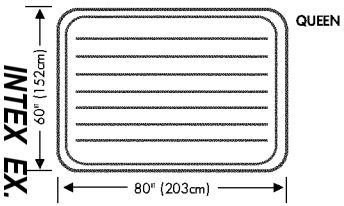
INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1001
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

RAISED DOWNY BED
22"
56cm
BED HEIGHT
INFLATING TIMES*
* Inflating time varies by mattress size and desired firmness

Our Raised Downy Bed is the perfect bed for consumers who are used to sleeping on raised surfaces. Your house guests will love the support and firmness created by the dual chamber construction. Indented sides help grip fitted sheets. The outer perimeter frame on both top and bottom provides additional stability and support making this bed the ultimate Comfort Rest™ experience.

ELEVATED FOR COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

- Quality tested 21.2 gauge (0.53mm) waterproof flocked top with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl sides and bottom
- Dual-chamber construction. The lower chamber functions as the box spring form on a traditional bed, providing extra firmness and support. The upper chamber functions as a mattress
- 60" x 80" (152cm x 203cm) queen-sized mattress is raised 22" (56cm) from the floor for convenience
- Cozy flocked mattress top
- Deflates completely for travel and storage
- Includes hand carry bag
- Shelf box





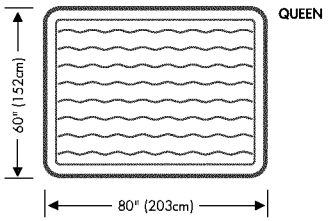
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables
INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1003

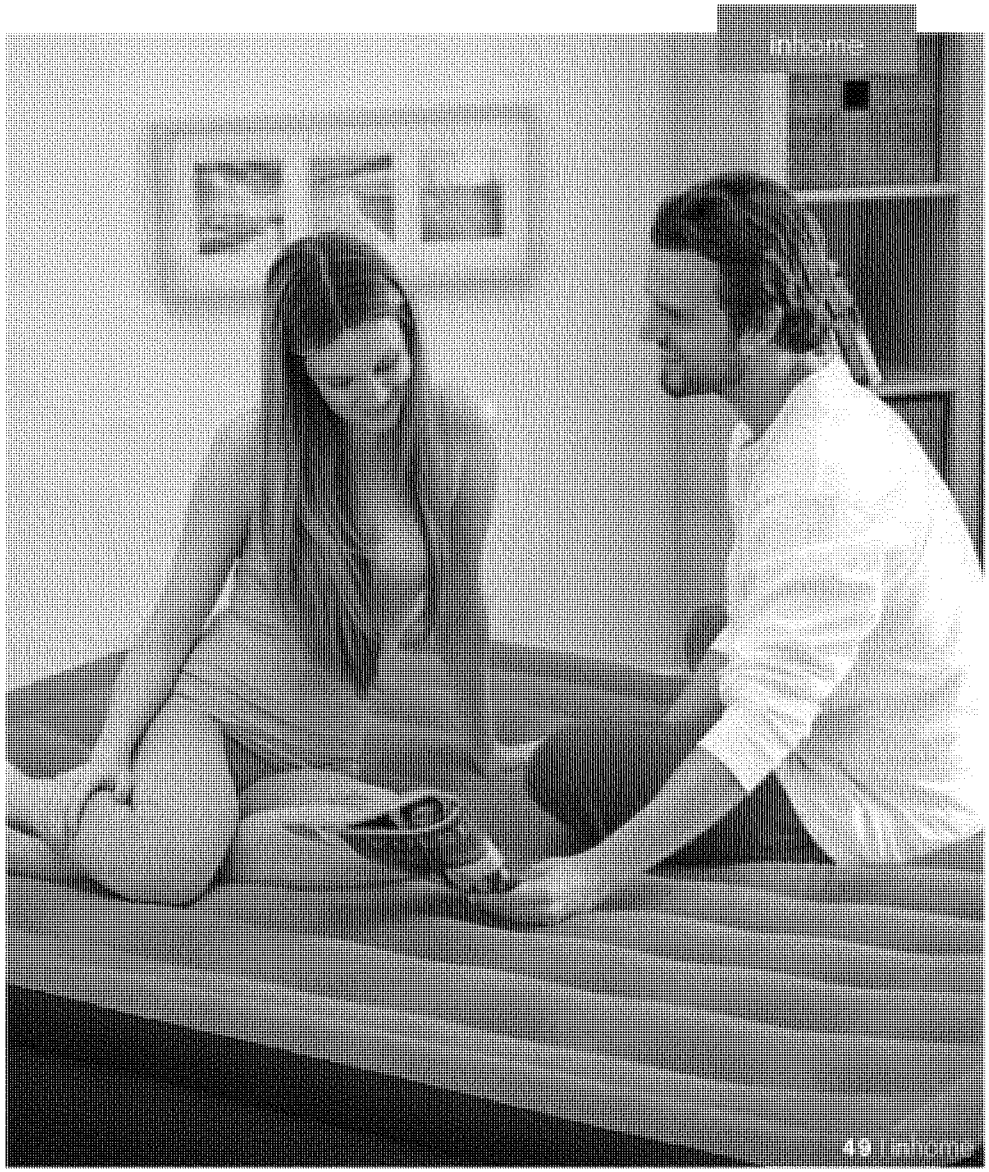
Plush Bed
BED HEIGHT
18"
(46cm)
INFLATING TIMES*
* Inflating time varies by mattress size and desired firmness

With the success of our Ultra Plush Bed, we introduce a complementary series at a lower price point. This Plush Bed offers the same comfort, convenience, and great look of the original Ultra-Plush bed, but with vinyl sides, at a lower price point.

ELEVATED WITH BUILT-IN ELECTRIC PUMP

- Quality tested 21.2 gauge (0.53mm) with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl sides and bottom
- Dual chamber construction with I-Beam base and complementing S-Beam in upper chamber for comfort and stability
- Mattress is raised 18" (46 cm) from the floor for convenience
- Mattress quickly and easily inflates and deflates with a high-powered built-in electric pump
- Includes hand carry bag
- Shelf box





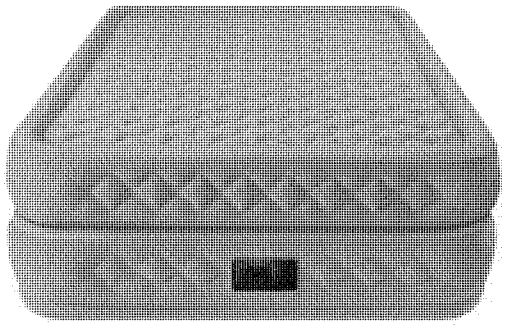
INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1005
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables



PREMIUM

Luxurious Comfort. Innovative Design.

Enjoy a luxurious night's sleep with an Intex Premium Airbed. Each airbed in our Premium line has been engineered and tested to provide you with a restful sleeping experience that rivals a traditional mattress. Plush Velvetaire™ flocking, interconnected air pocket system, luxurious foam – Intex Premium airbeds combine the best features with superior functionality that guarantee to provide you with the ultimate sleeping experience.



AIR LOCK™

100% of our airbeds are quality tested to be air tight before they leave our factory.

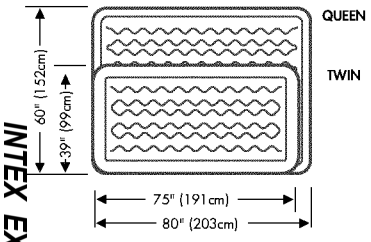
INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1007
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

ULTRA PLUSH BED
18"
(46cm)
BED HEIGHT
* Inflating time varies by
desired firmness

Here's an airbed that is sure to impress your most important guests: Intex's Ultra Plush Airbed. This raised bed combines comfort, convenience, and great appearance into one luxurious airbed, with its unique textured sleeping surface and inflated outer perimeter band for extra stability. Great for guests – but you might just want to keep it for family members!

ELEVATED WITH BUILT-IN ELECTRIC PUMP

- Quality tested 21.2 gauge (0.53mm) waterproof flocked top and sides with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl bottom
- Flocked sleeping surface and sides for comfort and appearance
- Inflated bed fits standard sheets
- Bottom of the bed is contoured to provide extra gripping effect to increase stability
- Built-in electric pump for quick inflation and deflation
- Includes hand carry bag
- Shelf box





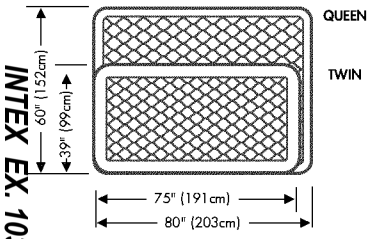
INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1009
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

SUPREME AIR-FLOW BED
20"
(51cm)
BED HEIGHT
INTEX
* Inflating time varies by mattress size and desired firmness

Our top of the line Supreme Air Flow Bed is engineered to provide the ultimate comfort with the look and feel of a real high end bed! A network of inter-connected air pockets on the top and sides of the bed cause the air to flow smoothly and gradually across the sleeping surface for unbelievable comfort and stability. The dual chamber construction provides firm support and allows for fitted sheets to tuck in easily. Topped with super soft Velvetaire™ flocking, this bed rivals a traditional mattress, providing a premium sleeping experience.

ELEVATED WITH BUILT-IN ELECTRIC PUMP

- Quality tested 26.4 gauge (0.66mm) super soft Velvetaire™ flocked top and sides with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl bottom
- Dual chamber construction consists of I-beams in bottom chamber and coil beams in upper chamber that is surrounded on top and sides with a layer of inter-connected air cells to ensure gradual, smooth airflow across the entire surface of the bed
- Mattress is raised 20" (51cm) from the floor for convenience
- Mattress quickly and easily inflates and deflates with a high-powered built-in electric pump
- Cozy flocked fabric mattress that allows for sheets to be easily tucked in
- Includes hand carry bag
- Shelf box





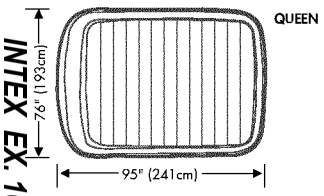
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables
INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1011

COMFORT FRAME BED
INTEX
30"
(76 cm)
BED HEIGHT
with mattress
Built-in Pump
Pump Inflates Mattress
Pump Deflates Mattress
Inflating Time*
* Inflating time varies by
desired firmness

The newly redesigned Comfort Frame Bed brings you a mattress comfortable enough to sleep on every night. The bed's new horizontal air chamber construction provides enhanced stability and comfort. The plush headboard provides additional support and keeps pillows away from the ground. The bed is covered in plush Velvetaire™ flocking for a luxurious sleeping surface. Bed sheets tuck easily and securely around the inner mattress which then slips into the inflated frame. This bed can also be converted into two separate beds by removing the inner mattress. Bed includes a hand-held electric pump and carry bag for added convenience and storage.

HEADBOARD FRAME BED WITH REMOVEABLE INNER MATTRESS FOR ADDED VERSATILITY

- Quality tested 26.4 gauge (0.66mm) super soft Velvetaire™ flocked top and sides with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl bottom
- Mattress is raised 16½" (42cm) from the floor for convenience
- New horizontal chamber construction provides added stability and support
- Plush Velvetaire™ flocked sleeping surfaces
- Includes powerful hand-held electric pump
- Includes hand carry bag
- Folds compactly for storage or travel
- Shelf box





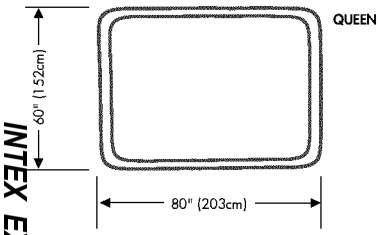
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables
INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1013

FOAM TOP BED
20"
(51cm)
BED HEIGHT
INTEX

Enjoy a luxurious night's sleep in our Foam Top High-Rise bed. Its foam sleeping surface comfortably contours to your body and provides added warmth for a rejuvenating sleep experience. The bed is covered in plush Velvetaire™ flocking that is soft to the touch and the bed's elevated height makes it easier to get in and out of, much like a traditional mattress. For fast and easy inflation & deflation the bed comes with a powerful built-in electric pump.

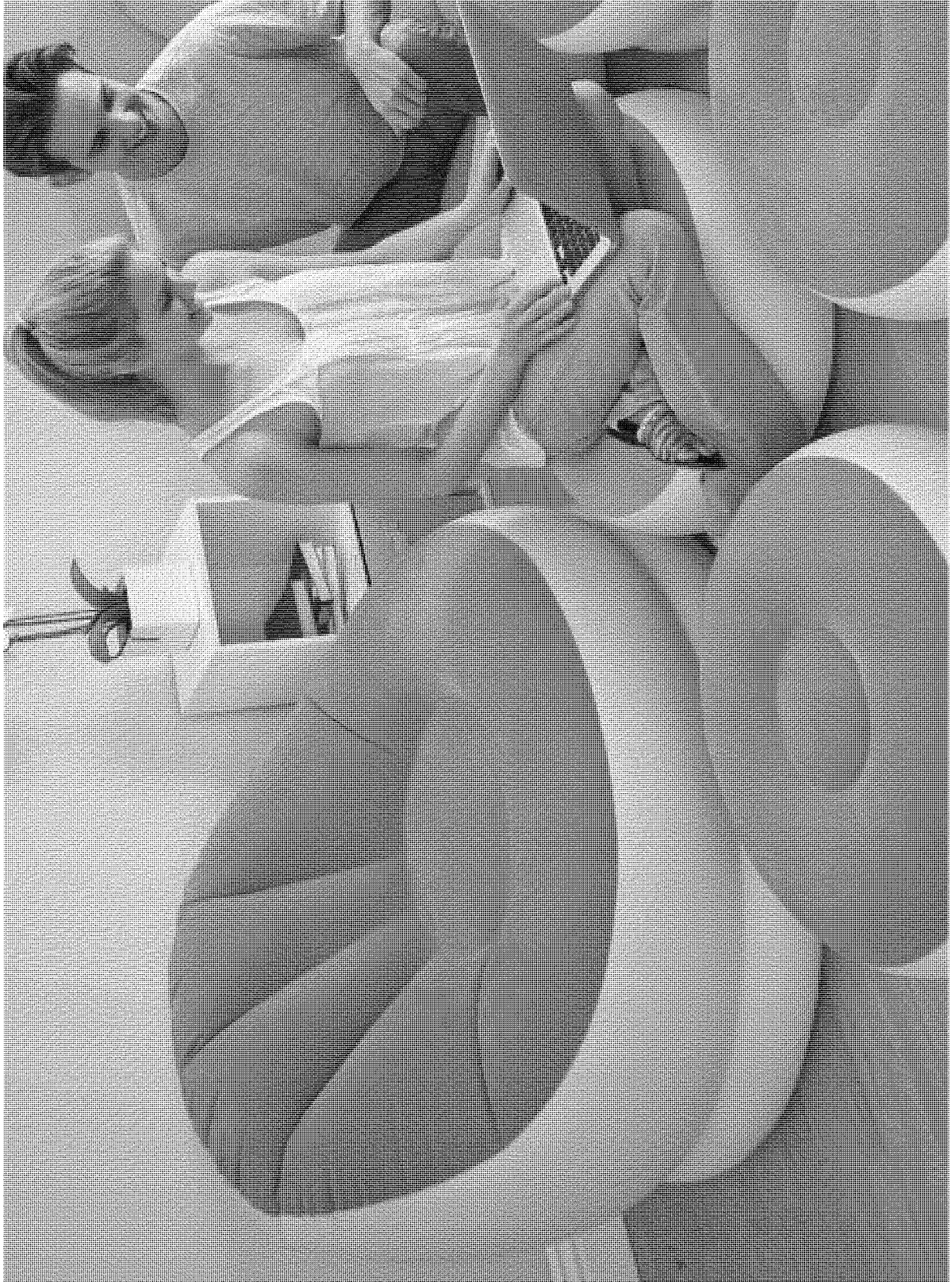
ELEVATED WITH BUILT-IN ELECTRIC PUMP

- Quality tested 26.4 gauge (0.66mm) super soft Velvetaire™ flocked top and sides with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl bottom
- Foam Top layer
- Plush Velvetaire™ flocked sleeping surfaces
- Double layered I-beam construction
- Built-in electric pump
- Includes hand carry bag
- Folds compactly for storage or travel
- Shelf box





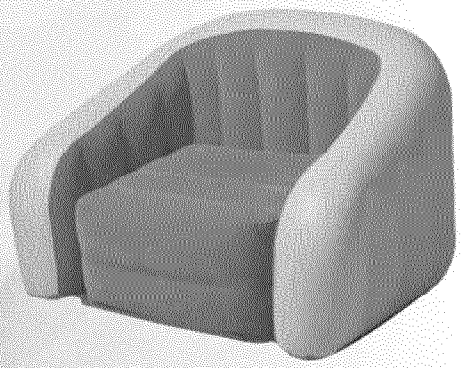
INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1015
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables



AIR FURNITURE

Portable. Functional. Something For Everyone.

Intex brings to you an exciting and vibrant line of air furniture for any age, any setting and any season! With great colors and design, whether for the indoors or the outdoors, Intex has something for everyone. Decorate your room with Intex!



INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1017
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables



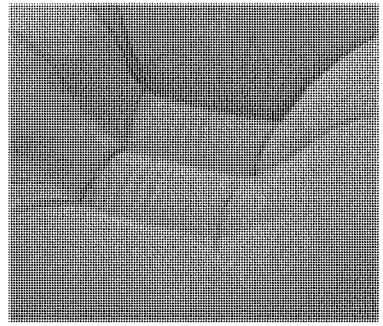
A great bean bag without the hassle of beanbag inserts and slipcovers. Just unfold and inflate, and in minutes you have a super soft bean bag that is perfect for lounging, studying, or watching movies. Vivid colors will brighten up any room. Comes in an assortment of three bright and vivid colors: Magenta Pink, Lime Green, or Lilac Purple.

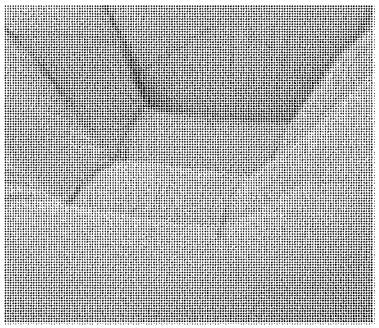
PERFECTLY PORTABLE BEANLESS BAG

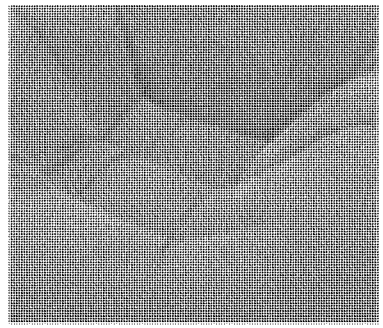
- Quality tested 20.8 gauge (0.52mm) waterproof flocked top and sides with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl bottom
- Available in magenta pink, lime green and lilac purple
- Folds compactly for storage
- Shelf box

Item	Approximate Inflated Size	Case Pack	Case Weight
68569NP / EP	42" x 41" x 27" (107cm x 104cm x 69cm)	6 Ea., Asst.	33.2 Lb. (15.1kg)

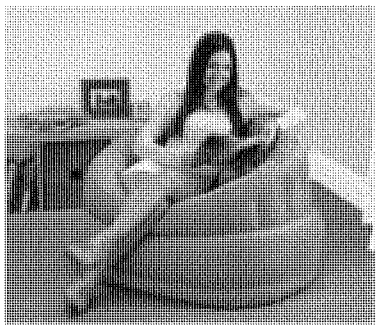


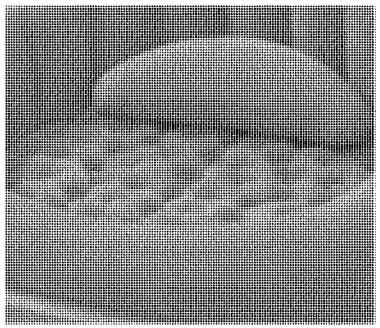


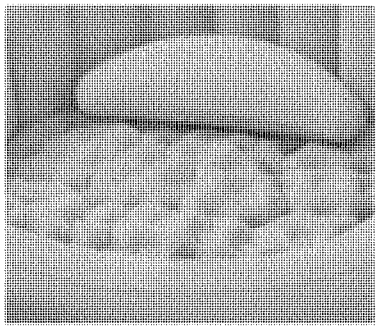


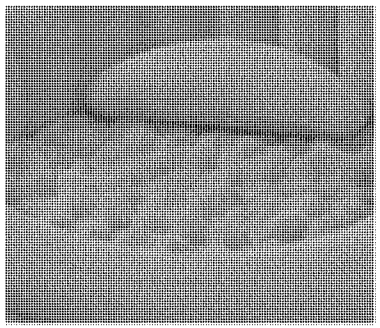


INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1018
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables









Our plush Café Chair™ is the coolest seat in the house. With an innovative structure that gives you the comfort of a beanbag and the support of your favorite chair, the Café Chair™ is as comfortable as it is unique. Whether you are reading, watching TV, or relaxing, this is perfect! Comes in an assortment of three bright and vivid colors: Magenta Pink, Lime Green, or Lilac Purple.

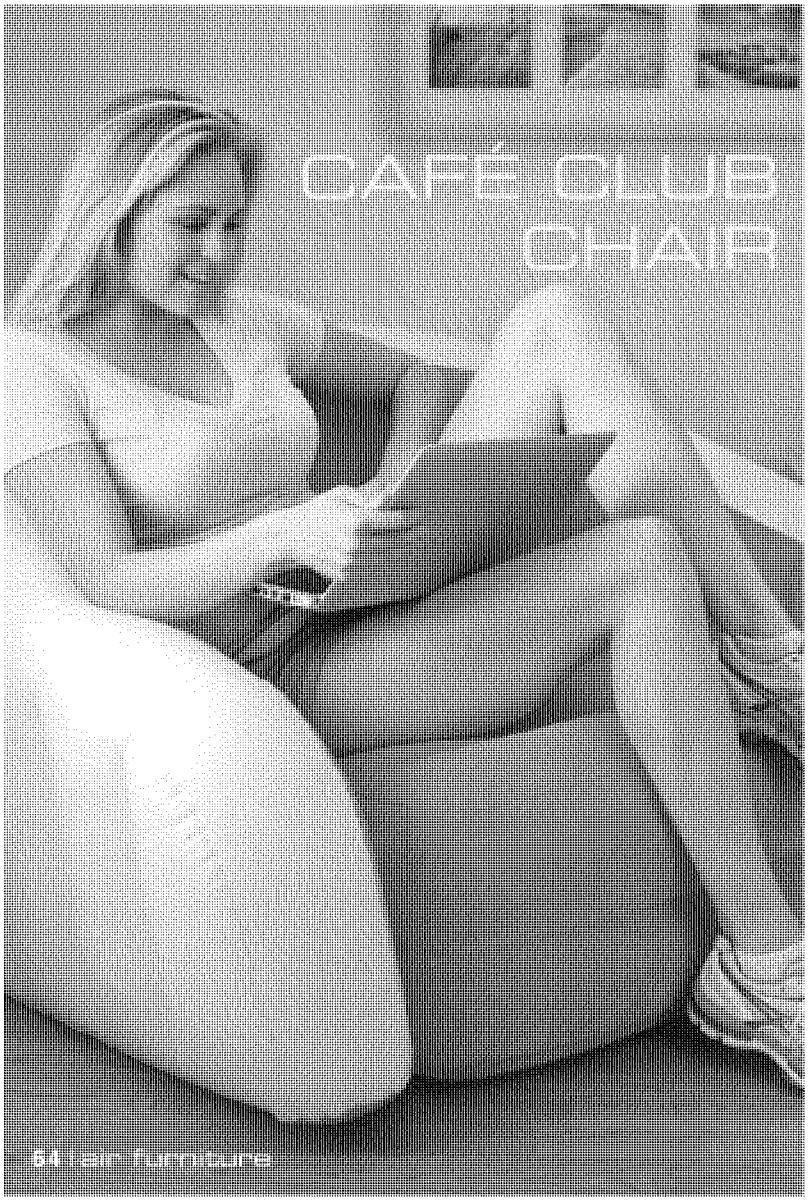
FOR EXTENDED SEATING

- Quality tested 20.8 gauge (0.52mm) waterproof flocked top and sides with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl bottom
- One large specially engineered seating cushion for serious pampering
- One small detachable backrest cushion for show and comfort
- Available in magenta pink, lime green and lilac purple
- Folds compactly for storage
- Shelf box

Item	Approximate Inflated Size	Case Pack	Case Weight
68853NP / EP	36" x 40" x 25½" (91cm x 102cm x 65cm)	3 Ea., Asst.	22.4 Lb. (10.2kg)



Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables
INTEX EX 1038, Pg. 1019

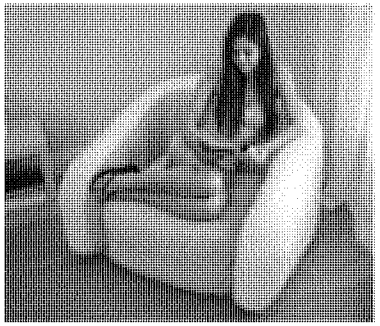
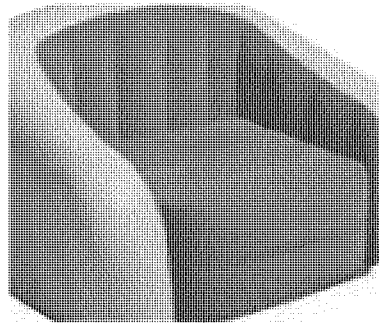
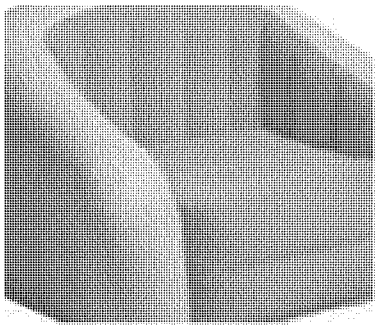
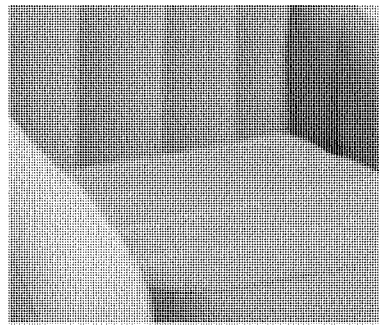


Easy comfort in splash colors is the only way to describe our Café Club Chairs. Great for reading, gaming, or just chatting with friends, these chairs will bring life to any apartment or college dorm!

AN INVITING SPLASH OF COLOR AND COMFORT

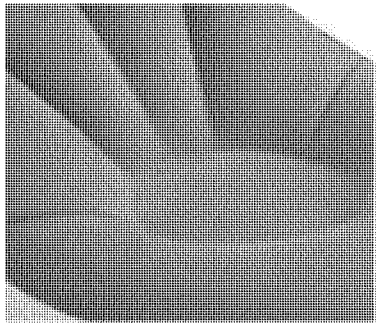
- Quality tested 20.8 gauge (0.52mm) waterproof flocked top with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl sides and bottom
- Available in magenta pink, lime green and sunny orange
- Folds compactly for storage
- Shelf box

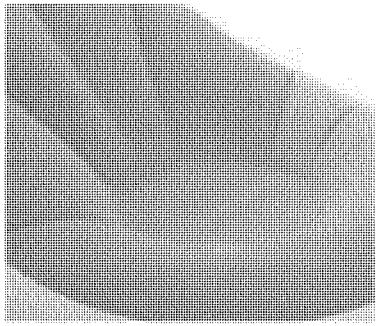
Item	Approximate Inflated Size	Case Pack	Case Weight
68571NP / EP	38" x 30" x 27" (97cm x 76cm x 69cm)	3 Ea., Asst.	21.3 Lb. (9.7kg)

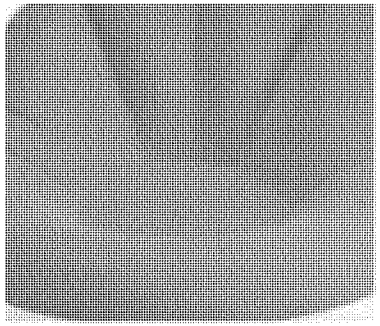





INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1020
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables









Stunning and eye-catching, this Café Chaise Chair adds flair to any room! Paired with an ottoman, the advanced structural design provides an exceptionally comfortable seat regardless of your height.

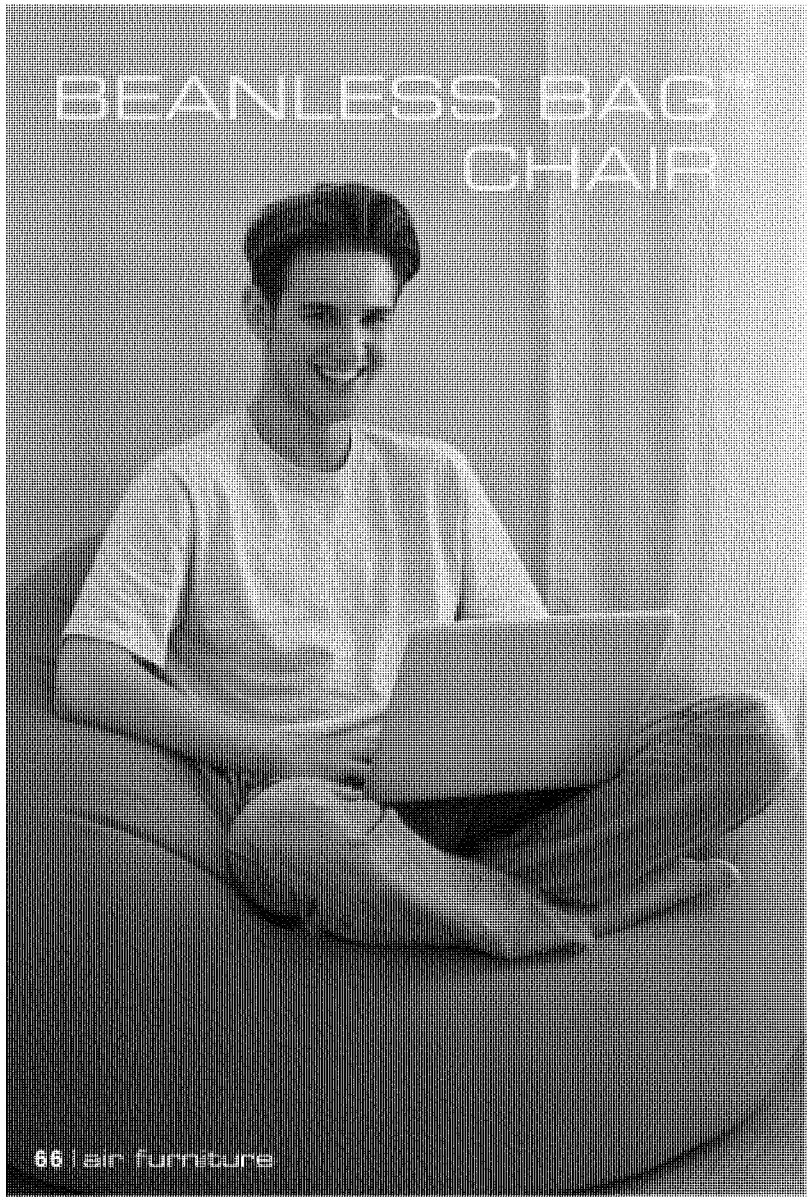
COLORFUL CUSHY LUXURY

- Quality tested 20.8 gauge (0.52mm) waterproof flocked top with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl sides and bottom
- Combo valve has extra-wide openings for fast inflating and deflating
- Available in lilac purple, sky blue, and sunny orange
- Folds compactly for storage
- Shelf box

Item		Approximate Inflated Size	Case Pack	Case Weight
68572NP / EP	Chair	41" x 43" x 28" (104cm x 109cm x 71cm)	3 Ea., Asst.	20.9 lb. (9.5kg)
	Ottoman	25" x 11" (64cm x 28cm)		



INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1021
Intex Recreation V. Bestway Inflatables



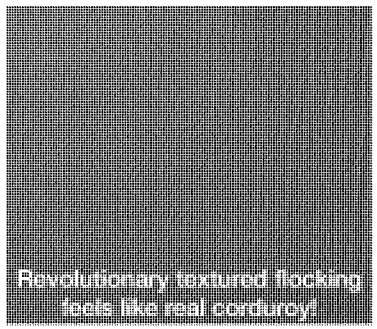
Intex completes the Beanless Bag™ Chair line with the introduction of a warm, neutral color combined with our revolutionary corduroy texture flocking! Its elegant and luxurious look and feel will add a new dimension to any room!

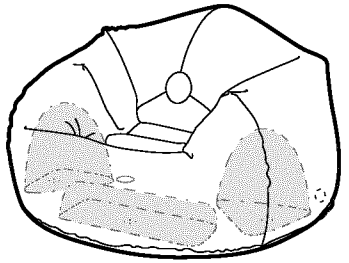
PERFECTLY PORTABLE BEANLESS BAG™

- Quality tested 26.4 gauge (0.66mm) waterproof flocked top and sides with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl bottom
- Folds compactly for storage
- Shelf box



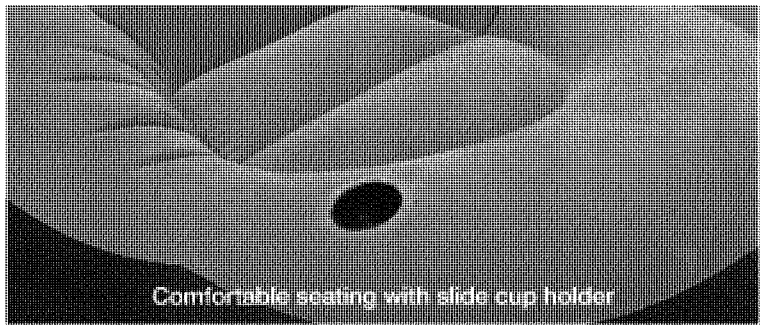
Item	Approximate Inflated Size	Case Pack	Case Weight
68579NP / EP	42" x 41" x 27" (107cm x 104cm x 69cm)	6 Ea.	34.9 Lb. (15.9kg)



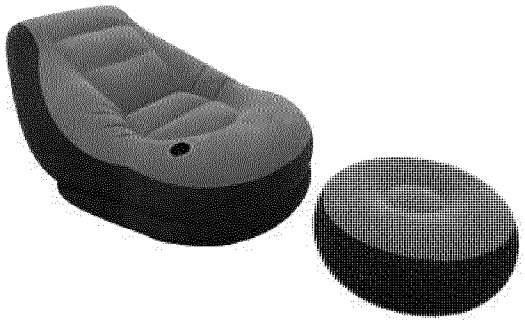


Beanless Bag™ chair inner structure
U.S. Patent No. 6,152,530, D441,205

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1022
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables



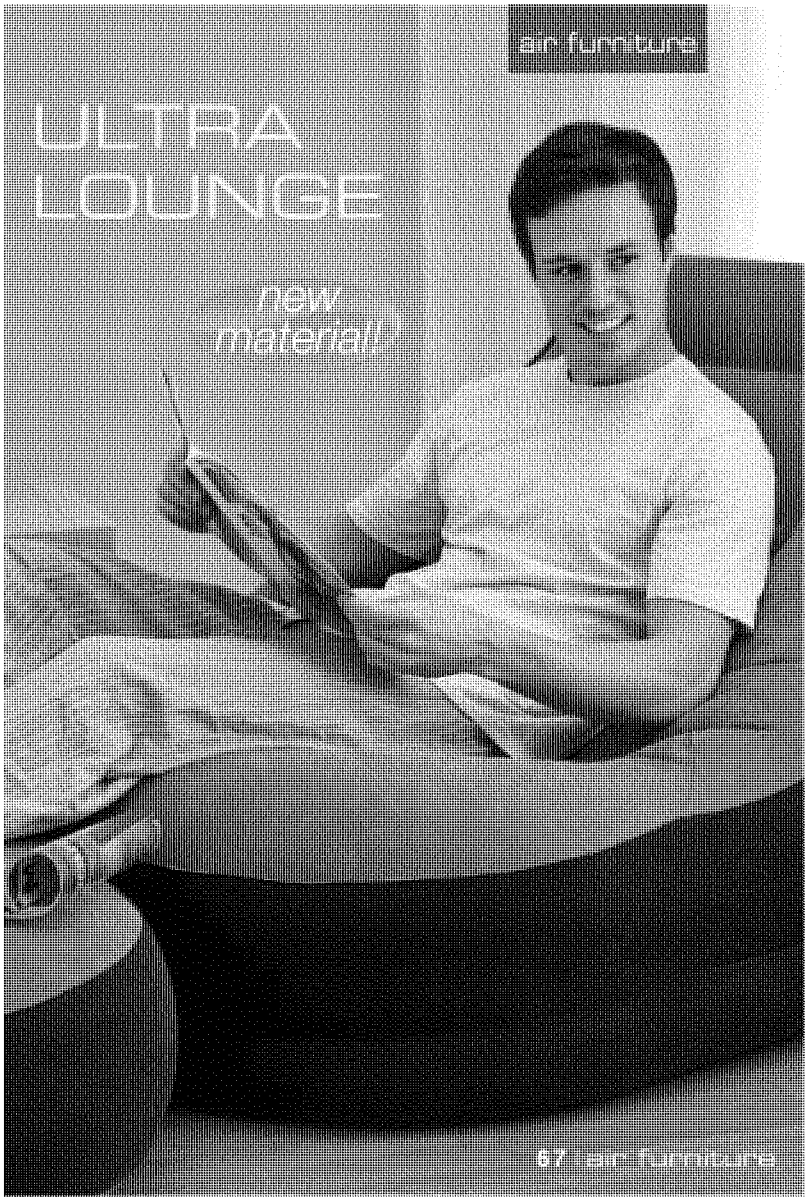
Attractive contours from any angle, the beauty of this lounge chair is matched only by its comfort. Contact surfaces on the top and sides are lined with flocking for the touch of luxury. The side cup holder is just as indispensable here as in your favorite sports car.



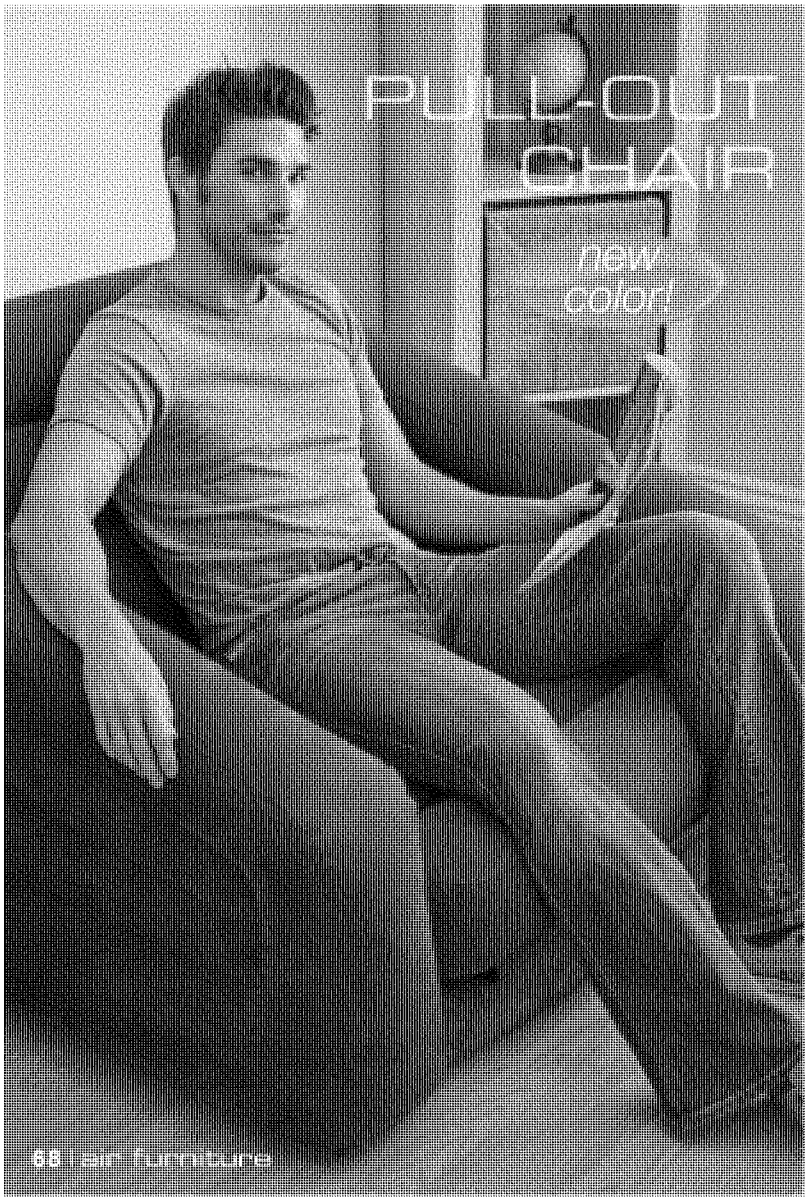
RELAX AT HOME WITH OUR ULTRA LOUNGE

- Quality tested 20.8 gauge (0.52mm) waterproof flocked top and sides with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl bottom
- 2-in-1 valve has extra-wide openings for fast inflating and deflating
- Convenient cup holder for refreshments
- Folds compactly for storage
- Self box

Item		Approximate Inflated Size	Case Pack	Case Weight
68556NP / EP	Chair	39" x 51" x 30" (99cm x 130cm x 76cm)	4 Ea.	30.2 Lb. (13.7kg)
	Ottoman	25" x 11" (64cm x 28cm)		



INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1023
Intex Recreation V. Bestway Inflatables

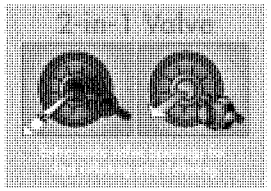


A perfect chair that transforms into a single bed! Not only is it comfortable, it's conveniently versatile. Ideal for college dorms, guest bedrooms and even on the road.

STURDY COMFORT

- Quality tested 20.8 gauge (0.52mm) waterproof flocked top and sides with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl bottom
- 2-in-1 valve has extra-wide openings for fast inflating and deflating
- Folds compactly for storage
- Shelf box

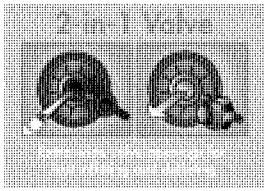
Item	Approximate Inflated Size	Case Pack	Case Weight
68565NP / EP	43" x 86" x 26" (109cm x 218cm x 66cm)	2 Ea.	22.7 Lb. (10.3kg)





INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1024
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables



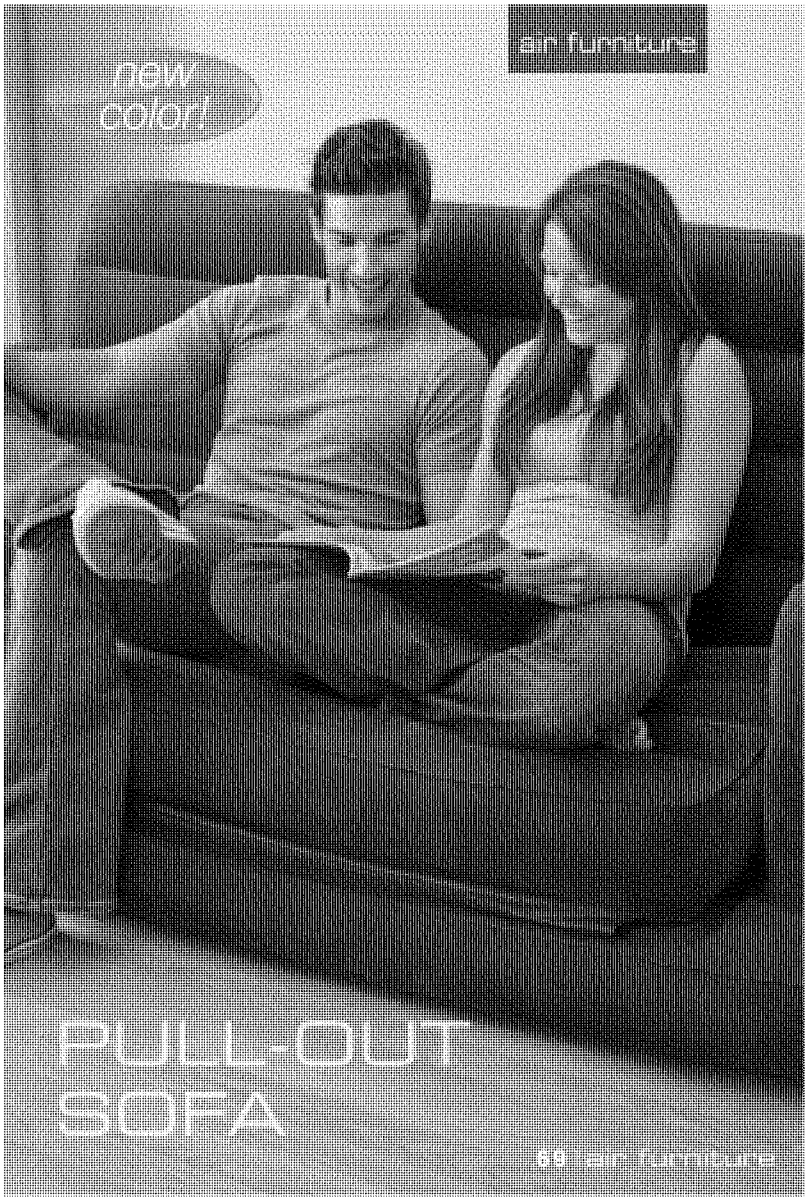


A versatile sofa that offers an affordable and comfortable sleeping solution for any home or even outdoor use. It is quick and easy to inflate and will seat or sleep two people.

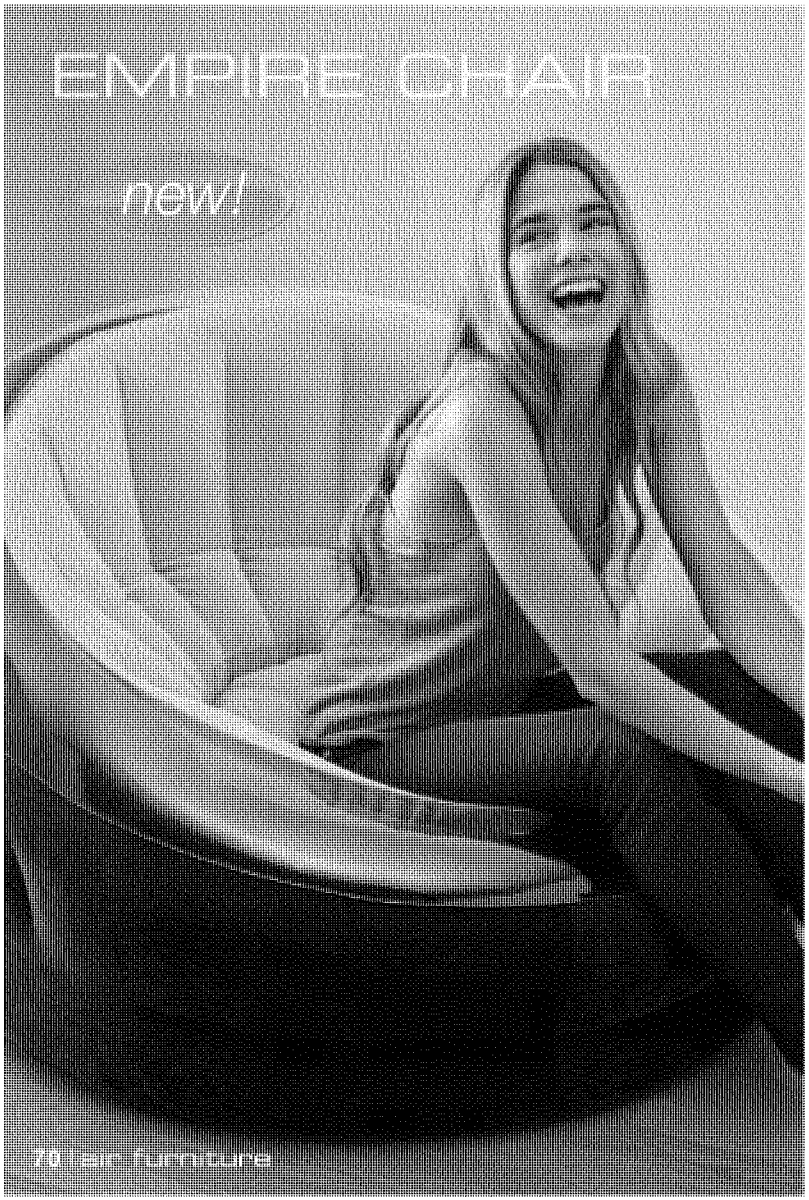
PRACTICAL & VERSATILE

- Quality tested 20.8 gauge (0.52mm) waterproof flocked top and sides with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl bottom
- 2-in-1 valve has extra-wide openings for fast inflating and deflating
- 2 quick inflation and deflation valves
- Comfortable backrest and armrest
- 2 cup holders
- Folds compactly for storage
- Self box

Item	Approximate Inflated Size	Case Pack	Case Weight
68566NP / EP	76" x 91" x 28" (193cm x 231cm x 71cm)	2 Ea.	43.1 lb. (19.5kg)



INTEX Ex. 1038, Pg. 1025
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables



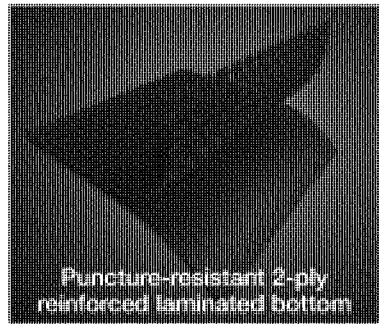
Modern, sophisticated and endlessly comfortable best describes this new addition to our line of inflatable chairs. In sunny orange, pink or lime green with an innovative transparent trim, this chair is the perfect combination of form and function. It's ideal for teens, college students and young professionals!

AN INVITING SPLASH OF COLOR AND COMFORT

- Quality tested 20.8 gauge (0.52mm) waterproof flocked top and sides with 20 gauge (0.50mm) laminated bottom
- Extra strong laminated bottom for better durability
- Great for both indoors and outdoors
- Shelf box

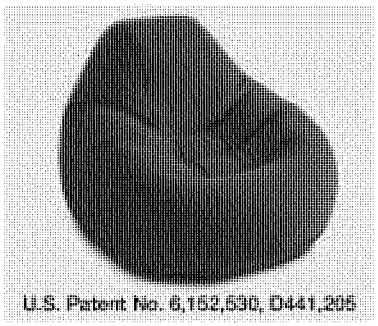
Item	Approximate Inflated Size	Color	Case Pack	Case Weight
68581NP / EP	44" x 43" x 27" (112cm x 109cm x 69cm)	Green	3 Ea.	21.5 Lb. (9.8kg)
68582NP / EP	44" x 43" x 27" (112cm x 109cm x 69cm)	3 Colors	3 Ea., Asst.	21.5 Lb. (9.8kg)

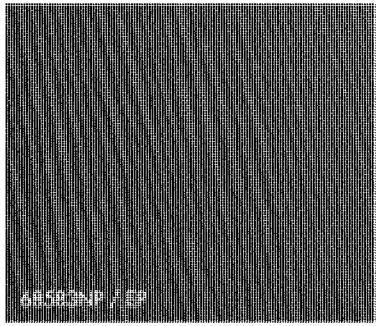


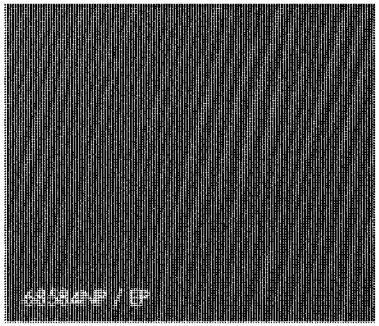


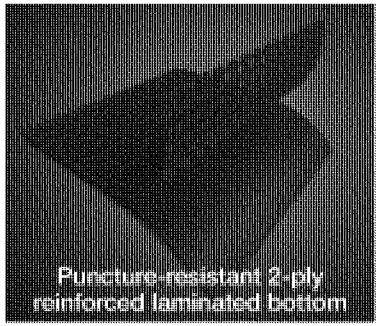


INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1026
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables







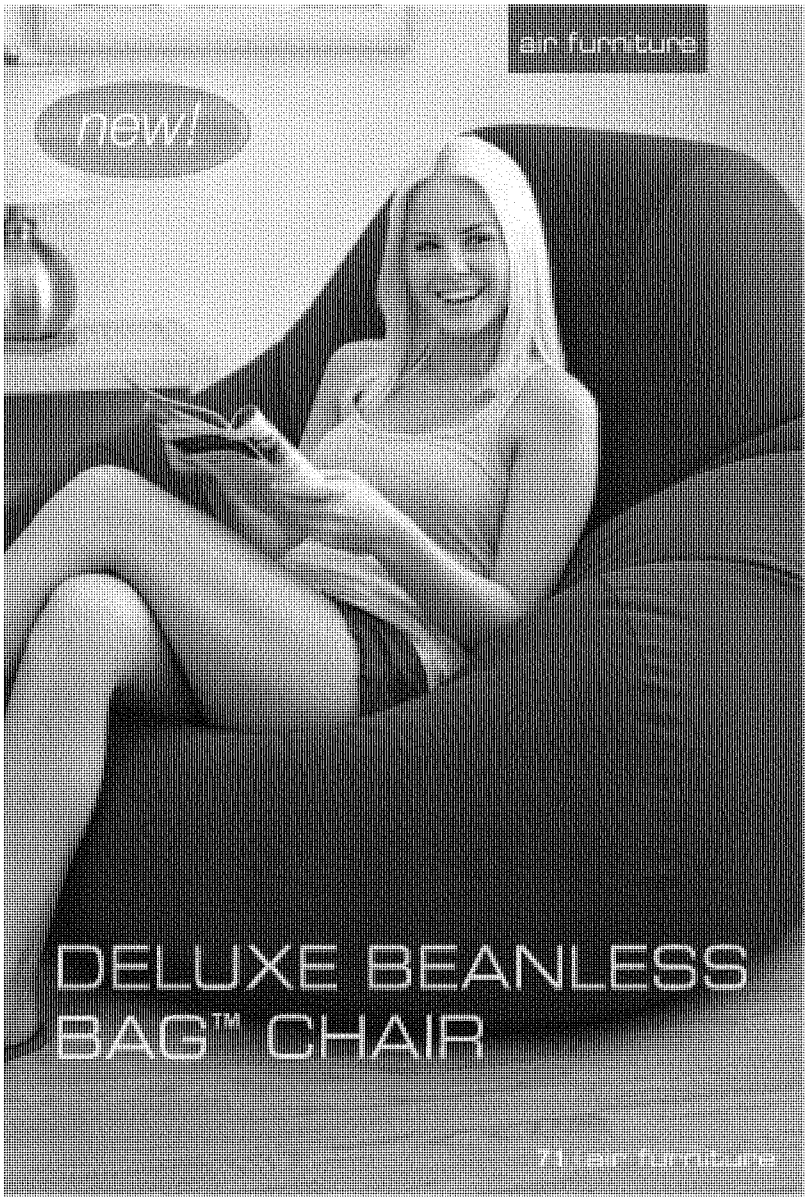


Taking our Beanless Bag™ Chair to the next level, this Deluxe version has a higher head rest and rich, velvety flocking reminiscent of cozy corduroy. The supportive and comfortable patented design is perfect for gaming, hanging out or just lazy down time. The reinforced bottom also makes this chair great for outdoor use on your patio, deck or lawn. Comes in sophisticated Classic Teal or Royal Grape.

COLORFUL CUSHY LUXURY

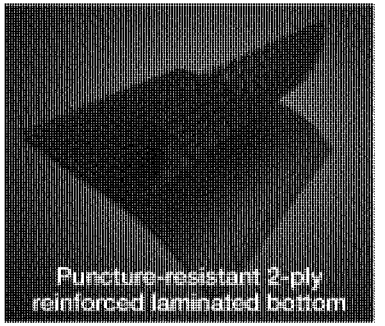
- Quality tested 26.4 gauge (0.66mm) waterproof flocked top and sides with 20 gauge (0.50mm) vinyl laminated bottom
- Extra strong laminated bottom for better durability
- Great for both indoors and outdoors
- Sold flat box

Item	Approximate Inflated Size	Case Pack	Case Weight
68580NP / EP	48" x 50" x 32" (122cm x 127cm x 81cm)	4 Ea.	29.7 Lb. (13.5kg)
68584NP / EP	48" x 50" x 32" (122cm x 127cm x 81cm)	4 Ea.	29.7 Lb. (13.5kg)



INTEX Ex. 1038, Pg. 1027
Intex Récréation v. Bestway Inflatables





The Splash Lounge will look gorgeous indoors or outdoors. It's a great casual addition to any room. The reinforced bottom also makes it durable for lounging on the patio, yard or poolside.

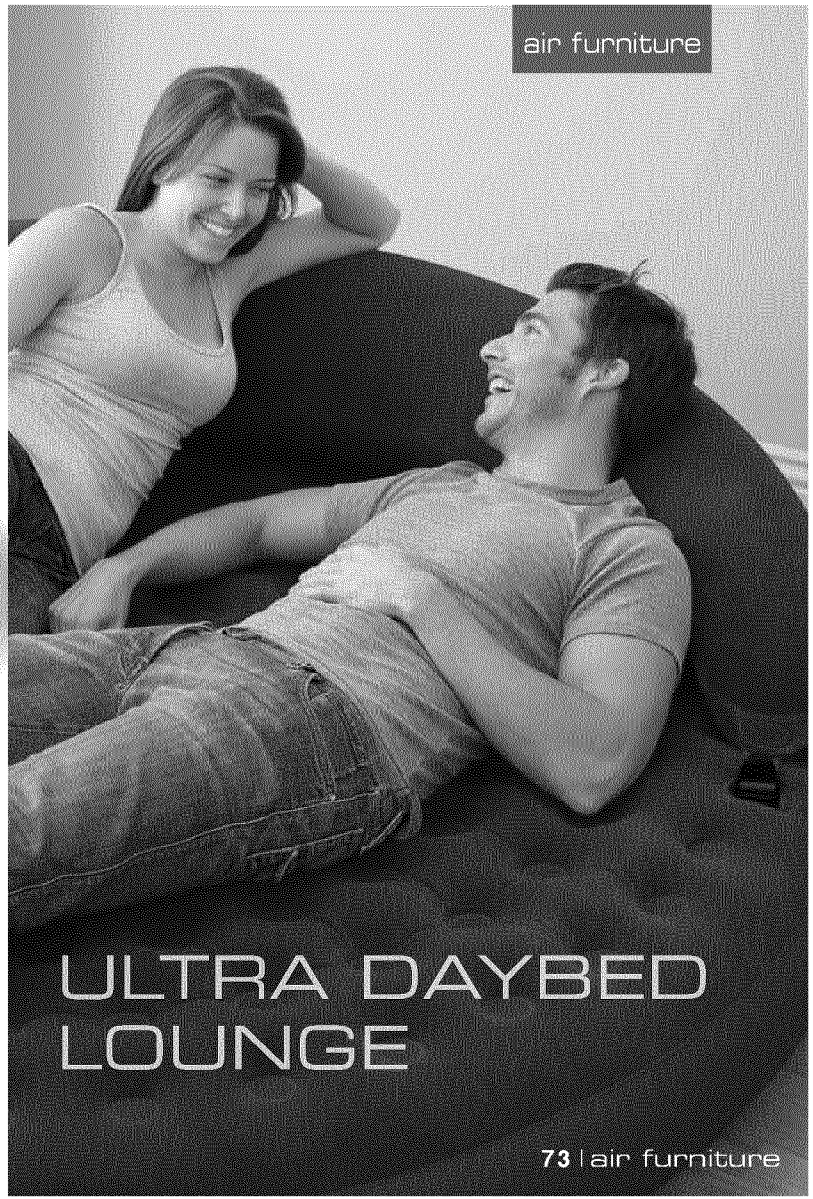
PERFECTLY PROTABLE LOUNGE

- Quality tested 20.8 gauge (0.52mm) waterproof flocked top with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl sides, 20 gauge (0.50mm) bottom
- Extra strong laminated bottom for better durability
- Great for both indoors and outdoors
- Shelf box

Item	Approximate Inflated Size	Case Pack	Case Weight
68880NP / EP	33" x 67" x 32" (84cm x 170cm x 81cm)	3 Ea.	20.8 Lb. (9.4kg)



INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1028
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

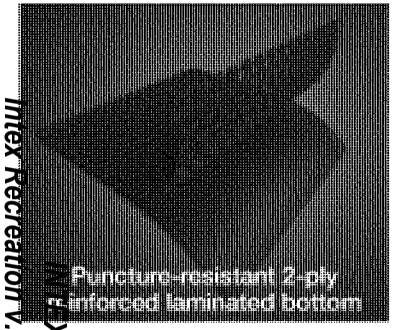


ULTRA DAYBED LOUNGE

The Ultra Daybed Lounge invites you to relax, soak up the sun and hang out with friends. It's an elegant addition to any room, patio or yard as the reinforced bottom and soft flocking makes it versatile enough for both indoors and outdoors.

new!





RELAX AT HOME WITH OUR ULTRA LOUNGE

- Quality tested 26.4 gauge (0.66mm) waterproof flocked top with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl sides and 20 gauge (0.50mm) bottom
- Detachable backrest for extra comfort and versatility
- Extra strong laminated bottom for better durability
- Great for both indoors and outdoors
- Quick coupling buckles for the backrest
- Shelf box

Item	Approximate Inflated Size	Case Pack	Case Weight
68881NP / EP	75" (D.) x 21"(H.) (191cm x 53cm)	2 Ea.	33.8 Lb. (15.4kg)

INTEX EX 1038, Pg. 1029
Intex Recreation V. Bestway Inflatables

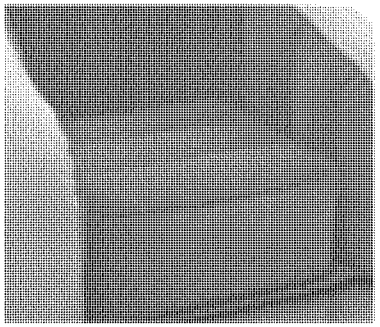


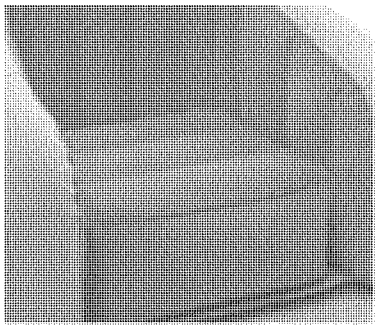
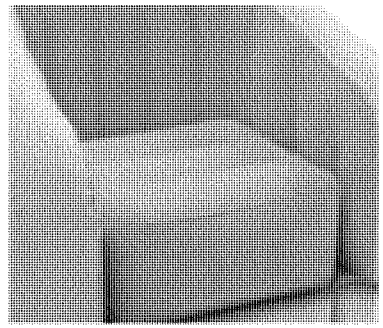
Delight the little ones with this mini version of our hit Café Club Chair! They'll love being just like the grown ups in this version sized especially for them. Great for any child's bedroom or playroom in these pretty colors of Magenta Pink, Lime Green and Sunny Orange.

AN INVITING SPLASH OF COLOR AND COMFORT

- Quality tested 20.8 gauge (0.52mm) waterproof flocked top with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl sides and bottom
- Kid-sized chair just like the grown ups
- Pink, orange and green color assortment
- Shelf box

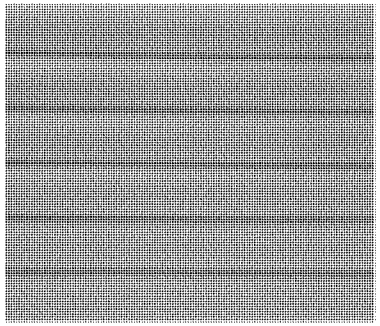
Item	Approximate Inflated Size	Case Pack	Case Weight
68597NP / EP	27" x 22" x 19" (69cm x 56cm x 48cm)	6 Ea., Asst.	19.0 Lb. (8.6kg)

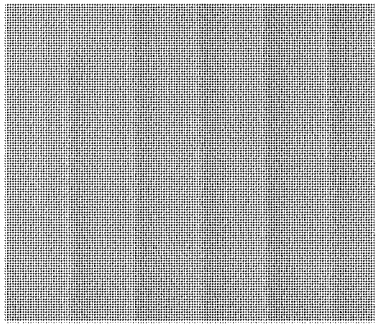


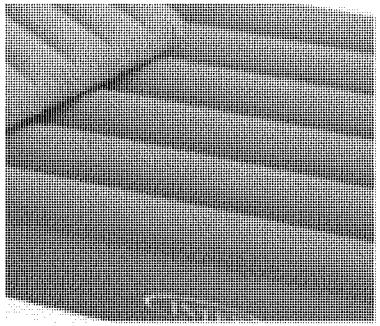



INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1030
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables







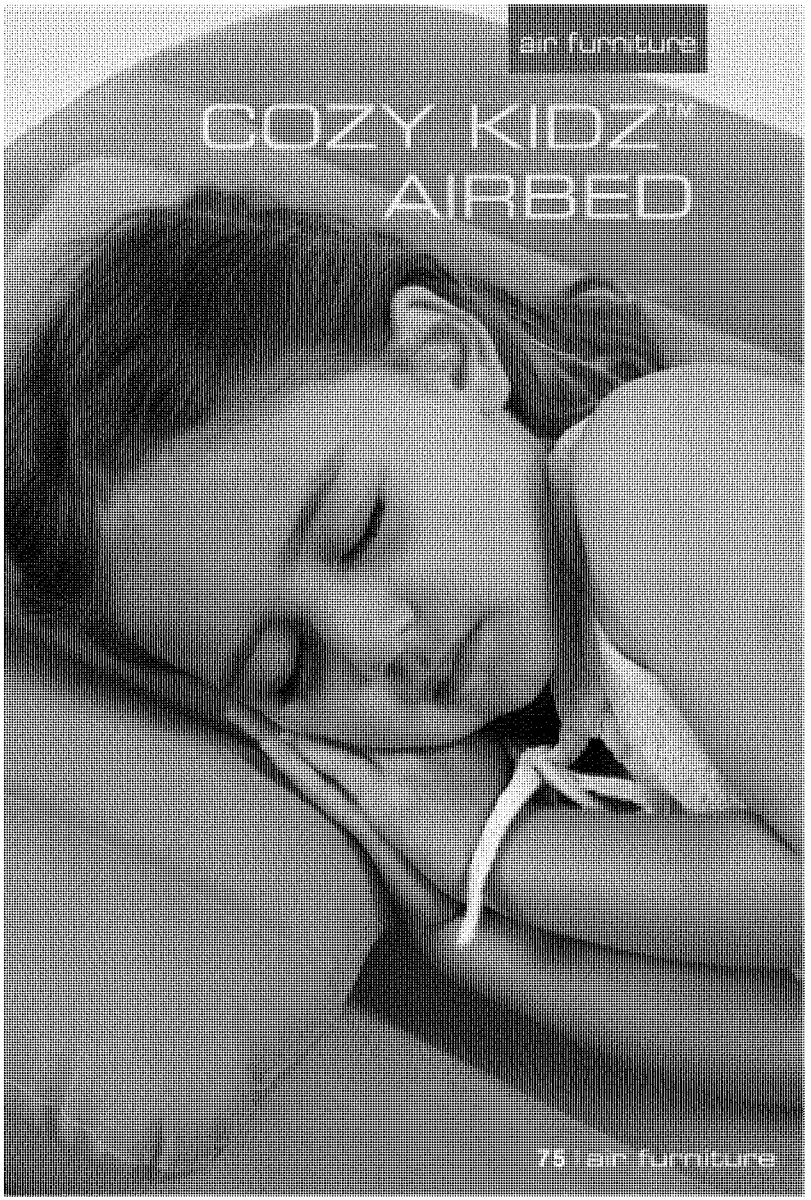


The perfect airbed for kids with soft, inflatable pillows in three fun and exciting colors! It will come in handy for sleepovers, nap time and travel, without sacrificing comfort or convenience!

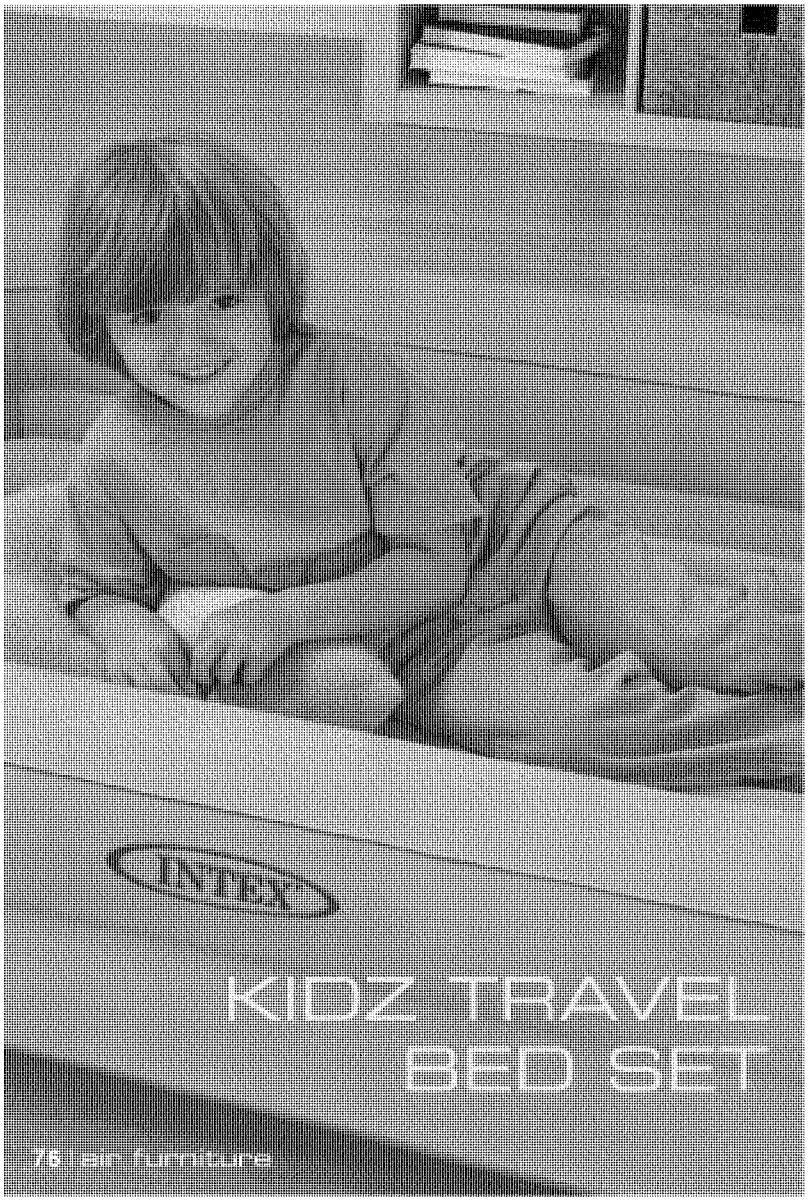
COZY & FUN

- Quality tested 20.8 gauge (0.52mm) waterproof flocked top with 12 gauge (0.30mm) vinyl sides and bottom
- Assorted bright, fun colors
- Soft flocking for extra comfort
- Includes inflatable flocked pillow
- Repair patch
- Self box

Item	Approximate Inflated Size	Case Pack	Case Weight
66[illegible] NP / EP	34½" x 62" x 7" (88cm x 157cm x 18cm)	6 Ea., Asst.	27.5 Lb. (12.5kg)



INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1031
Intex® Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

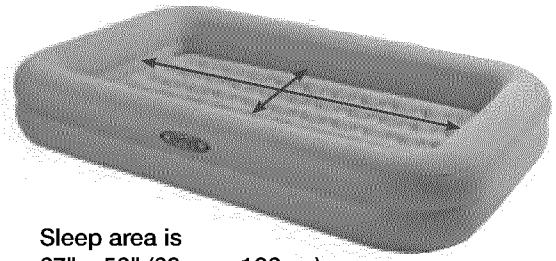


Excellent solution to sleep comfortably when away from home.
Perfect for trips, sleepovers, camping and even for nap times!

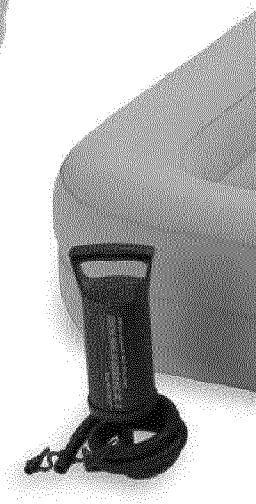
QUICK & EASY SOLUTION

- Includes hand pump
- Inner mattress size: 27" x 52" x 4" (69cm x 132cm x 10cm)
- Uses standard crib sheets
- Inflates and deflates quickly
- Includes carry bag
- Shelf box

Item	Approximate Inflated Size	Hand Pump	Case Pack	Case Weight
66810NP / EP	42" x 66" x 10" (107cm x 168cm x 25cm)	68612	3 Ea.	29.3 Lb. (13.3kg)



Sleep area is
27" x 52" (69cm x 132cm)
with soft frame surround



INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1032
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Furniture
Furniture

Hand Pump (#68612)

Intex



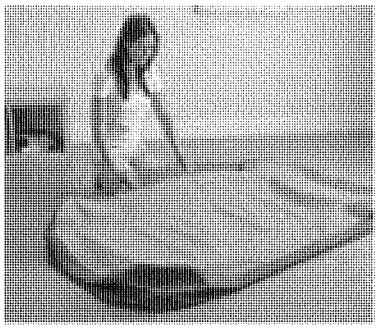
Our redesigned Take Along Bed provides the perfect mattress for sleepovers and college dorms. The beds new horizontal air chamber construction provides added stability and support around the entire bed. The plush flocked sleeping surface and built-in pillow provide extra comfort for a restful night's sleep. Bed includes a pump and carry bag for convenience and instant comfort on the go.

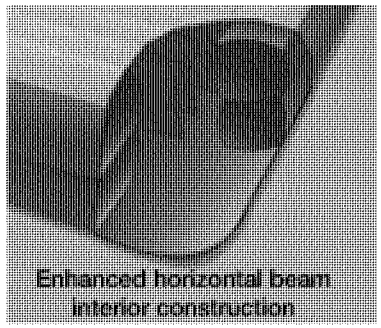
TAKE ALONG BED

- Quality tested 21.2 gauge (0.53mm) waterproof flocked top with 15 gauge (0.38mm) vinyl sides and bottom
- Built-in pillow
- Plush flocked sleeping surface
- Double layered horizontal I-beam construction
- Mattress is raised 14" (36cm) from the floor for convenience
- AC electric pump
- Includes hand carry bag
- Folds compactly for storage or travel
- Shelf box

INFLATING TIMES*
AC Electric Pump
[illegible]

** Inflating time varies by mattress size and desired firmness*

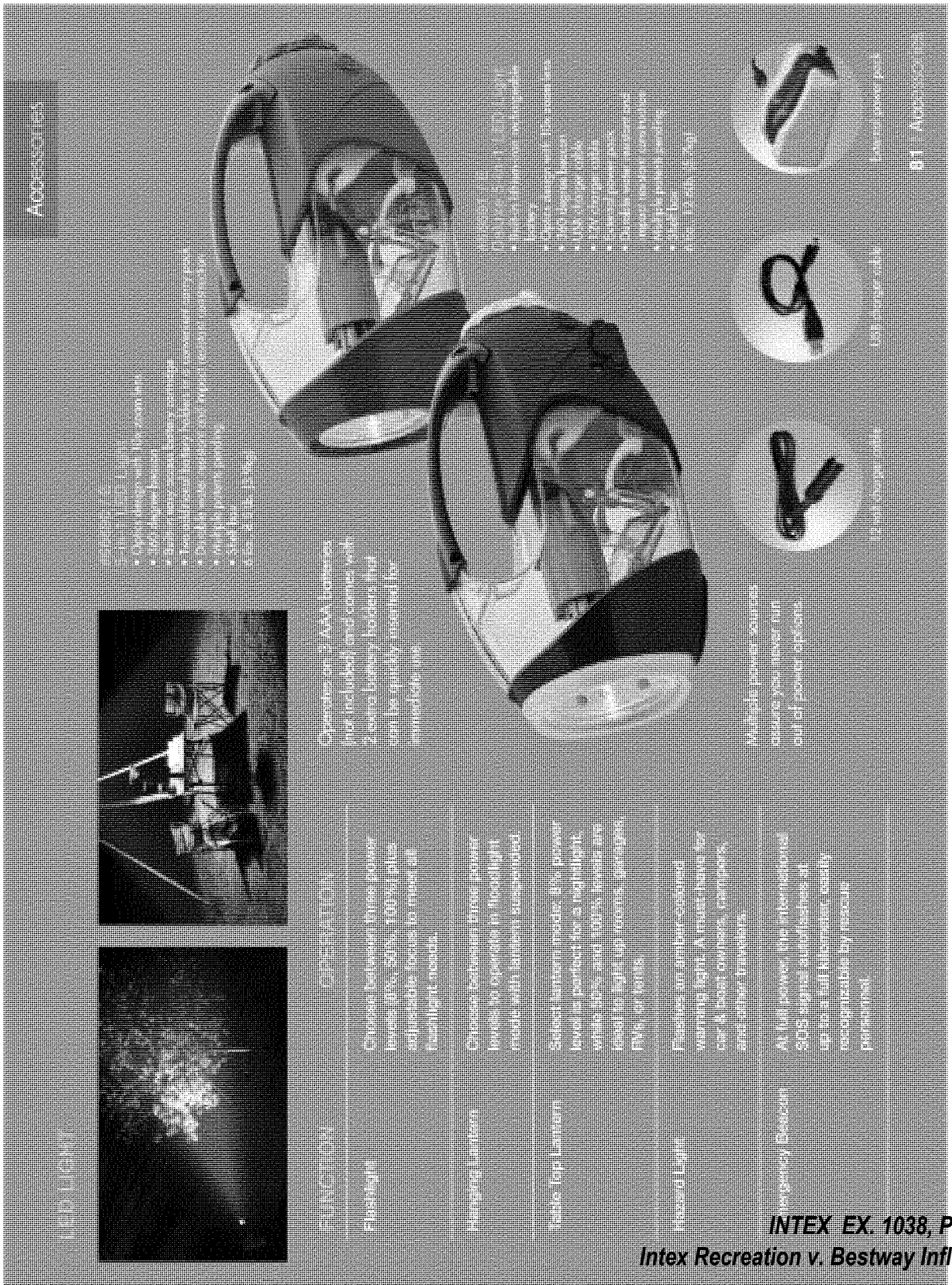




INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1034
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

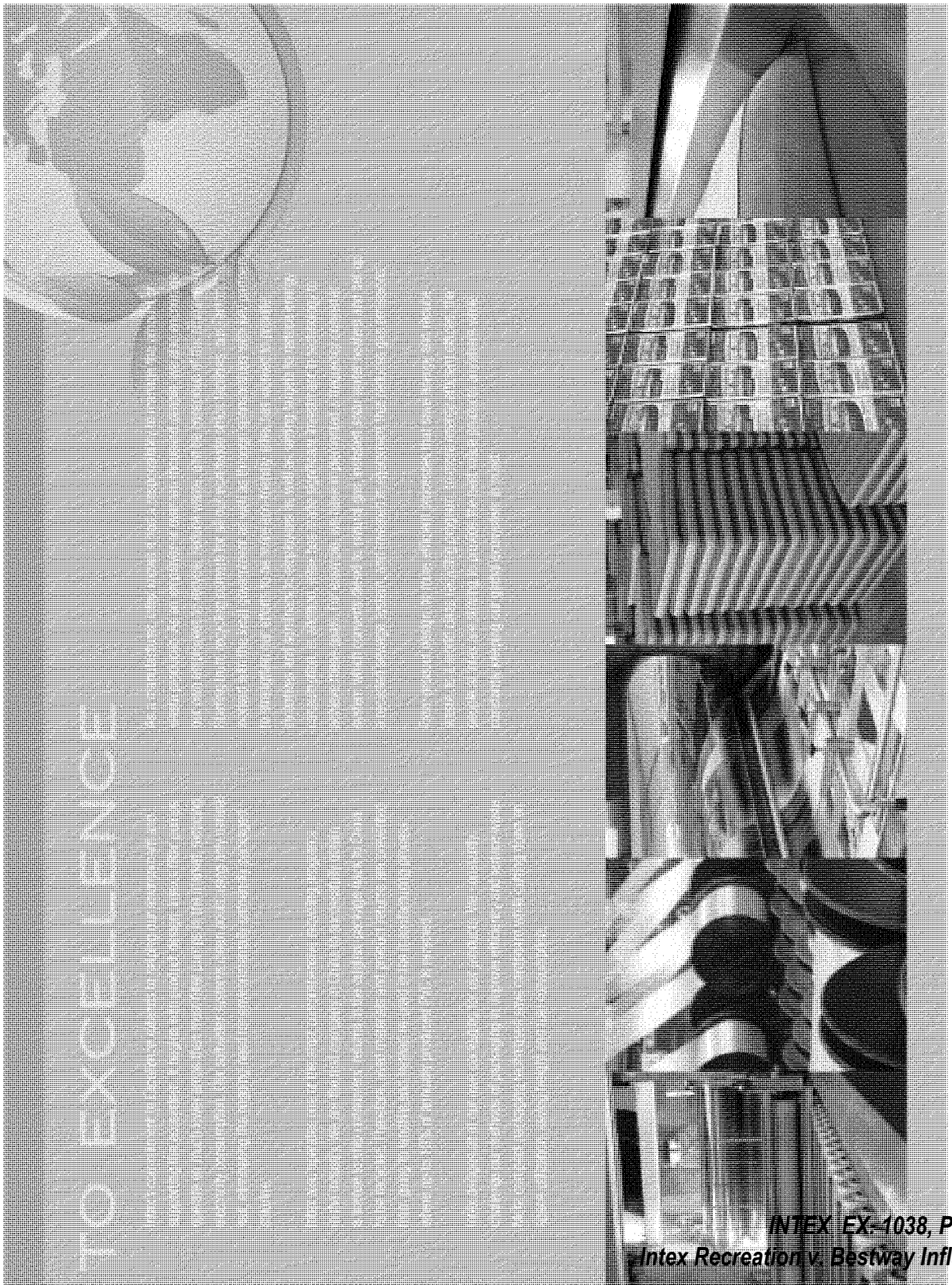
Item	Approximate Inflated Size	Hand-Held Pump	Case Pack	Case Weight
67726NP/EP	39" x 75" x 18½"	110-120V	2 Ea.	27.0 Lb. (12.2kg)
67726NP	(99cm x 191cm x 47cm)	220-240V		

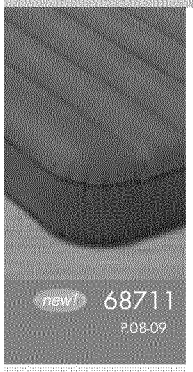
ACCESSORIES



ACCESSORIES

CONVENIENCE

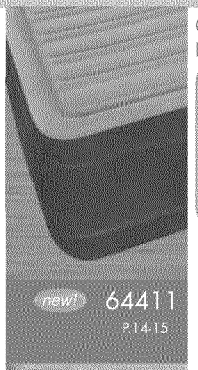




ROLL 'N GO™ BED 68711

AIRBED WITH HAND PUMP

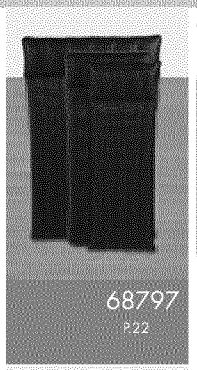
Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size	Hand Pump
68711/E	JR. Twin	30" x 75" x 6" (76cm x 191cm x 15cm)	68612



COMFORT-PLUSH ELEVATED AIRBED 64411

AIRBED WITH BUILT-IN ELECTRIC PUMP

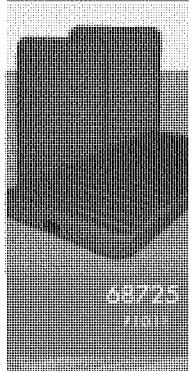
Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size	Built-in Pump
64411/E 64412	Twin	39" x 75" x 18" (99cm x 191cm x 46cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V
64413/E 64414	Queen	60" x 80" x 18" (152cm x 203cm x 46cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V



CAMPING MATS 68797

CAMPING MAT

Item	Approximate Inflated Size
68797/E	72½" x 26½" x 6¾" (184cm x 67cm x 17cm)
68798/E	74½" x 28½" x 8" (189cm x 72cm x 20cm)
68799/E	76" x 50" x 9½" (193cm x 127cm x 24cm)



SUPER-TOUGH™ AIRBED 68725

AIRBED ONLY

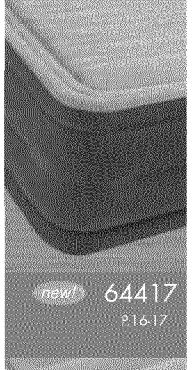
Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size
68725/E	JR. Twin	30" x 75" x 6" (76cm x 191cm x 15cm)

AIRBED WITH BELLOWS FOOT PUMP

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size
68726/E	Twin	39" x 75" x 8" (99cm x 191cm x 20cm)

AIRBED WITH BUILT-IN RECHARGEABLE BATTERY PUMP

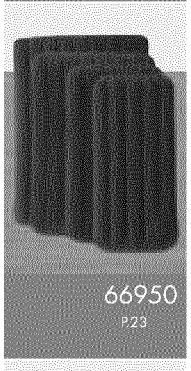
Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size
68727/E	Twin	39" x 75" x 8" (99cm x 191cm x 15cm)



COMFORT-PLUSH HIGH RISE AIRBED 64417

AIRBED WITH BUILT-IN ELECTRIC PUMP

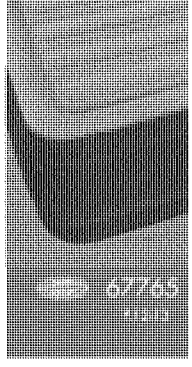
Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size	Built-in Pump
64417/E 64418	Queen	60" x 80" x 22" (152cm x 203cm x 56cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V



DOWNY BED 66950

AIRBED WITH BUILT-IN FOOT PUMP

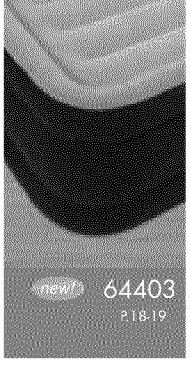
Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size
66950/E	JR. Twin	30" x 75" x 8¾" (76cm x 191cm x 22cm)
66927/E	Twin	39" x 75" x 8¾" (99cm x 191cm x 22cm)
66928/E	Full	54" x 75" x 8¾" (137cm x 191cm x 22cm)
66929/E	Queen	60" x 80" x 8¾" (152cm x 203cm x 22cm)



COMFORT-PLUSH MID RISE AIRBED 67765

AIRBED WITH BUILT-IN ELECTRIC PUMP

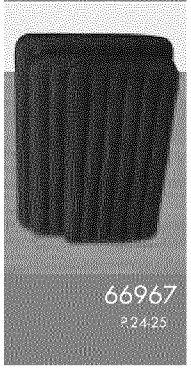
Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size	Built-in Pump
67765/E 67766	Twin	39" x 75" x 13" (99cm x 191cm x 33cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V
67767/E 67768	Full	54" x 75" x 13" (137cm x 191cm x 33cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V
67769/E 67770	Queen	60" x 80" x 13" (152cm x 203cm x 33cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V



PREMIUM COMFORT AIRBED 64403

AIRBED WITH BUILT-IN ELECTRIC PUMP

Item	Size	Aproximate Inflated Size	Built-in Pump
64403/E 64404	Queen	60" x 80" x 16" (152cm x 203cm x 41cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V
64407/E 64408	Queen	60" x 80" x 20" (152cm x 203cm x 51cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V

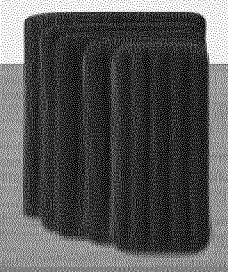


PRESTIGE DOWNY BED 66967

AIRBED WITH SEPARATE BATTERY PUMP (6 X C-CELL)

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size
66967/E	Twin	39" x 75" x 8¾" (99cm x 191cm x 22cm)
66968/E	Full	54" x 75" x 8¾" (137cm x 191cm x 22cm)
66969/E	Queen	60" x 80" x 8¾" (152cm x 203cm x 22cm)

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1042
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables



68950
P.26-27

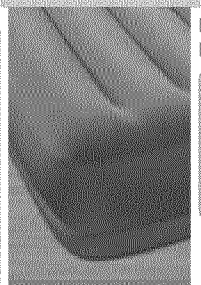
AIRBED ONLY — CLASSIC DOWNY BED

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size
68950/E	JR. Twin	30" x 75" x 8¾" (76cm x 191cm x 22cm)
68757/E	Twin	39" x 75" x 8¾" (99cm x 191cm x 22cm)
68758/E	Full	54" x 75" x 8¾" (137cm x 191cm x 22cm)
68759/E	Queen	60" x 80" x 8¾" (152cm x 203cm x 22cm)
68755/E	King	72" x 80" x 8¾" (183cm x 203cm x 22cm)

AIRBED SET

Includes two I-Beam pillows (17" x 11" x 3½" (43cm x 28cm x 9cm) and a #66612 Double-Quick air pump.

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size	Hand Pump
68765/E	Queen	60" x 80" x 8¾" (152cm x 203cm x 22cm)	68612

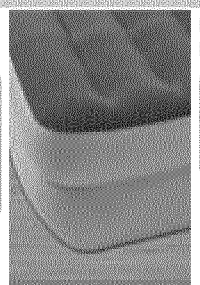


67741
P.34-35

PILLOW REST MID-RISE BED 67741

AIRBED WITH BUILT-IN ELECTRIC PUMP

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size	Built-in Pump
67741/E 67742	Twin	39" x 75" x 15" (99cm x 191cm x 38cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V
67747/E 67748	Queen	60" x 80" x 15" (152cm x 203cm x 38cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V

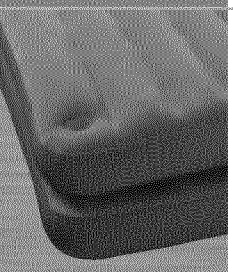


67713
P.42-43

PILLOW REST RAISED BED 67713

AIRBED WITH BUILT-IN ELECTRIC PUMP

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size	Built-in Pump
67713/E 67714	Queen	60" x 80" x 18½" (152cm x 203cm x 47cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V

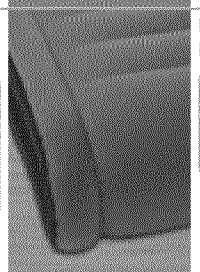


67743
P.30-31

2-IN-1 BED 67743

AIRBED ONLY

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size
67743/E	Twin	39" x 75" x 18" (99cm x 191cm x 46cm)
67744/E	Queen	60" x 80" x 18" (152cm x 203cm x 46cm)

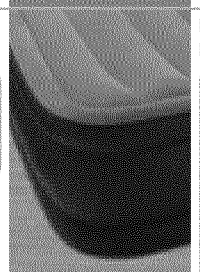


67725
P.36-37

DELUXE MID RISE PILLOW REST 67725

AIRBED WITH HAND-HELD AC PUMP

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size	Hand held Pump
67725/E 67726	Queen	60" x 80" x 16" (152cm x 203cm x 41cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V



67736
P.44-45

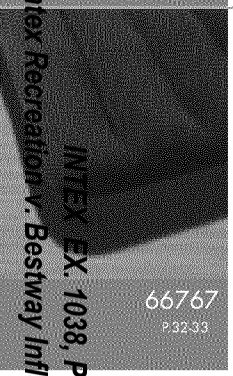
DELUXE PILLOW REST RAISED BED 67730

AIRBED ONLY

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size
67736/E	Queen	60" x 80" x 19" (152cm x 203cm x 48cm)

AIRBED WITH BUILT-IN ELECTRIC PUMP

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size	Built-in Pump
67731/E 67732	Twin	39" x 75" x 19" (99cm x 191cm x 48cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V
67737/E 67738	Queen	60" x 80" x 19" (152cm x 203cm x 48cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V



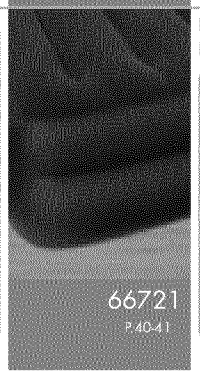
66767
P.32-33

AIRBED ONLY — PILLOW REST CLASSIC BED

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size
66767/E	Twin	39" x 75" x 12" (99cm x 191cm x 30cm)
66768/E	Full	54" x 75" x 12" (137cm x 191cm x 30cm)
66769/E	Queen	60" x 80" x 12" (152cm x 203cm x 30cm)
66770/E	King	72" x 80" x 12" (183cm x 203cm x 30cm)

AIRBED WITH BUILT-IN ELECTRIC PUMP

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size	Built-in Pump
66775/E 66779	Twin	39" x 75" x 12" (99cm x 191cm x 30cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V
66776/E 66780	Full	54" x 75" x 12" (137cm x 191cm x 30cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V
66777/E 66781	Queen	60" x 80" x 12" (152cm x 203cm x 30cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V



66721
P.40-41

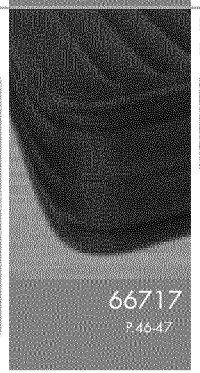
PILLOW REST RAISED BED 66721

AIRBED ONLY

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size
66721/E	Twin	39" x 75" x 18½" (99cm x 191cm x 47cm)
66720/E	Queen	60" x 80" x 18½" (152cm x 203cm x 47cm)

AIRBED WITH BUILT-IN ELECTRIC PUMP

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size	Built-in Pump
66705/E 66706	Twin	39" x 75" x 18½" (99cm x 191cm x 47cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V
67701/E 66702	Queen	60" x 80" x 18½" (152cm x 203cm x 47cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V



66717
P.46-47

RAISED DOWNY BED 66717

AIRBED WITH BUILT-IN ELECTRIC PUMP

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size	Built-in Pump
66717/E 66718	Queen	60" x 80" x 22" (152cm x 203cm x 56cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1043
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables



PLUSH BED 67709

AIRBED WITH BUILT-IN ELECTRIC PUMP

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size	Built-in Pump
67709/E	Queen	60" x 80" x 18" (152cm x 203cm x 46cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V
67710			

COMFORT FRAME BED 67971

AIRBED WITH BUILT-IN ELECTRIC PUMP

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size	Hand-held Pump
67971/E	Queen	76" x 95" x 30" (193cm x 241cm x 76cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V
67972			

ULTRA PLUSH BED 67951

AIRBED WITH BUILT-IN ELECTRIC PUMP

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size	Built-in Pump
67951/E	Twin	39" x 75" x 18" (99cm x 191cm x 46cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V
67952			
66957/E	Queen	60" x 80" x 18" (152cm x 203cm x 46cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V
66958			

FOAM TOP BED 67953

AIRBED WITH BUILT-IN ELECTRIC PUMP

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size	Built-in Pump
67953/E	Queen	60" x 80" x 20" (152cm x 203cm x 51cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V
67954			

SUPREME AIR-FLOW BED 66963

AIRBED WITH BUILT-IN ELECTRIC PUMP

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size	Built-in Pump
66963/E	Twin	39" x 75" x 20" (99cm x 191cm x 51cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V
66964			
66961/E	Queen	60" x 80" x 20" (152cm x 203cm x 51cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V
66962			

COZY KIDZ™ AIRBED 66801

COZY KIDZ™ AIRBED

Item	Approximate Inflated Size
66801/E	34½" x 62" x 7" (88cm x 157cm x 18cm)

KIDZ TRAVEL BED SET 66810

KIDZ TRAVEL BED SET

Item	Approximate Inflated Size	Hand Pump
66810NP/EP	42" x 66" x 10" (107cm x 168cm x 25cm)	68612

TAKE ALONG BED 67775

AIRBED WITH HAND-HELD AC PUMP

Item	Size	Approximate Inflated Size	Hand-held Pump
67775NP/EP	Twin	39" x 75" x 18½" (99cm x 191cm x 47cm)	110 - 120V 220 - 240V
67776NP			

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1044
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Cambridge Dictionary

*Meaning of **strip** in English*

strip

verb

UK /strɪp/ US /strɪp/

-pp-

strip *verb* (REMOVE COVER)

[T]

to remove, pull, or tear the covering or outer layer from something:

- *Because of the pollution, the trees are almost completely stripped of bark.*
- *The paintwork was so bad that we decided to strip off all the paint and start again.*
- [+ adj] *During the summer months, the sheep strip the mountains bare.*

− SMART Vocabulary: related words and phrases

Removing and getting rid of things

abandonment
banish
be scattered to the four winds *idiom*
bin
cast sb/sth aside/away/off
dumping
erase
evacuate
evacuation
exorcism
expunge
expurgate
shrug sth off

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1046
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

shuffle sth off

sling

sling sth out

toss

turf

See more results »

strip *verb* (REMOVE CLOTHING)

[I or T]

(UK also **strip off** [I])

to remove your clothing, or to remove all the clothing of someone else:

- *The men were ordered to strip.*
- UK *Suddenly he stripped off and ran into the sea.*
- [+ adj] *He had been stripped **naked**, beaten and robbed.*

[I]

to remove your clothing as an entertainment:

- *She stripped to pay her way through college.*

+ SMART Vocabulary: related words and phrases

strip *verb* (REMOVE PARTS)

[T]

to remove parts of a machine, vehicle, or engine in order to clean or repair it:

- *I've decided to strip **down** my motorbike and rebuild it.*

[T] mainly US

to remove the parts of a car, etc. in order to sell them

+ SMART Vocabulary: related words and phrases

Phrasal verbs

strip sth away

strip sth off

strip (down) to sth

strip sb of sth

strip sth out

strip

noun

UK /strɪp/ US /strɪp/

strip *noun* **(PIECE)**

C1 [C]

a long, flat, narrow piece:

- *a narrow strip of land*
- *He didn't have a bandage, so he ripped up his shirt into thin strips.*
- *Protect the magnetic strip on your credit card from scratches, heat, or other damage.*

+ SMART Vocabulary: related words and phrases

strip *noun* **(CLOTHING)**

[C usually singular] UK

the clothing worn by a football team that has the team's colours on it:

- *The team will be wearing its new strip at next Saturday's match.*



strip *noun* (REMOVE CLOTHING)

[S] UK

an entertainment in which the performer removes all his or her clothing:

- *He jumped up on the table and started to do a strip.*

Synonym

striptease

+ SMART Vocabulary: related words and phrases

*(Definition of **strip** from the **Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary & Thesaurus** © Cambridge University Press)*

strip | AMERICAN DICTIONARY

strip

verb

US /strɪp/

-pp-

strip *verb* (REMOVE COVERING)

[T]

to remove, pull, or tear the covering or outer layer from something:

- *I have this cabinet that had about eight layers of paint on it, and I stripped it down to refinish it.*

[T]

If you strip someone of something, you remove it from that person:

- *Canada wants to strip Luitjens, a retired University of British Columbia botany instructor, of his citizenship.*

strip *verb* (REMOVE CLOTHING)

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1049
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

- [M] *It was so hot that we stripped off our shirts.*
- [I] *We were told to strip to the waist (= remove our clothes above the waist).*
- [I] *The nurse told me to strip down to my underwear (= remove all of my clothes except my underwear).*

strip

noun

US /strɪp/

strip *noun* (PIECE)

[C]

a long, flat, narrow piece:

- *a strip of land*

- *To prolong the working life of your credit card, keep the magnetic strip protected from scratches, heat, and moisture.*

strip *noun* (REMOVAL OF CLOTHING)

[U]

the act of removing your clothes, esp. as an entertainment:

- *I jumped on the table and started to do a strip.*

*(Definition of **strip** from the **Cambridge Academic Content Dictionary** © Cambridge University Press)*

strip | BUSINESS ENGLISH

strip

verb [T]

UK /strɪp/ US

-pp-

to remove the interest payments from a bond and sell them separately from the original bond:

- *Certain of these securities may have variable interest rates and others may be stripped.*

(also **strip sth down**)

to separate a machine or piece of equipment into separate parts in order to clean or repair it:

- *Apprentices are taught how to **strip** and repair **machinery**.*

See also

asset-stripping

Phrasal verbs

strip sth away
strip (sth) down
strip sth down
strip sth from sb/sth
strip sb/sth of sth
strip sth off (sth)
strip sth out

strip

noun [C] COMMERCE US

UK /strɪp/ US

(also **strip mall**)

a row of stores and small businesses built together along the side of a main road:

- *commercial/retail strips*

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1051
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Cambridge Dictionary

*(Definition of **strip** from the **Cambridge Business English Dictionary** © Cambridge University Press)*

Translations of **strip**

in Chinese (Traditional)

去除表皮, 除去，剝除，撕掉（外皮或表層）, 脫掉衣服...

See more

in Chinese (Simplified)

去除表皮, 除去，剥除，撕掉（外皮或表层）, 脱掉衣服...

See more

in Spanish

desnudar(se), tira, faja...

See more

in Portuguese

despir, desnudar, descobrir...

See more

in more languages

Need a translator?

Get a quick, free translation!

Translator tool

What is the pronunciation of *strip*?

Browse

stringer

strings attached *idiom*

stringy

stringybark

strip

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1052
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

strip cartoon

strip club

Test your vocabulary with our fun image quizzes

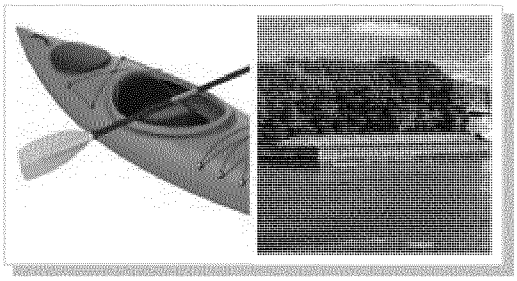


Image credits

Try a quiz now

AD

More meanings of *strip*

− **All**

median
comic strip
magnetic strip
strip search
strip club
strip light
strip mall

See all meanings

+ **Phrasal Verbs**

+ **Idioms**

Cambridge Dictionary

WORD OF THE DAY

strain

to separate liquid food from solid food, especially by pouring it through a utensil with small holes in it

About this

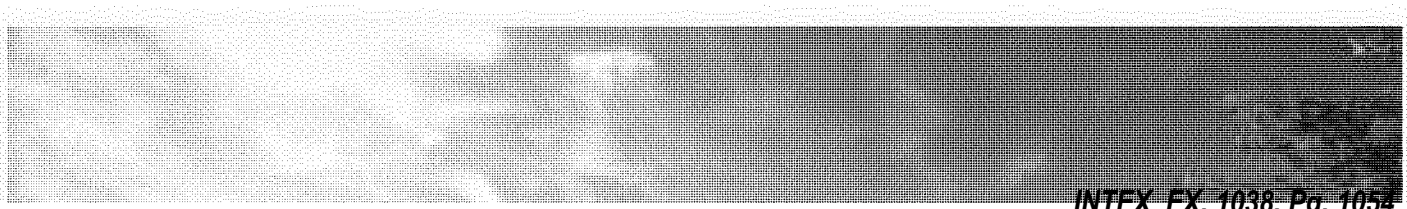


BLOG

Palatial or cramped? (Words to describe buildings and rooms, part 1)

June 09, 2021

Read More



INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1054
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables



NEW WORDS

Everesting

June 07, 2021

More new words

LEARN +
DEVELOP +
ABOUT +

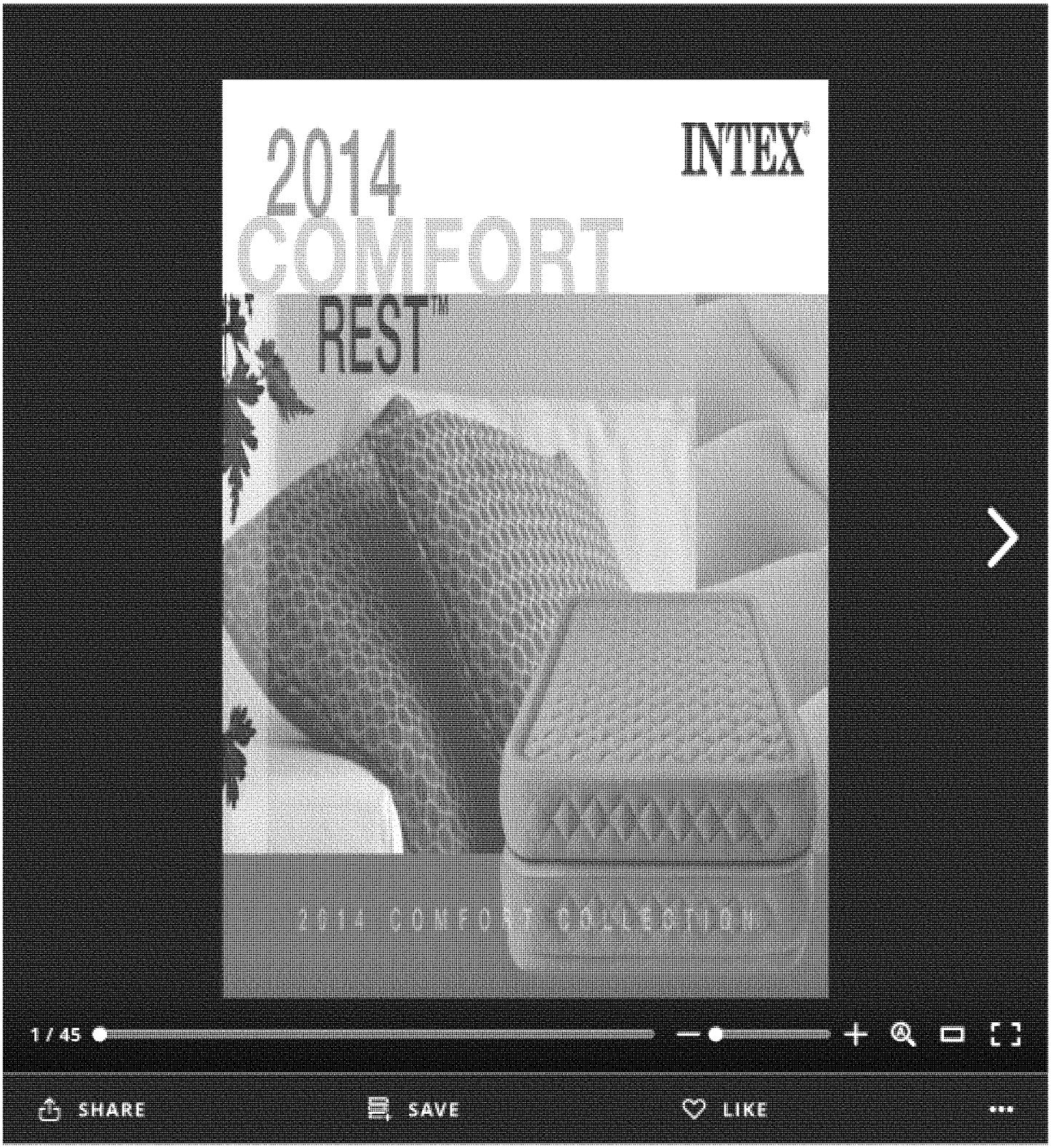
CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

© Cambridge University Press 2021

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1055
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

LOG IN

Advertisement



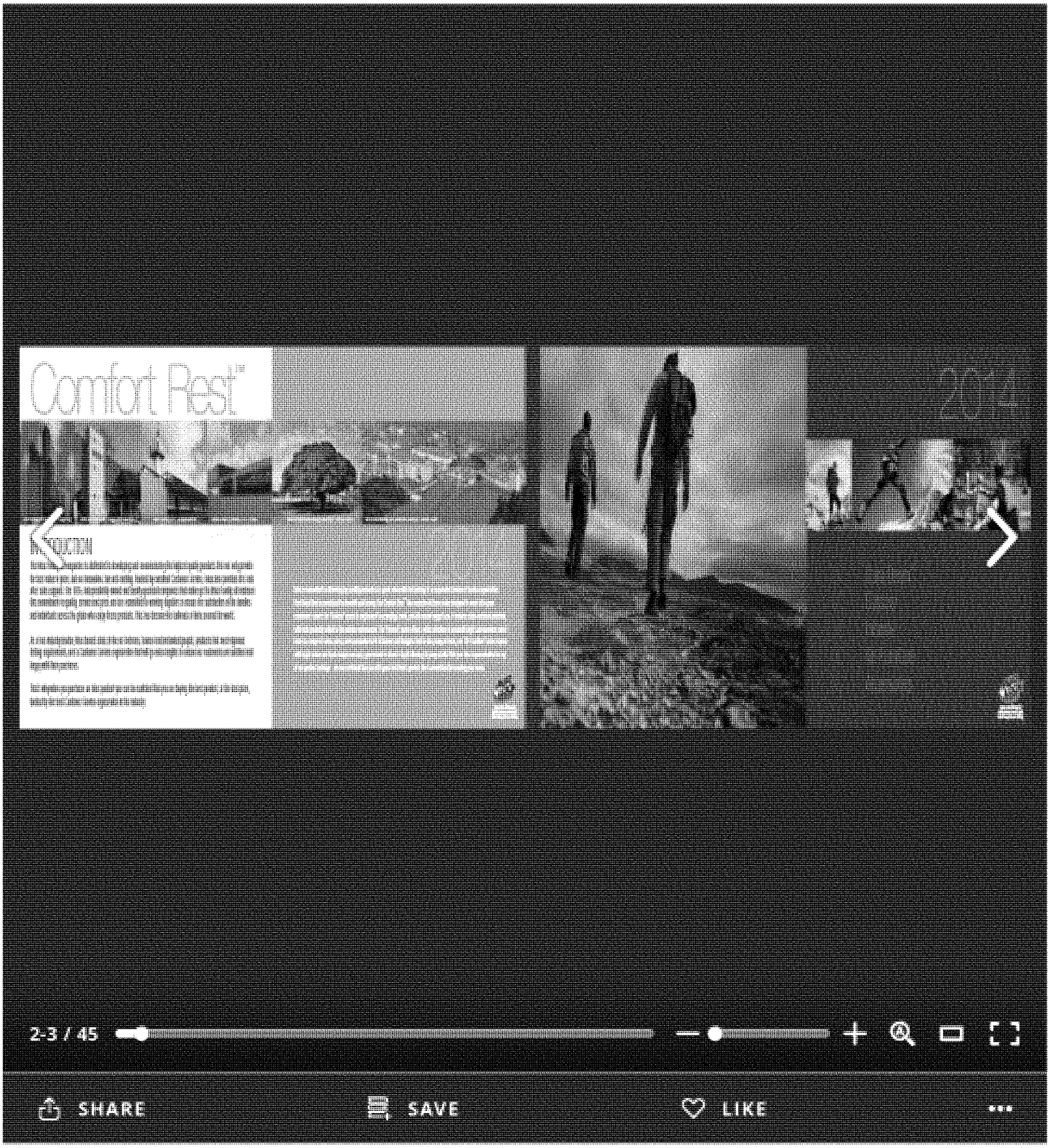
zapf zapf
Published on Jul 23, 2013

Colchones intex 2014

LINEA COLCHONES

LOG IN

Advertisement



zapf zapf

Published on Jul 23, 2013

Colchones intex 2014

LINEA COLCHONES

issuu LOG IN

Advertisement



zapf zapf
Published on Jul 23, 2013

Colchones intex 2014

LINEA COLCHONES

LOG IN

Advertisement



zapf zapf

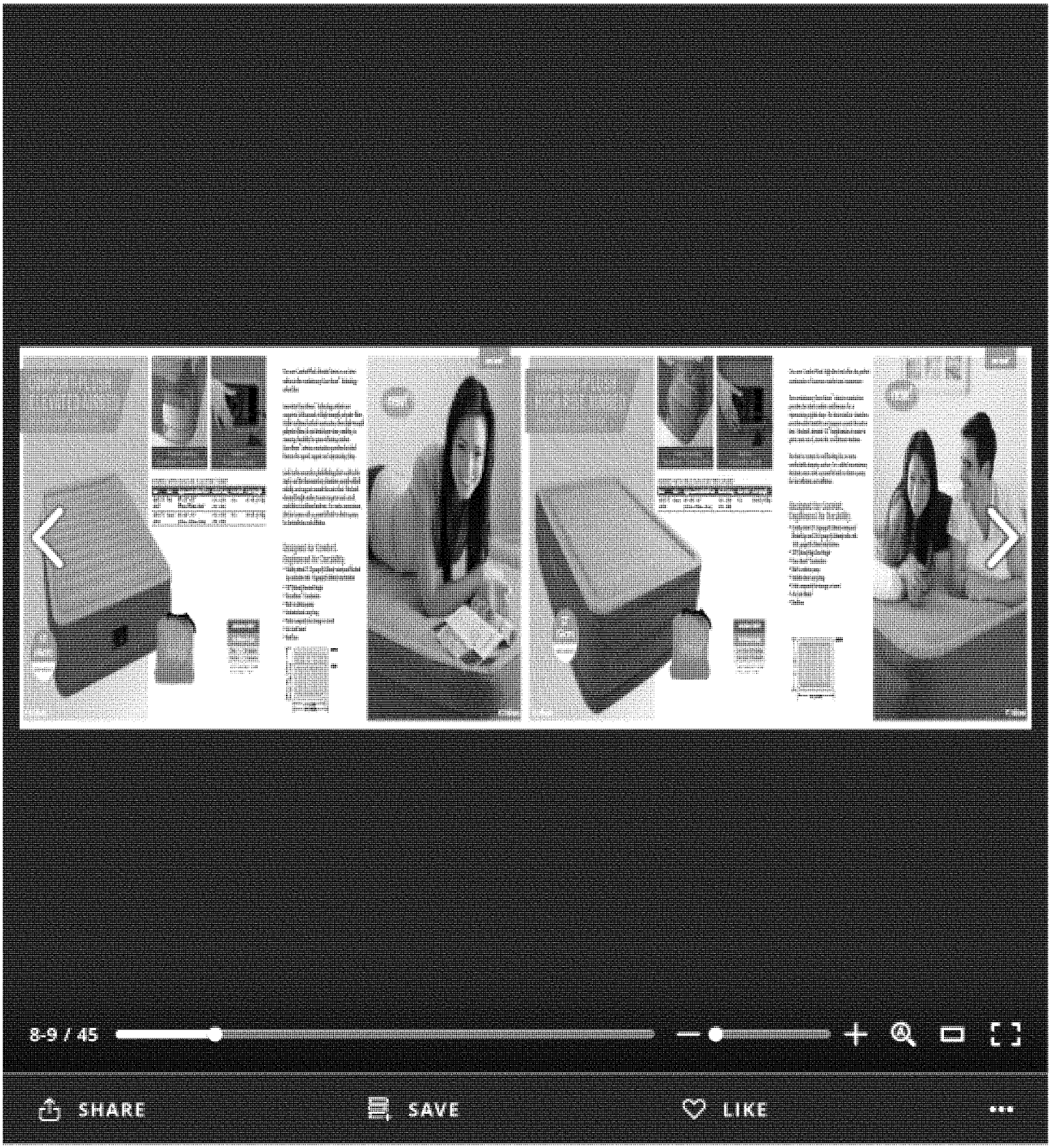
Published on Jul 23, 2013

Colchones intex 2014

LINEA COLCHONES

LOG IN

Advertisement



zapf zapf

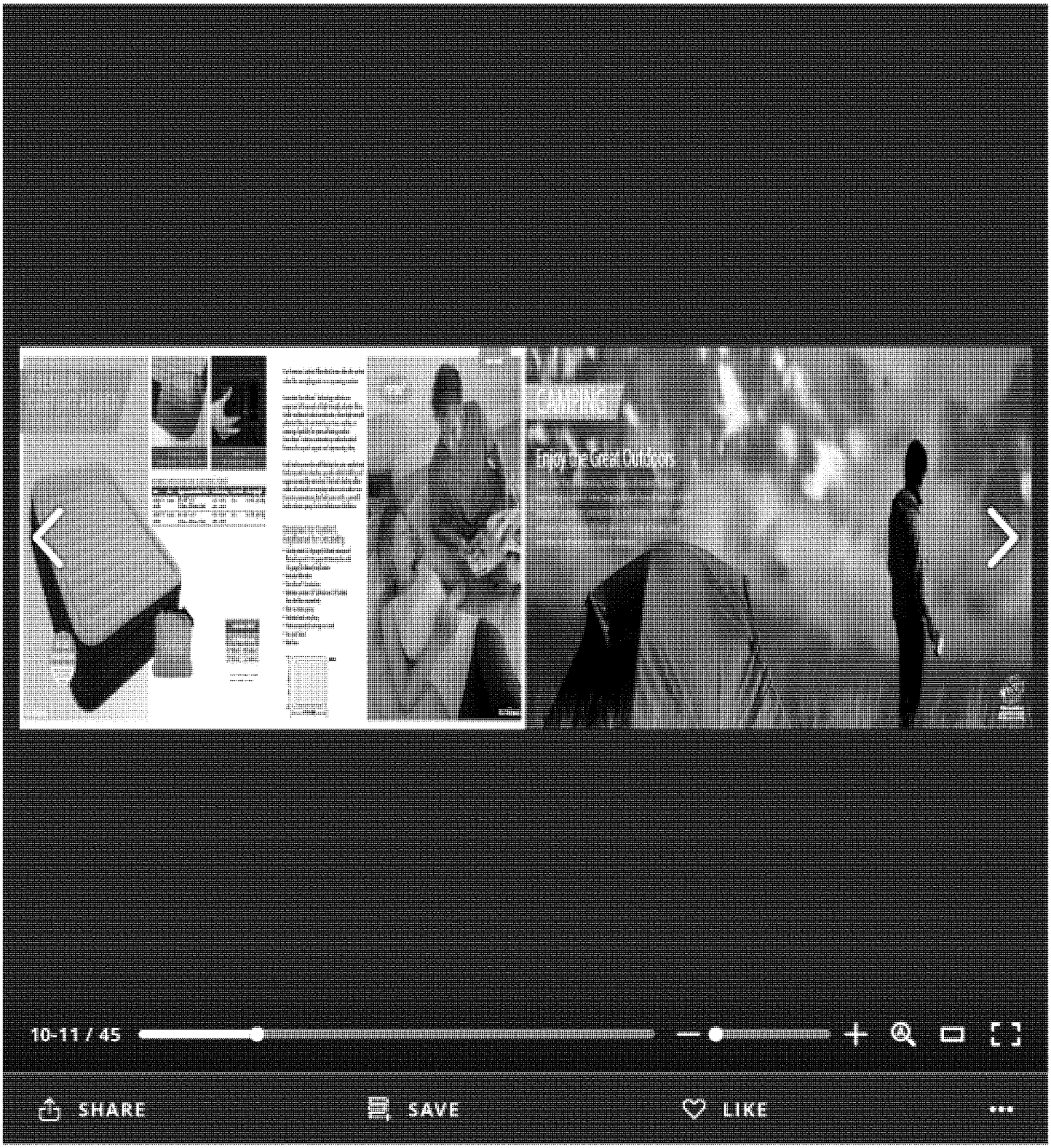
Published on Jul 23, 2013

Colchones intex 2014

LINEA COLCHONES

LOG IN

Advertisement



zapf zapf
Published on Jul 23, 2013

Colchones intex 2014

LINEA COLCHONES

LOG IN

Advertisement



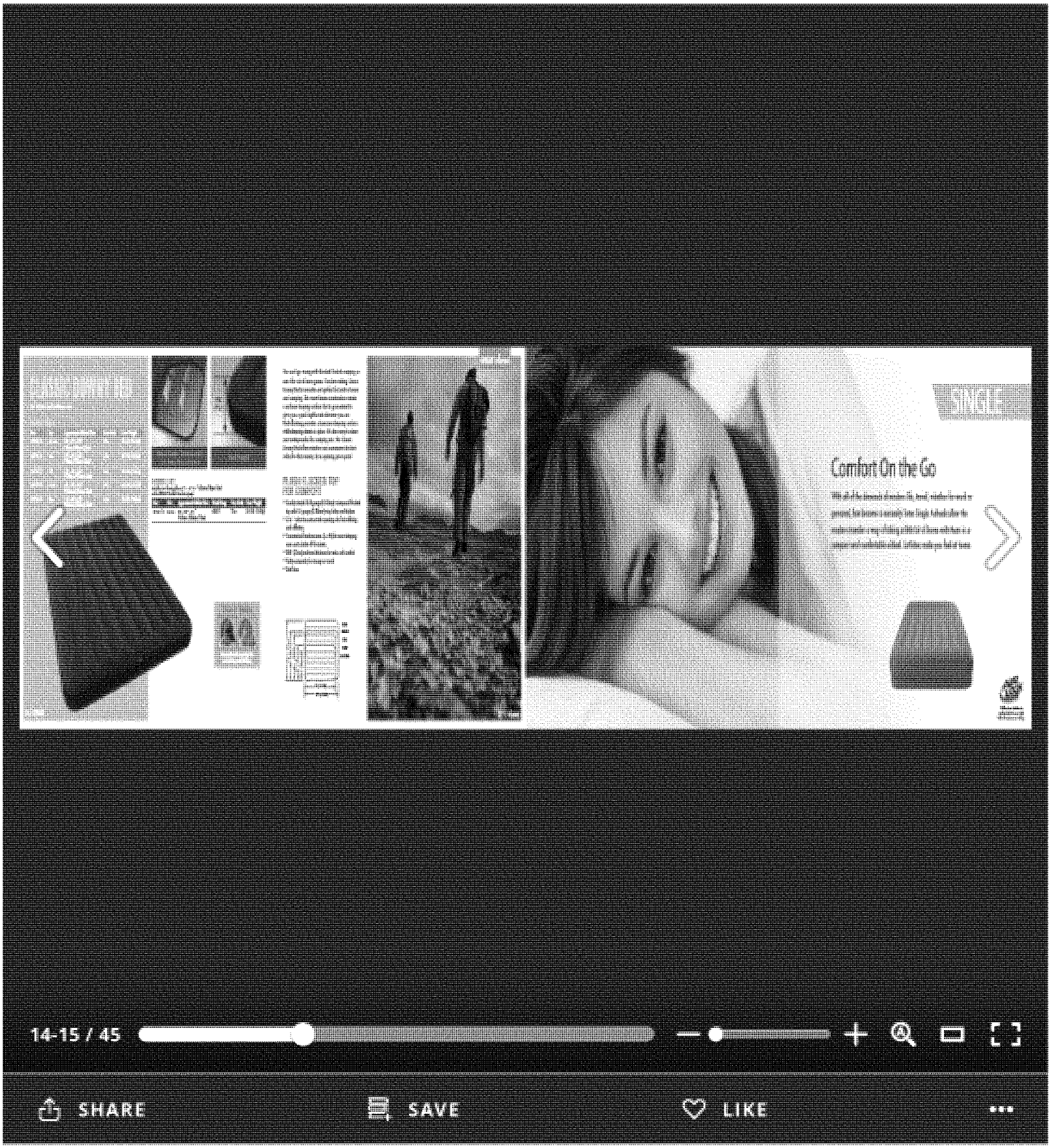
zapf zapf
Published on Jul 23, 2013

Colchones intex 2014

LINEA COLCHONES

LOG IN

Advertisement



zapf zapf

Published on Jul 23, 2013

Colchones intex 2014

LINEA COLCHONES

LOG IN

Advertisement



zapf zapf

Published on Jul 23, 2013

Colchones intex 2014

LINEA COLCHONES

LOG IN

Advertisement



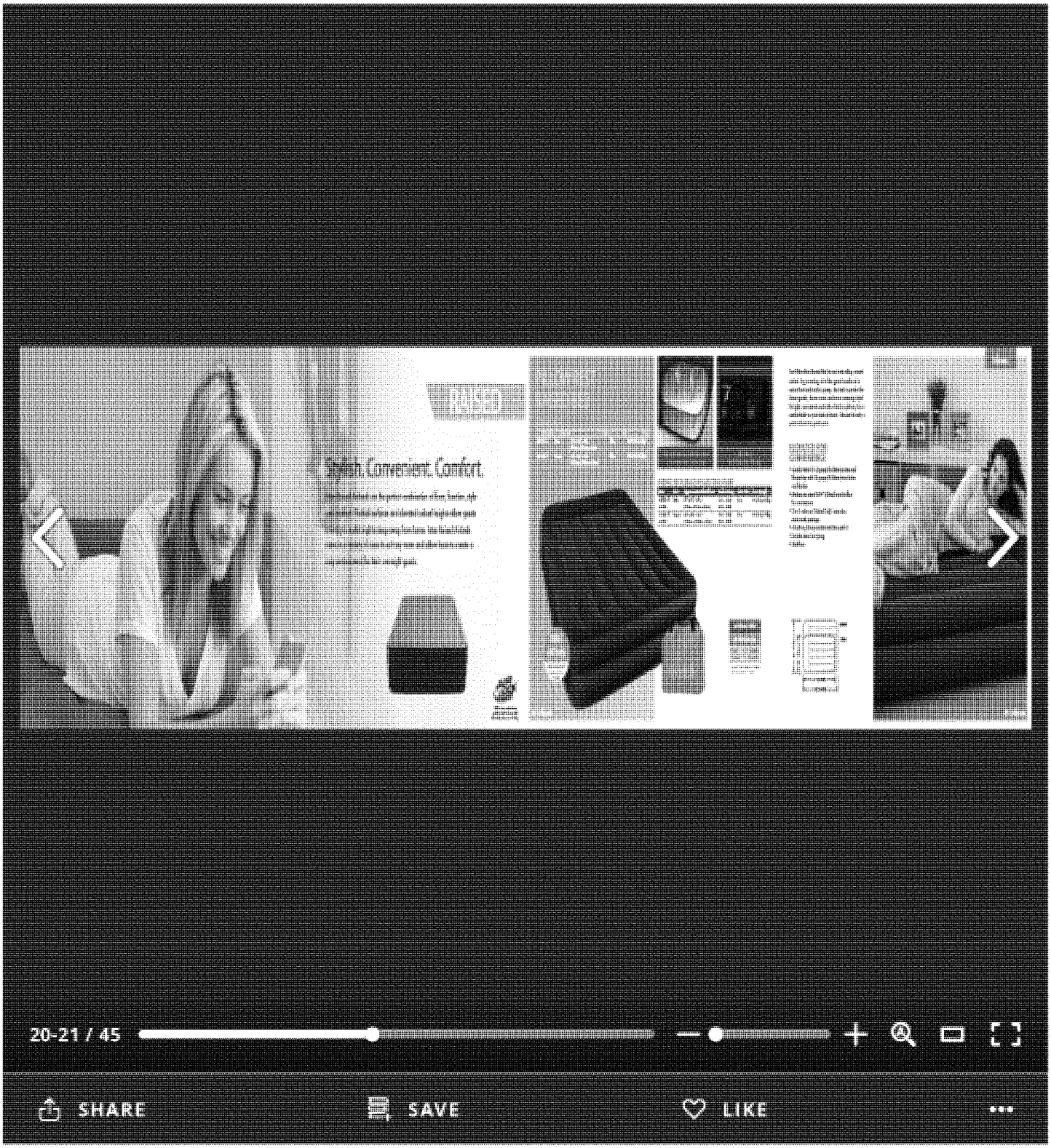
zapf zapf
Published on Jul 23, 2013

Colchones intex 2014

LINEA COLCHONES

issuu LOG IN

Advertisement



zapf zapf
Published on Jul 23, 2013

Colchones intex 2014

LINEA COLCHONES

LOG IN

Advertisement



zapf zapf

Published on Jul 23, 2013

Colchones intex 2014

LINEA COLCHONES

LOG IN

Advertisement



zapf zapf

Published on Jul 23, 2013

Colchones intex 2014

LINEA COLCHONES

LOG IN

Advertisement



zapf zapf

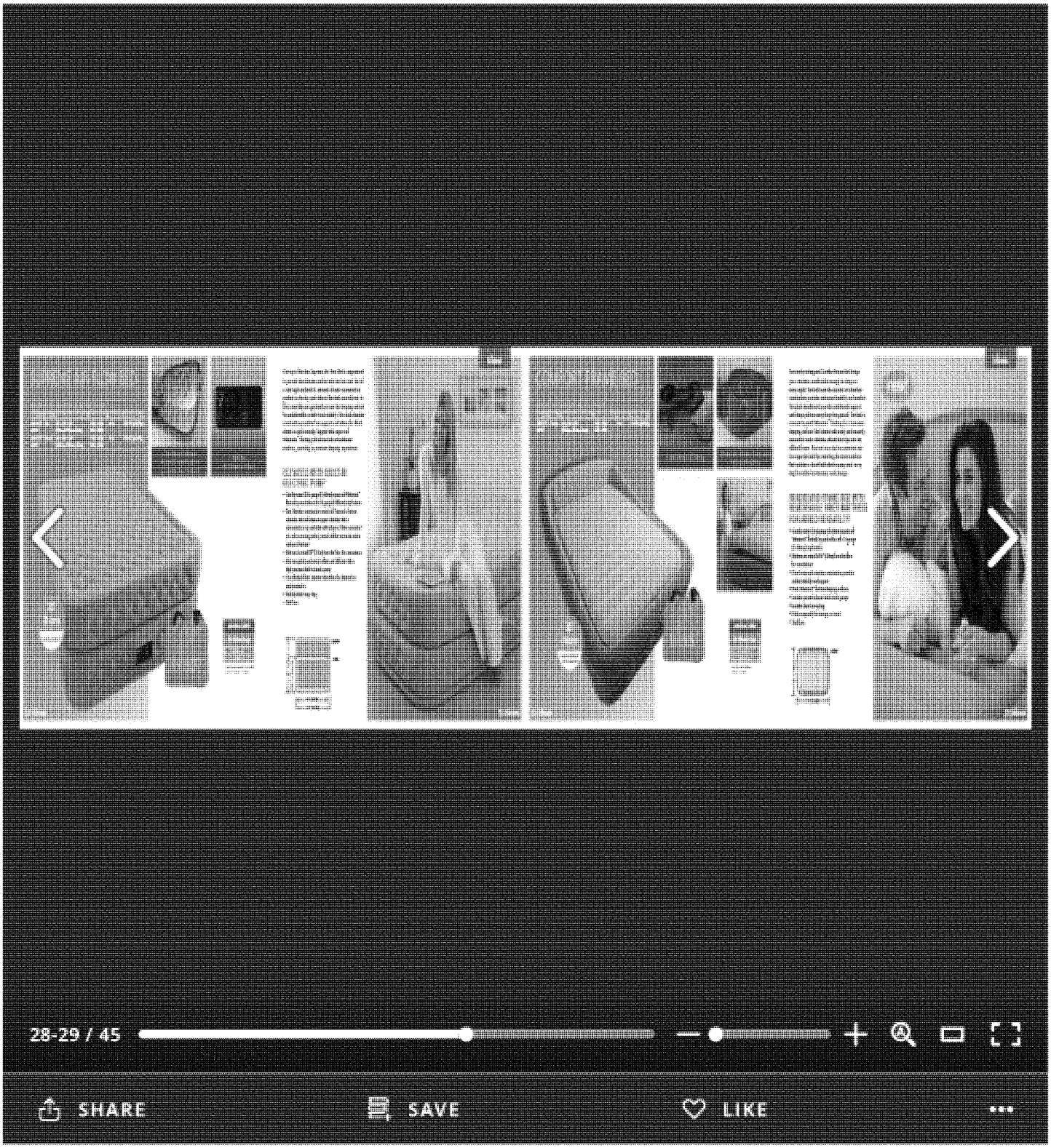
Published on Jul 23, 2013

Colchones intex 2014

LINEA COLCHONES

issuu LOG IN

Advertisement



zapf zapf
Published on Jul 23, 2013

Colchones intex 2014

LINEA COLCHONES

LOG IN

Advertisement



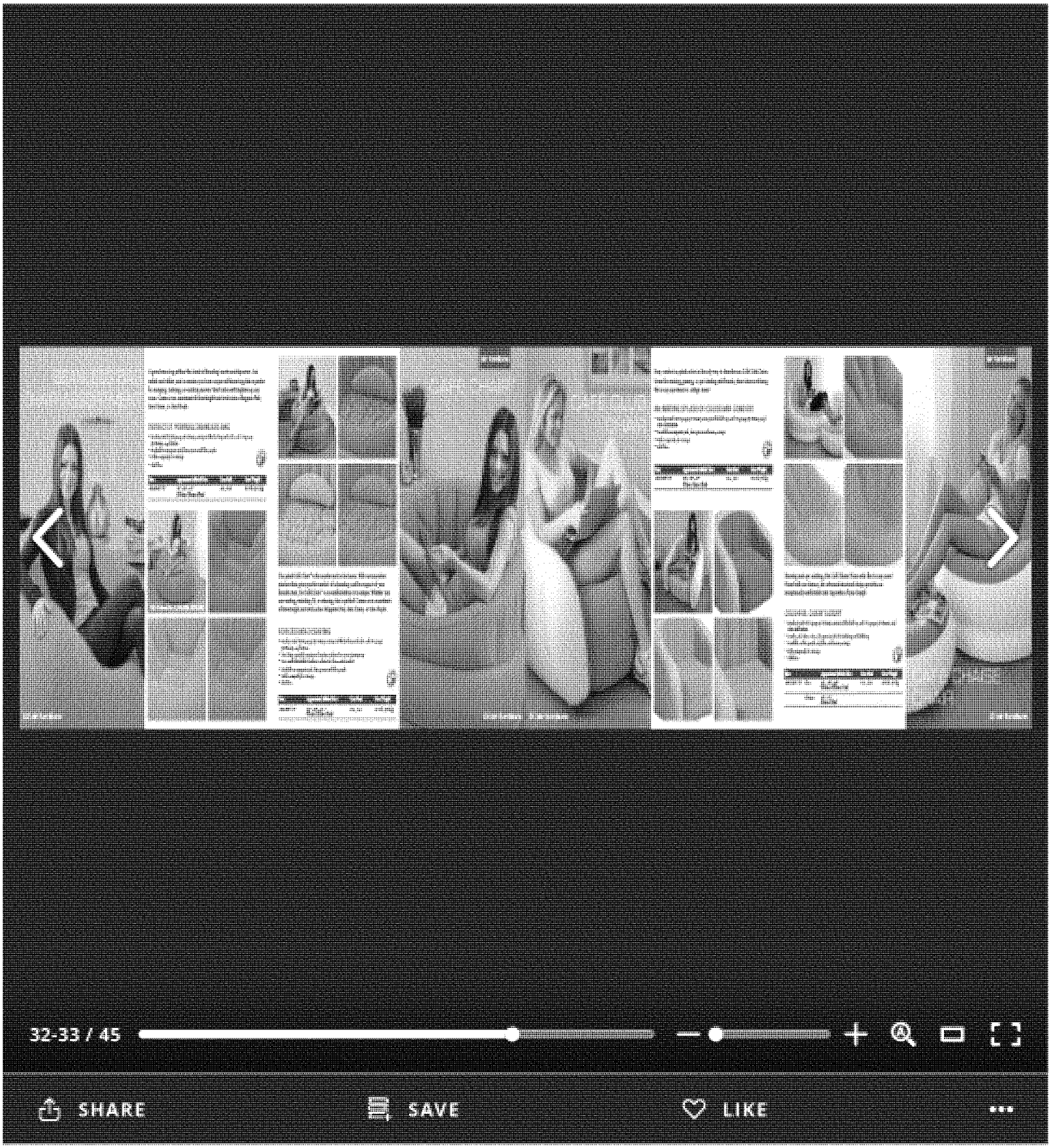
zapf zapf
Published on Jul 23, 2013

Colchones intex 2014

LINEA COLCHONES

issuu LOG IN

Advertisement



zapf zapf

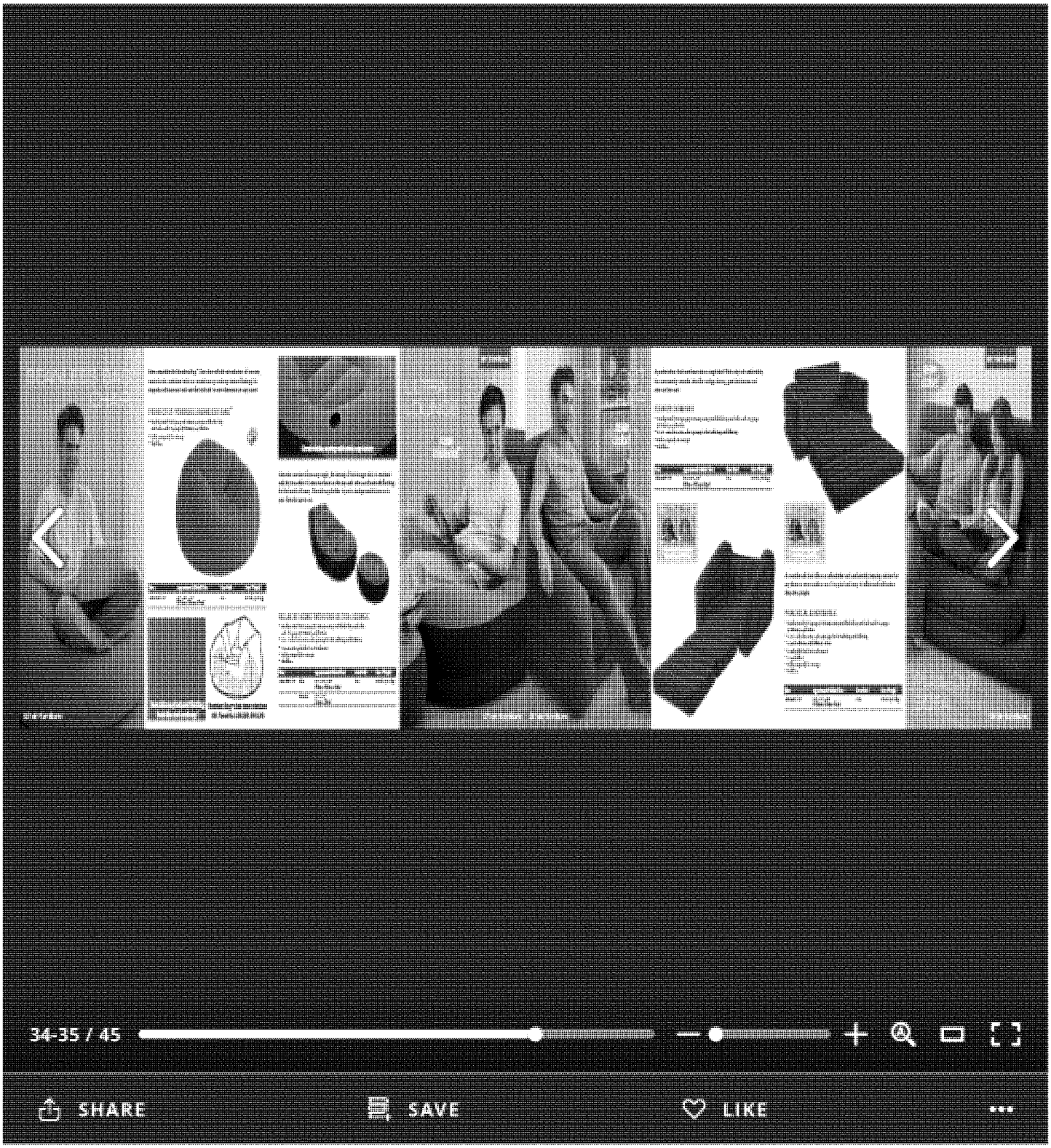
Published on Jul 23, 2013

Colchones intex 2014

LINEA COLCHONES

LOG IN

Advertisement



zapf zapf

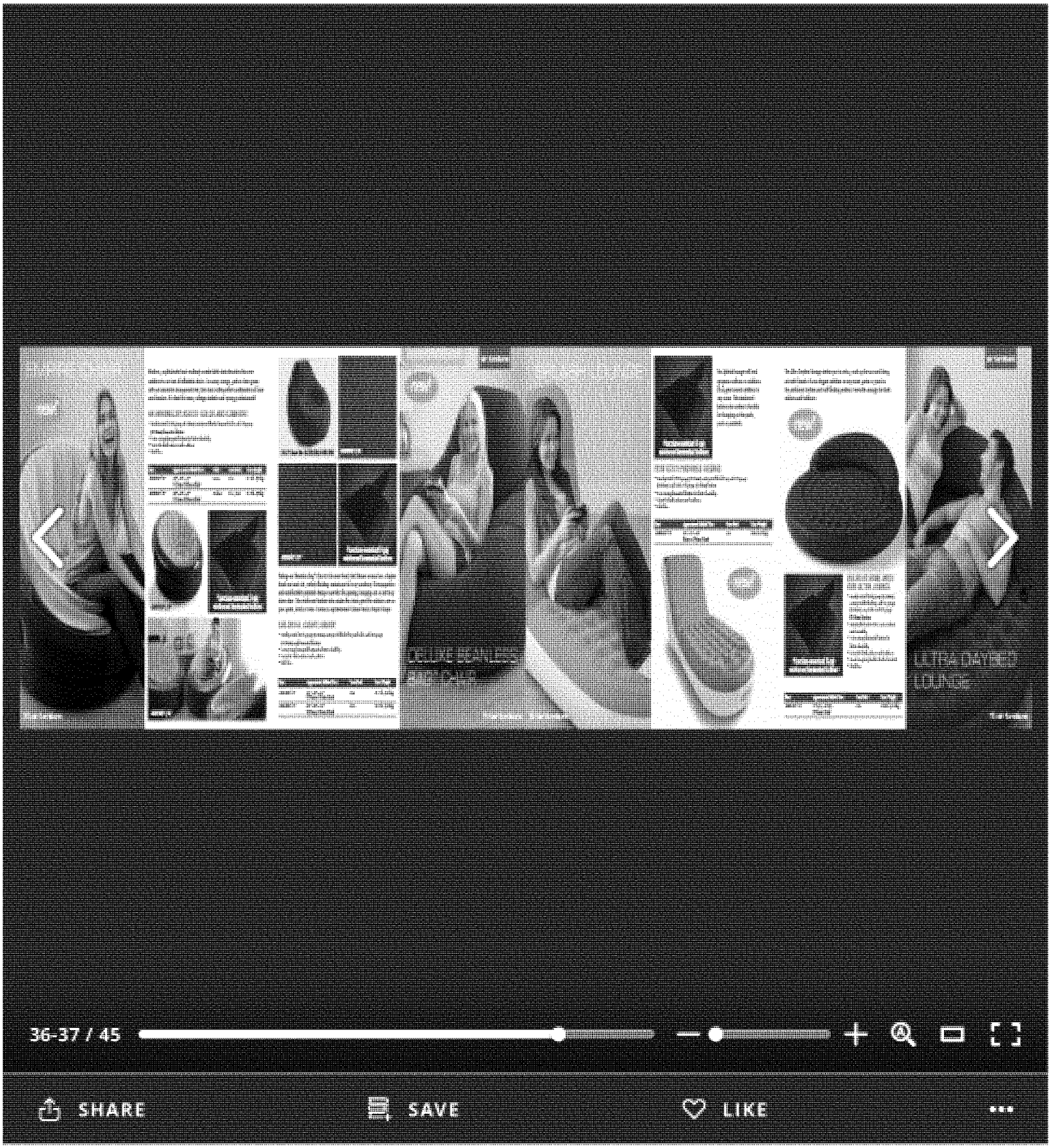
Published on Jul 23, 2013

Colchones intex 2014

LINEA COLCHONES

LOG IN

Advertisement



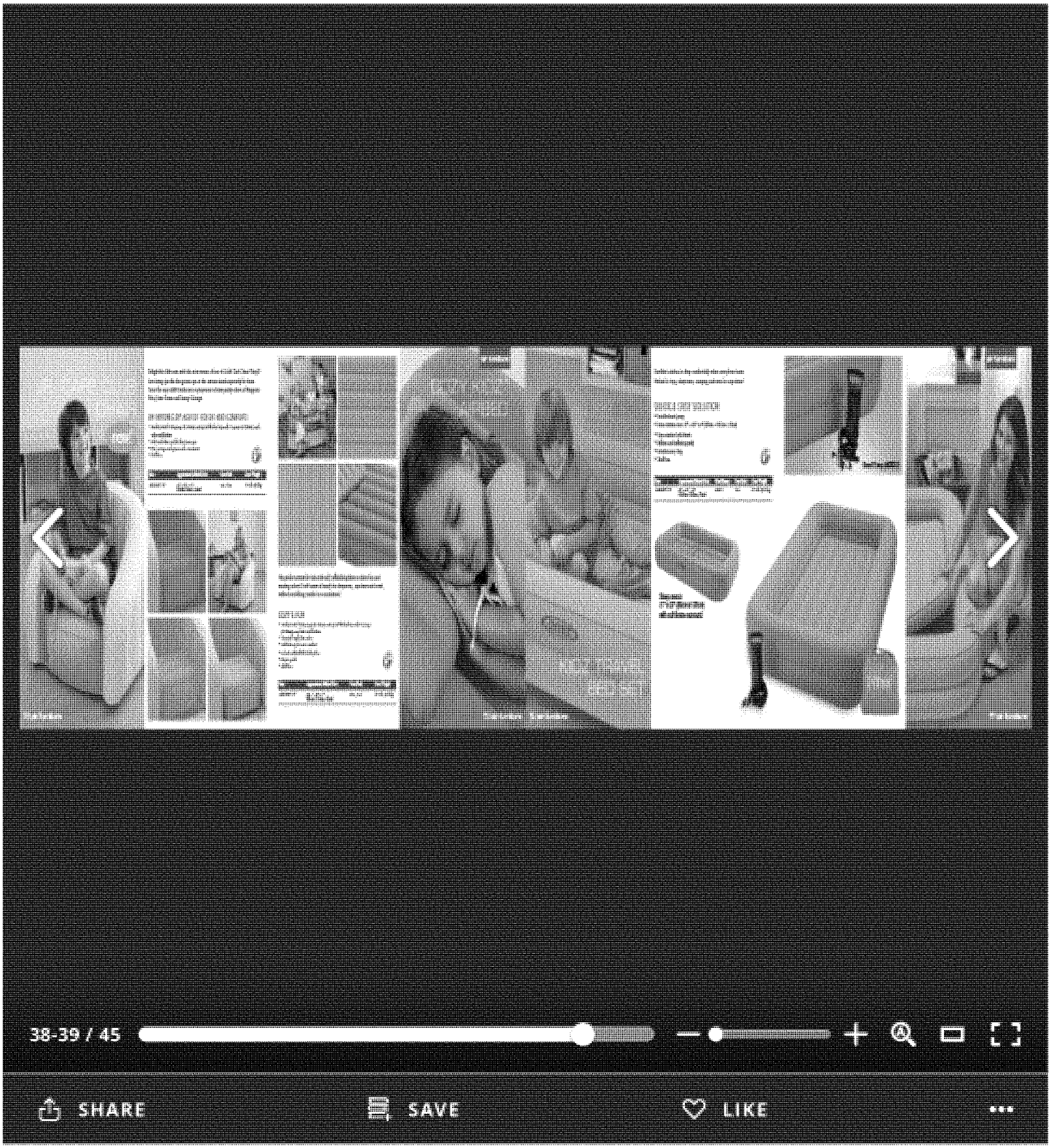
zapf zapf
Published on Jul 23, 2013

Colchones intex 2014

LINEA COLCHONES

LOG IN

Advertisement



zapf zapf

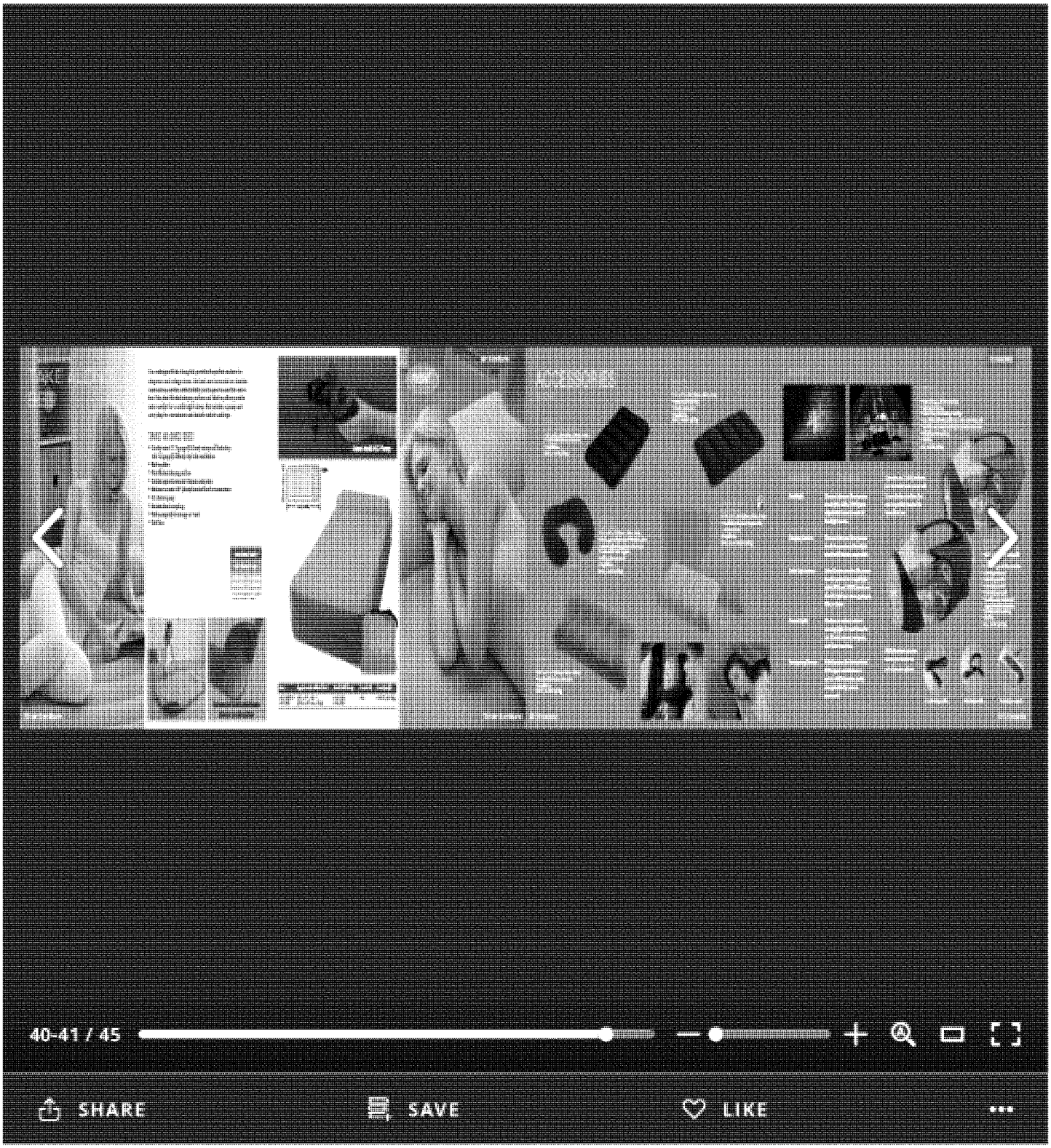
Published on Jul 23, 2013

Colchones intex 2014

LINEA COLCHONES

LOG IN

Advertisement



zapf zapf

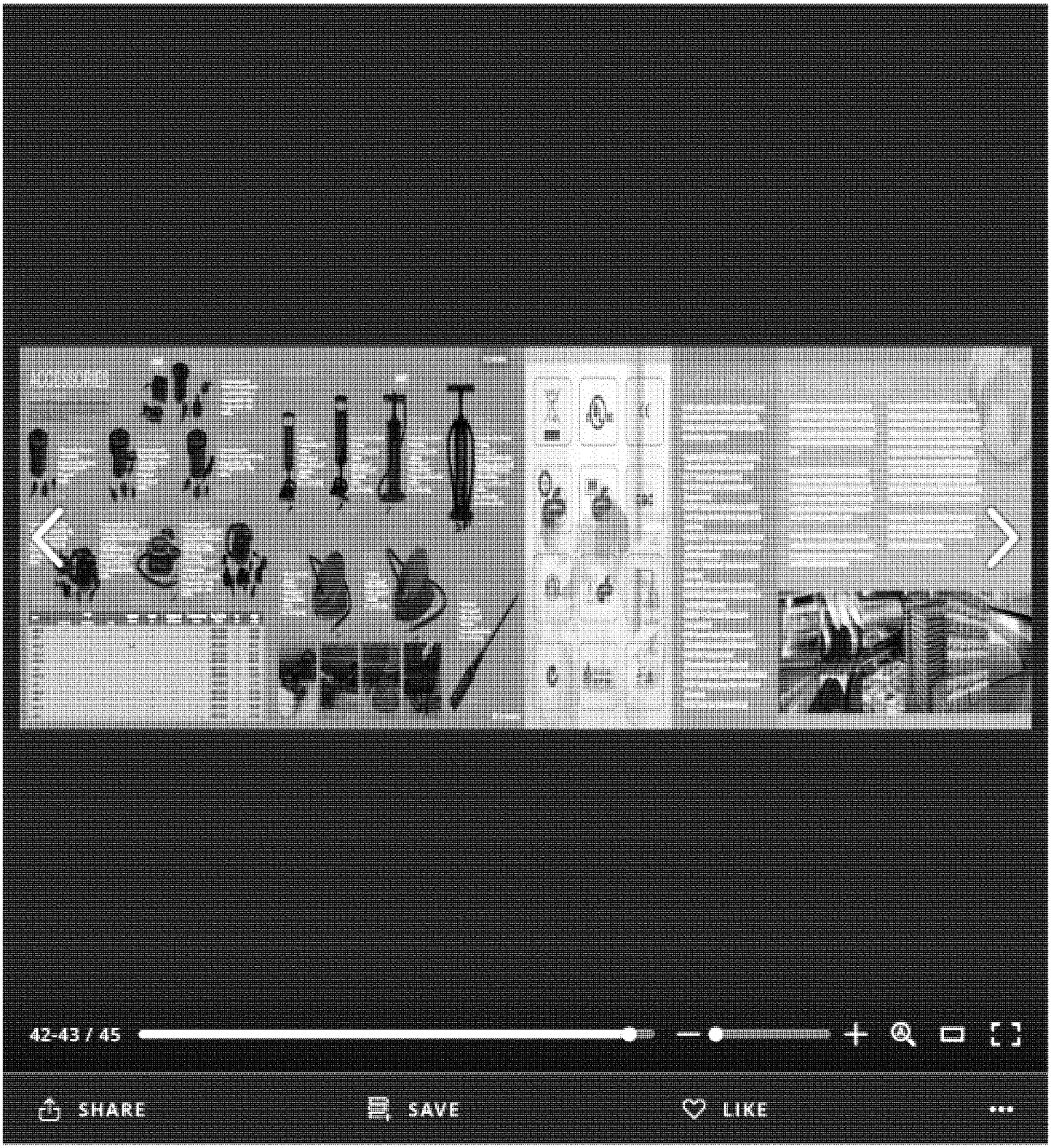
Published on Jul 23, 2013

Colchones intex 2014

LINEA COLCHONES

issuu LOG IN

Advertisement



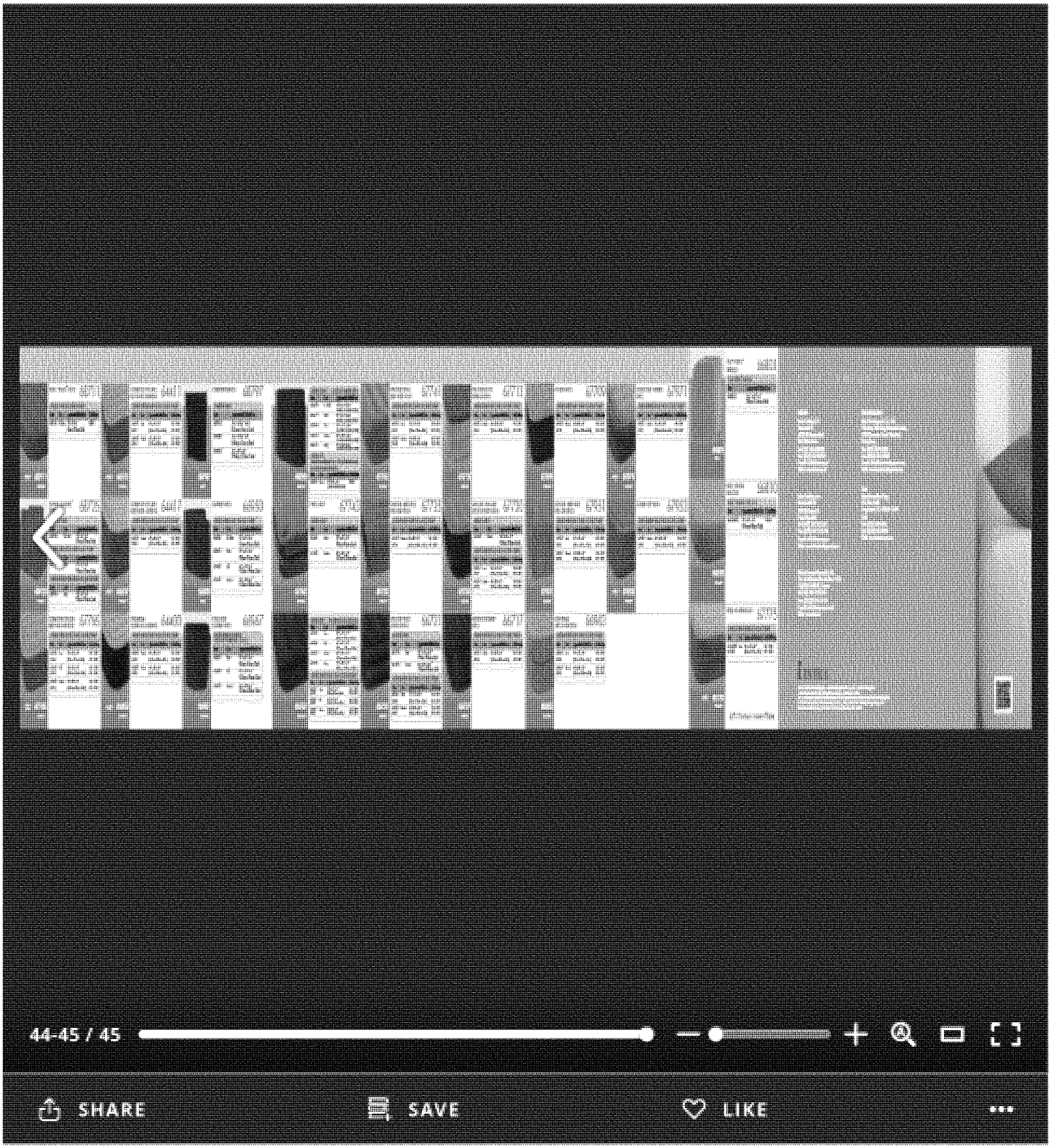
zapf zapf
Published on Jul 23, 2013

Colchones intex 2014

LINEA COLCHONES

LOG IN

Advertisement



zapf zapf

Published on Jul 23, 2013

Colchones intex 2014

LINEA COLCHONES

*Meaning of **edge** in English*

edge

noun

UK /edʒ/ US /edʒ/

edge *noun* (OUTER POINT)

B1 [C]

the outer or furthest point of something:

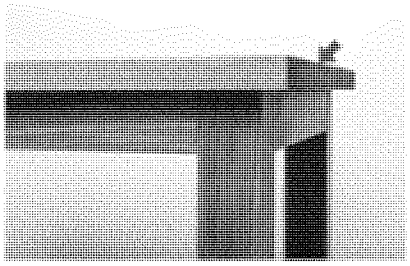
- *He put pink icing around the edge of the cake.*
- *They built the church on the edge of the village.*
- *A man was standing at the water's edge with a small boy.*
- *I caught (= hit) my leg on the edge of the table as I walked past.*

Synonyms

brink

margin (OUTER PART)

periphery



doeh/iStock / Getty Images Plus/GettyImages

− More examples

- *Keep away from the edge of the cliff - you might fall.*
- *The alligators build their nests out of grass near the water's edge.*

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1079
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

- *I'd frayed the edges of my jeans as that was the fashion in those days.*

+ SMART Vocabulary: related words and phrases

---

edge *noun* (BLADE)

B2 [C]

the side of a blade that cuts, or any sharp part of an object that could cut:

- *Careful with that open can - it's got a very sharp edge.*

+ SMART Vocabulary: related words and phrases

---

edge *noun* (ALMOST)

[C usually singular]

the point just before something very different and noticeable happens:

- *The company is on the edge of collapse.*
- *The government had brought the country to the edge of a catastrophe.*

push/drive sb over the edge informal

If an unpleasant event pushes someone over the edge, it makes them start to behave in a crazy way:

- *She had been driven over the edge by the separation from her husband.*

+ SMART Vocabulary: related words and phrases

---

edge *noun* (ADVANTAGE)

C2 [S]

an advantage over other people:

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1080
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

+ SMART Vocabulary: related words and phrases

edge *noun* (ANGER/NERVOUSNESS)

[U]

a small but noticeable amount of anger in someone's voice:

• *There's a definite edge to/in her voice when she talks to her husband.*

on edge

C2

nervous and not relaxed:

• *Is something wrong? You seem a bit on edge this morning.*

+ SMART Vocabulary: related words and phrases

Idioms

on the edge of your seat

take the edge off sth

edge

verb [I or T]

UK /edʒ/ US /edʒ/

edge *verb* [I or T] (MOVE)

[+ adv/prep]

to move slowly with gradual movements or in gradual stages, or to make someone or something move in this way:

• *A long line of traffic edged its way forward.*

forced to leave) the company.

Synonym

inch

+ SMART Vocabulary: related words and phrases

---

edge *verb* [I or T] (WIN NARROWLY)

to win by a very small amount; to beat or move ahead of another person or team by a very small amount:

- *Opinion polls showed him edging **into** a slight lead.*
- *Germany edged Australia 5-4.*
- *Both players gave a good performance but I think Nick just edged **it**.*

+ More examples

+ SMART Vocabulary: related words and phrases

*(Definition of **edge** from the **Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary & Thesaurus** © Cambridge University Press)*

edge | AMERICAN DICTIONARY

edge

noun

US /edʒ/

---

edge *noun* (OUTER POINT)

[C]

the outer or farthest point of something:

- *the edge of a cliff/table*
- *They walked down to the water's edge.*

edge *noun* (LIMIT)

[C usually sing]

a point beyond which something unpleasant or very noticeable is likely to happen:

- *It was reported that the company is on the edge of collapse.*
- *The loss of his job almost pushed him over the edge.*

edge *noun* (BLADE)

[C]

the side of a blade that cuts, or any sharp part of an object:

- *Careful with that open can – it's got a very sharp edge.*

edge *noun* (ADVANTAGE)

[U]

an advantage:

- *Because of her experience she has the edge over the other applicants.*

edge *noun* (NERVOUS CONDITION)

▸ **on edge**

If you are on edge, you are nervous and not relaxed:

- *Carly seemed on edge while her family was away.*

edge

verb [always + adv/prep]

edge *verb* [always + adv/prep] (MOVE)

to move slowly with gradual movements or in gradual stages:

- [T] *A long line of traffic edged its way forward.*
- [I] *Inflation has begun to edge up during the last six months.*

(Definition of ***edge*** *from the* ***Cambridge Academic Content Dictionary*** *© Cambridge University Press)*

edge | BUSINESS ENGLISH

EDGE

noun [S] ◦ COMMUNICATIONS, IT

UK US

a technical system that allows people to access large amounts of data on the internet at high speeds without using wires

edge

noun

UK /edʒ/ US

get/gain/have an edge (over/on sb/sth)

to get or have an advantage in a particular situation:

- *Internet banks may have the edge over their old-technology rivals when it comes to charges and rates, but they are not immune from complaints.*

give sb an edge (over/on sb/sth)

to give someone an advantage in a particular situation:

- *A consortium of private-equity investors gave the group the edge in the competition to acquire MGM.*

to no longer have an advantage that you used to have:

- *Over the years, Germany to some extent lost its edge as a manufacturing base because of cheaper wages in Eastern Europe.*

be on the edge of sth

to nearly be in a particular situation, or to be close to achieving something:

- *Scientists hope we are on the edge of a new and greener economy.*

push sb/sth over the edge

to put someone or something into a difficult or dangerous situation:

- *As the number of house repossessions and bankruptcies increases, those already struggling with debt could be pushed over the edge.*

See also

competitive edge

cutting-edge

leading edge

edge

verb [I or T]

UK /edʒ/ US

edge (sth) down/lower

to get less or lower by a small amount, or to make something do this:

- *Sales edged down from $1.775 billion to $1.772 billion in the fourth quarter.*

to increase by a small amount, or to make something do this:

- *There is still some nervousness that US authorities might try to edge up interest rates to support the dollar after its recent falls.*

Phrasal verb

edge sb/sth out

*(Definition of **edge** from the **Cambridge Business English Dictionary** © Cambridge University Press)*

EXAMPLES of **edge**

edge

The two players alternately take new edges, one *edge* per move.

From the Cambridge English Corpus

At the outer edges of the plume, however, the production and destruction terms rapidly approach zero and advection and transport balance each other.

From the Cambridge English Corpus

More examples

These examples are from corpora and from sources on the web. Any opinions in the examples do not represent the opinion of the Cambridge Dictionary editors or of Cambridge University Press or its licensors.

COLLOCATIONS with **edge**

edge

These are words often used in combination with *edge*.

Click on a collocation to see more examples of it.

bottom edge

- The bottom edge of the sail is called the foot.

From the Cambridge English Corpus

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1086
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

curved edge over the capstan attached to the servomotor below.

From the Cambridge English Corpus

eastern edge

- There are three dwellings at the western edge and two dwellings at the eastern edge.

From the Cambridge English Corpus

These examples are from corpora and from sources on the web. Any opinions in the examples do not represent the opinion of the Cambridge Dictionary editors or of Cambridge University Press or its licensors.

See all collocations with edge

Translations of **edge**

in Chinese (Traditional)

靠外的位置, 邊 · 邊緣, 刃...

See more

in Chinese (Simplified)

靠外的位置, 边, 边缘, 刃...

See more

in Spanish

borde, filo, bordear...

See more

in Portuguese

borda, beira, margem...

See more

in more languages

Need a translator?

Get a quick, free translation!

Translator tool

What is the pronunciation of *edge*?

eddying

EDE

edema

Eden

edge

edge cut BETA

edge sb/sth out

edge set BETA

edge vector BETA

Test your vocabulary with our fun image quizzes

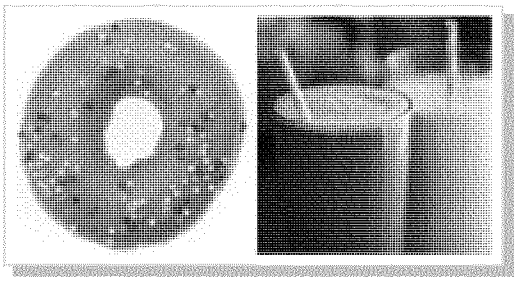


Image credits

Try a quiz now

More meanings of *edge*

− All

cutting edge
edge cut BETA
edge set BETA
non-edge BETA
top edge BETA
cliff edge
edge vector BETA

See all meanings

+ Phrasal Verbs

+ Idioms

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1088
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

to separate liquid food from solid food, especially by pouring it through a utensil with small holes in it

About this

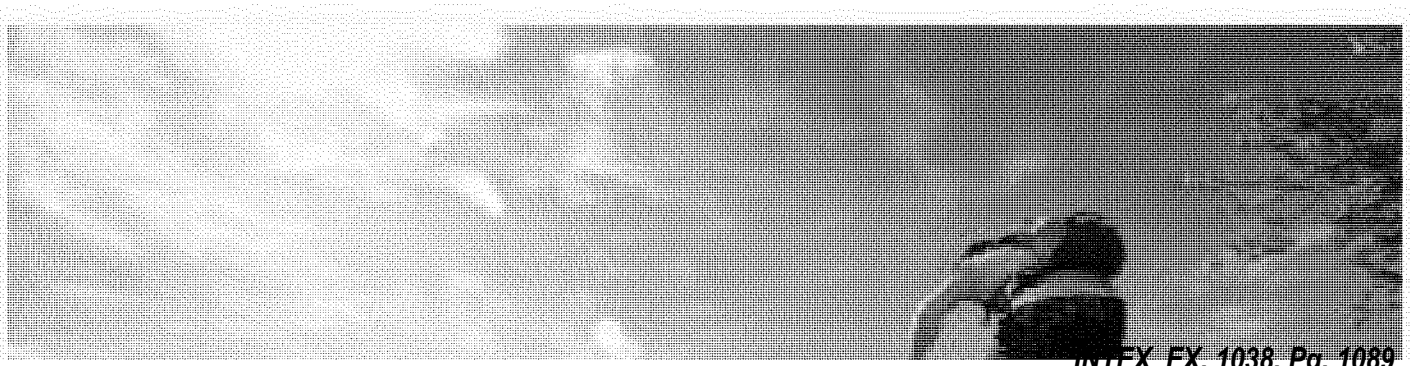


BLOG

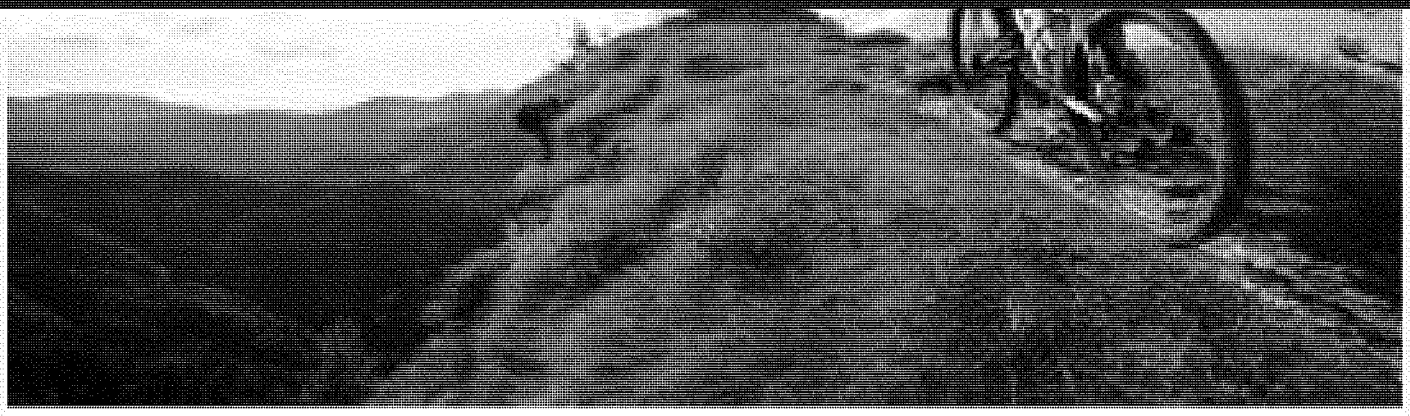
Palatial or cramped? (Words to describe buildings and rooms, part 1)

June 09, 2021

Read More



INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1089
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables



NEW WORDS

Everesting

June 07, 2021

More new words

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
© Cambridge University Press 2021

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1090
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Certificate of Registration

This Certificate issued under the seal of the Copyright Office in accordance with title 17, *United States Code*, attests that registration has been made for the work identified below. The information on this certificate has been made a part of the Copyright Office records.

Acting United States Register of Copyrights and Director

Registration Number
TX 8-275-308
Effective Date of Registration:
May 03, 2016

Title

Title of Work: Intex 2014 Comfort Rest Catalog

Previous or Alternate Title: Intex 2010 Comfort Rest Catalog

Completion/Publication

Year of Completion: 2013
Date of 1st Publication: June 10, 2013
Nation of 1st Publication: United States

Author

- **Author:** Intex Development Company LTD
Author Created: text, photograph(s)
Work made for hire: Yes
Citizen of: Hong Kong

Copyright Claimant

Copyright Claimant: Intex Recreation Corp.
4001 Via Oro Ave. Ste. 210, Long Beach, CA, 90810, United States
Transfer statement: By written agreement

Limitation of copyright claim

Material excluded from this claim: text, photograph(s)
Previous registration and year: TX 7-490-694, 2012
TX 7-439-260, 2011

New material included in claim: text, photograph(s)

Certification

Name: Yolanda Morales
Date: April 20, 2016

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1091
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

edge | Video pronunciation | English: edge

Definition of 'edge'

Quick Word Challenge

Question 1 - Score: 0 / 5

horse or mule?

Which version is correct?

eat like a mule

eat like a horse

NEXT

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1092
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

(ɛdʒ)

Word forms: plural, 3rd person singular present tense **edges**, present participle **edging**, past tense, past participle **edged**

1. COUNTABLE NOUN

The **edge** of something is the place or line where it stops, or the part of it that is furthest from the middle.

We were on a hill, right on the edge of town. [+ of]
She was standing at the water's edge.
Daniel stepped in front of her desk and sat down on its edge.

Synonyms: border, side, line, limit
More Synonyms of **edge**

2. COUNTABLE NOUN

The **edge** of something sharp such as a knife or an axe is its sharp or narrow side.

...the sharp edge of the sword. [+ of]

3. VERB

If someone or something **edges** somewhere, they move very slowly in that direction.

He edged closer to the phone, ready to grab it. [VERB preposition/adverb]
He is edging ahead in the opinion polls. [VERB preposition/adverb]

Synonyms: inch, ease, creep, worm
More Synonyms of **edge**

4. SINGULAR NOUN

The edge of something, especially something bad, is the point at which it may start to happen.

They have driven the rhino to the edge of extinction. [+ of]
She was on the edge of tears.

Synonyms: verge, point, brink, threshold More Synonyms of **edge**

5. SINGULAR NOUN

If someone or something has an **edge**, they have an advantage that

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1093
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

The three days France have to prepare could give them the edge over England. [+ over]
Through superior production techniques they were able to gain the competitive edge.

Synonyms: advantage, lead, dominance, superiority More Synonyms of **edge**

6. SINGULAR NOUN

If you say that someone or something has **an edge**, you mean that they have a powerful quality.

Featuring new bands gives the show an edge.
Greene's stories had an edge of realism. [+ of]

Synonyms: power, interest, force, bite More Synonyms of **edge**

7. SINGULAR NOUN

If someone's voice has an **edge to** it, it has a sharp, bitter, or emotional quality.

But underneath the humour is an edge of bitterness. [+ of]
There was a nervous edge to his voice.
[Also + to]

Synonyms: sharpness, point, sting, urgency More Synonyms of **edge**

8. See also cutting edge, knife-edge, leading edge

9. See on edge

10. See on the edge of one's seat

11. See rough edges

12. See take the edge off

13. to set your teeth on edge

Phrasal verbs:

See edge out

More Synonyms of **edge**

COBUILD Advanced English Dictionary. Copyright © HarperCollins Publishers

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1094
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables



• You may also like •

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1095
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

(ɛdʒ)

NOUN

1. the border, brim, or margin of a surface, object, etc
2. a brink or verge
   the edge of a cliff
   the edge of a breakthrough
3. *mathematics*
   a. a line along which two faces or surfaces of a solid meet
   b. a line joining two vertices of a graph
4. the sharp cutting side of a blade
5. keenness, sharpness, or urgency
   the walk gave an edge to his appetite
6. force, effectiveness, or incisiveness
   the performance lacked edge
7. *dialect*
   a. a cliff, ridge, or hillside
   b. (*capital*)
   (in place names)
   Hade Edge
8. See have the edge on
9. See on edge
10. See set someone's teeth on edge

VERB

11. (*transitive*)
    to provide an edge or border for
12. (*transitive*)
    to shape or trim (the edge or border of something), as with a knife or scissors
    to edge a pie
13. to push (one's way, someone, something, etc) gradually, esp edgeways
14. (*transitive*) *cricket*
    to hit (a bowled ball) with the edge of the bat
15. (*transitive*)
    to tilt (a ski) sideways so that one edge digs into the snow
16. (*transitive*)
    to sharpen (a knife, etc)

Collins English Dictionary. Copyright © HarperCollins Publishers

Derived forms

Word origin

Old English *ecg;* related to Old Norse *egg,* Old High German *ecka* edge, Latin *aciēs* sharpness, Greek *akis* point

(ɛdʒ)

NOUN

1. the thin, sharp, cutting part of a blade
2. the quality of being sharp or keen
3. the projecting ledge or brink, as of a cliff
4. the part farthest from the middle; line where something begins or ends; border, or part nearest the border; margin
5. the verge or brink, as of a condition
6. an intense, harsh, or irritable quality
   his voice had a distinct edge
7. *Geometry*
   a line or line segment at which two plane surfaces meet
8. *US, Informal*
   advantage
   you have an edge on me
9. *Informal*
   the quality of being edgy (sense 4)

VERB TRANSITIVE

Word forms: edged *or* **ˈedging**

10.

a. to form or put an edge on; provide an edge for
b. to trim the edge of

11. to make (one's way) sideways, as through a crowd
12. to move gradually or cautiously
13. *Informal*
    to defeat in a contest by a narrow margin
    often with out
14. *US, Skiing*
    to tilt (a ski) so that one edge bites into the snow, as in traversing a slope

VERB INTRANSITIVE

15. to move sideways
16. to move gradually or cautiously
    to edge away from danger

SIMILAR WORDS: ˈborder

Idioms:

on edge
set someone's teeth on edge
take the edge off

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1098
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Derived forms

edger (ˈedger) NOUN

Word origin

ME *egge* < OE *ecg*, akin to ON *egg*, Ger *ecke*, corner < IE base **ak-*, sharp: see acid

⚠ *These examples have been automatically selected and may contain sensitive content.Read more...*

This gives you the edge when there are deals to be done.
THE SUN (2016)

She found her head hanging over one edge.
THE SUN (2016)

Forces in the northern and southern fronts are also edging towards the city centre.
TIMES, SUNDAY TIMES (2016)

Your table may be right by the edge, so steady with the false teeth.
TIMES, SUNDAY TIMES (2017)

Asia's biggest economies are competing to gain an edge in the global nuclear industry.
TIMES, SUNDAY TIMES (2016)

And if an application delivers real competitive edge, organisations could consider making it commercially available to other companies.
COMPUTING (2010)

Doctors need to listen to what patients want rather than using cutting edge technology for its own sake, it urges.
TIMES, SUNDAY TIMES (2016)

On measures including combined venture capital investment in its companies, London appeared to be edging ahead.
TIMES, SUNDAY TIMES (2016)

I don't want the game to become too funky but it could be said there is a need to limit bat sizes or edges at some point.
TIMES, SUNDAY TIMES (2016)

Those raw winds in the south are easing today as the area of high pressure edges closer.
TIMES, SUNDAY TIMES (2015)

Show more...

take the edge off something
on the edge of your seat
on edge
lose your edge
a cutting edge
at the cutting edge
set your teeth on edge

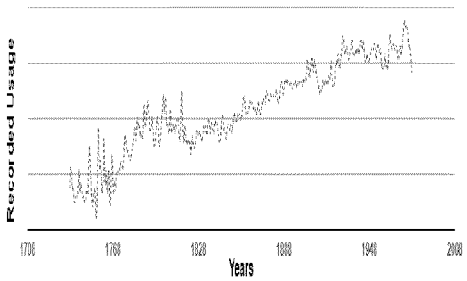
COBUILD Collocations

edge

blur the edges
edge of extinction
edge of town
extra edge
far edge
field edge
fold the edge
forest edge
front edge
gain an edge
inside edge
jagged edge
lack the edge
lake edge
outer edge
outside edge
pastry edge
platform edge
press the edges
raw edge
round the edge
satirical edge
seal the edges
serrated edge
sharp edge
slight edge
smooth the edges
soft edges
soften the edges
southern edge
trim the edges
very edge
western edge

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1101
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

View usage for: All Years



INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1102
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

British English: edge /ɛdʒ/ noun
The *edge* of something is the place or line where it stops, or the part of it that is furthest from the middle.
We were on the edge of town.

American English: edge /ˈɛdʒ/
Arabic: حافَّة
Brazilian Portuguese: beira
Chinese: 边缘
Croatian: rub
Czech: okraj
Danish: kant
Dutch: rand
European Spanish: borde
Finnish: reuna raja
French: bord
German: Rand
Greek: παρυφή
Italian: margine
Japanese: 端
Korean: 가장자리
Norwegian: kant
Polish: krawędź
European Portuguese: beira
Romanian: margine
Russian: край
Latin American Spanish: filo
Swedish: kant
Thai: ขอบ
Turkish: sınır
Ukrainian: край
Vietnamese: rìa

British English: edge verb /ɛdʒ/
If someone or something *edges* somewhere, they move very slowly in that direction.
He edged closer to the telephone, ready to grab it.

American English: edge /ˈɛdʒ/
Brazilian Portuguese: direcionar-se
Chinese: 慢慢移动
European Spanish: acercarse poco a poco
French: avancer
German: sich bewegen
Italian: avanzare lentamente
Japanese: じりじり進む
Korean: 아주 조금씩 다가가다
European Portuguese: direcionar-se
Latin American Spanish: acercarse poco a poco

Browse alphabetically

edge

edetate calcium disodium
Edgar
Edgar Atheling
edge
edge city
edge effect
edge molding

All ENGLISH words that begin with 'E'

Related terms of

edge

on edge
edge city
edge out
edge tool
edge wave

View more related words

Source

Definition of **edge** from the Collins English Dictionary

• New from Collins •



INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1104
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Collins Dictionary Thesaurus Translator Grammar

This page in

English

Browse all official Collins dictionaries

Contact Us

Consent Management
Terms & Conditions
Privacy Policy
California Privacy Rights
Do Not Sell My Personal Information
© Collins 2021

macmillan dictionary

Search Macmillan Dictionary

AD

edge DEFINITIONS AND SYNONYMS ★★★

NOUN UK /edʒ/

OTHER ENTRIES FOR THIS WORD +

WORD FORMS −

singular	**edge**
plural	**edges**

1. part furthest out
2. sharp side of blade/tool
3. angry tone in voice
4. advantage
5. strange quality

→ **phrases**

1 COUNTABLE **the part of something that is furthest from its centre**

Bring the two edges together and fasten them securely.

edge of: *The railway station was built on the edge of town.*

Victoria was sitting on the edge of the bed.

Synonyms and related words −

The outer parts of objects or spaces

apex back

back end ...

Explore Thesaurus →

2 COUNTABLE **the sharp side of a blade or tool that is used for cutting things**

the knife's edge

Synonyms and related words −

Parts of tools

attachment bit

blade ...

Explore Thesaurus →

3 SINGULAR **a quality in the way that someone speaks that shows they are becoming angry or upset**

edge to/in: *Had she imagined the slight edge to his voice?*

Signs of emotions

trace gleam

glitter ...

Explore Thesaurus →

4 SINGULAR **an advantage that makes someone or something more successful than other people or things**

give someone/something an/the edge over someone/something: *Training can give you the edge over your competitors.*

have the edge over someone/something: *Once he can get a clear run he is confident he has the edge over his rivals.*

Synonyms and related words –

Advantages and benefits

advantage benefit

good ...

Explore Thesaurus →

5 SINGULAR **a strange quality that something such as a piece of music or a book has that makes it interesting or exciting**

There is an edge to his new album that wasn't there in the last one.

Synonyms and related words –

Difference and differences

difference contrast

distinction ...

Explore Thesaurus →

PHRASES

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1108
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

on edge

on the edge

on the edge of something

on the edge of your seat/chair

take the edge off something

SEE ALSO +

Definition and synonyms of **edge** from the online English dictionary from Macmillan Education.
This is the British English definition of **edge**.View American English definition of **edge**.
Change your default dictionary to American English.
View the pronunciation for **edge**.

What are red words? →

Share this entry

AD

QUIZZES

VOCABULARY QUIZ: TRENDING WORDS OF 2020

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1109
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables



Take the quiz now →

CONTACT
PRIVACY
CONSENT MANAGEMENT

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1110
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

FOLLOW US

Join Macmillan Dictionary on Twitter and Facebook for daily word facts, quizzes and language news.

© Macmillan Education Limited 2009–2021

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Letter accompanying subsequently filed items

Representative:

Mr. Joshua PARSI MENDIOLA
Reddie & Grose LLP
10 Whitechapel High Street
London Greater London E1 8QS
United Kingdom

Phone: 442072420901
Fax: 442072423290
E-mail: epo@reddie.co.uk

80298 Munich
Germany
Tel. +49(0)89 2399-0 | Fax -4465

P.O. Box 5818
2280 HV Rijswijk
Netherlands
Tel. +31(0)70 340-2040 | Fax -3016

10958 Berlin
Germany
Tel. +49(0)30 25901-0 | Fax -840

The document(s) listed below is (are) subsequently filed documents pertaining to the following application:

Application number	16191360.3
Applicant's or representative's reference	M/P19609.EP01

	Description of document	Original file name	Assigned file name
1	Non-Patent Literature cited during the appeal procedure	E19 - 2014 COMFORT REST Intex Catalogue (light)-compressed.pdf	APPEAL-CNPL-1.pdf
2	Non-Patent Literature cited during the appeal procedure	E20 - US copyright registration for E19.pdf	APPEAL-CNPL-2.pdf
3	Non-Patent Literature cited during the appeal procedure	E21.pdf	APPEAL-CNPL-3.pdf
4	Non-Patent Literature cited during the appeal procedure	E22a - Cambridge English Dictionary definition of 'edge'.pdf	APPEAL-CNPL-4.pdf
5	Non-Patent Literature cited during the appeal procedure	E22b - Collins English Dictionary definition of 'edge'.pdf	APPEAL-CNPL-5.pdf
6	Non-Patent Literature cited during the appeal procedure	E22c - Macmillan English Dictionary definition of 'edge'.pdf	APPEAL-CNPL-6.pdf
7	Non-Patent Literature cited during the appeal procedure	E23 - Cambridge English Dictionary definition of 'strip'.pdf	APPEAL-CNPL-7.pdf
8	Statement of grounds of appeal	MP19609.EP01 - Grounds of Appeal - 14.06.2021.pdf	APPEAL-GRDS-1.pdf

	Payment	
1	Method of payment	Not specified

Signatures

Place: **LONDON, UK**

Date: **14 June 2021**

Signed by: **Joshua Parsi Mendiola 65949**

Representative name: **Joshua PARSI MENDIOLA**

Capacity: **(Representative)**

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Acknowledgement of receipt

We hereby acknowledge receipt of the following subsequently filed document(s):

Submission number	9895058
Application number	EP16191360.3
Date of receipt	14 June 2021
Receiving Office	European Patent Office, The Hague
Your reference	M/P19609.EP01
Applicant	All applicants as on file

Documents submitted

package-data.xml	ep-sfd-request.xml
epf1038.pdf (2 p.)	APPEAL-CNPL-1.pdf\E19 - 2014 COMFORT REST Intex Catalogue (light)-compressed.pdf (89 p.)
APPEAL-CNPL-2.pdf\E20 - US copyright registration for E19.pdf (1 p.)	APPEAL-CNPL-3.pdf\E21.pdf (23 p.)
APPEAL-CNPL-4.pdf\E22a - Cambridge English Dictionary definition of 'edge'.pdf (12 p.)	APPEAL-CNPL-5.pdf\E22b - Collins English Dictionary definition of 'edge'.pdf (14 p.)
APPEAL-CNPL-6.pdf\E22c - Macmillan English Dictionary definition of 'edge'.pdf (6 p.)	APPEAL-CNPL-7.pdf\E23 - Cambridge English Dictionary definition of 'strip'.pdf (10 p.)
APPEAL-GRDS-1.pdf\MP19609.EP01 - Grounds of Appeal - 14.06.2021.pdf (25 p.)	

Submitted by	CN=Joshua Parsi Mendiola 65949
Method of submission	Online
Date and time receipt generated	14 June 2021, 20:03 (CEST)
Message Digest	5B:4B:07:82:D4:A1:5C:15:17:74:53:BE:71:B3:9F:F6:E1:A9:08:10

/European Patent Office/

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Beschwerdekammern
Boards of Appeal
Chambres de recours

Boards of Appeal of the
European Patent Office
Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8
85540 Haar
GERMANY
Tel. +49 (0)89 2399-0
Fax +49 (0)89 2399-4465

Inchingalo, Simona
Bugnion S.p.A.
Viale Lancetti, 17
20158 Milano
ITALIE

Datum/Date
18.06.21

Zeichen/Reference/Référence	
27D8343A,12EP42	/ APPR
Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°//Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°	16191360.3 / 3192401
Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur//Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire	
Bestway Inflatables & Material Corp.	

Appeal number: T0311/21-3.2.01

Please find enclosed a copy of the statement setting out the grounds of Appeal.

Any reply must be filed within **4 months** of this notification.

The Registrar D. Magliano
Tel.: 089 / 2399 - 3211
Annex(es):

Registered letter

MILANO
V.le Lancetti, 17 - 20158 Milano (IT)
Tel. 02693031 - Fax 0269303501
milano@bugnion.eu

EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE
Bayerstr. 34
80335 MUNICH
Germany

E-MAIL

Our Ref. 27.D8343A,12,EP.42 **Your ref:.** Milano, October 27, 2021

RE.: **APPEAL NUMBER T0311/21-3.2.01**
EUROPEAN PATENT Nr. EP3192401 owned by Bestway Inflatable & Material Corp. Opponent/Appellant: Intex Recreation Corp.
Reply to grounds of Appeal

Dear Sirs,

in reply to the Appeal filed by the appellant Intex Recreation Corp. on June 14, 2021, we herewith submit our comments thereon.

1. REQUEST

Bestway Inflatable & Material Corp., the Patentee, respectfully requests:

a) that the Decision of the Opposition Decision issued on February 3, 2021 declaring the rejection of the Opposition filed on June 17, 2019 against the patent EP3192401 be confirmed and that the patent will be mantained as granted;
b) that Oral Proceedings be appointed unless the request a) above is allowed;
c) that a Main Request, corresponding to the set of claims as granted, will be considered and, only if the Main Request should be rejected, a set of Auxiliary Requests herewith submitted will be discussed. Please consider that the Third, Fourth and Fifth Auxiliary Requests correspond respectively to the First, Second and Third Auxiliary Requests already presented in the first instance proceeding. Further two new auxiliary Requests (First and Second Auxiliary Requests) have been newly presented here for the first time, in reply to the objections and attacks presented for the first time by the Opponent during the Oral Hearing on January 14, 2021 and propsed again in the Grounds of Appeal;
d) that the Patentee reserves his right to supply further Auxiliary Requests in the prosecution of the procedure;
e) that the following languages shall be used by the Proprietor during the Oral proceeding: Speaking: English, Listening: English

For an easy reference, claim 1 is hereunder reported.

An inflatable bed (10), comprising:
i) a top sheet (11) and a bottom sheet (12) disposed vertically at an interval;
ii) at least one side wall (13), an upper edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet, a lower edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said bottom sheet,
iii) an air chamber formed between said top sheet, said bottom sheet and said side wall;
iv) at least one first tensioning structure disposed in said air chamber, an upper end and a lower end of said first tensioning structure being respectively coupled to said top sheet and said bottom sheet; and
v) at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber, said support structure being disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls,
vi) at least two outside edges (152,162) of said support structure being respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent,
vii) at least one inside edge (153,163) of said support structure being coupled to the top sheet or bottom sheet adjacent,
viii) wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure,
ix) at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are respectively coupled the side wall adjacent,
x) at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the top sheet adjacent;
xi) and at least two outside edges of said third tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent,
xii) at least one inside edge of said third tensioning structure is coupled to the bottom sheet adjacent.

2. RULE 116(1) EPC: ADMISSIBILITY OF NEW EVIDENCES LATE FILED DURING OPPOSITION PROCEDURE AND PRESENTED NOW WITH THE GROUNDS OF APPEAL

In the first instance proceding, annexes to the Notice of Opposition were documents E1-E15. Documents E16, E17 and E9a were filed a couple of days ahead of the day of the Oral Hearing and document E18 the very day of the Oral Hearing.

The admissibility of document E16 and its prima facie relevance were discussed during Oral Hearing. The Opposition Division concluded that E16 was not prima facie relevant since, at least, it doesn't show features ix and xi of claim 1. Therefore, E16 was not admitted into the proceedings.

The decision in this aspect is considered to be correct.

Document **E17** was not even discussed during the Oral Hearing, neither its admissibility nor its prima facie relevance. Therefore, E17 was not admitted into the proceedings.

Document **E9a** is simply the english translation of document E9.
In connection with E9, it has not been admitted for a novelty discussion during the oral hearing by the Opposition Division because the document, after being filed with the grounds of opposition, was never highlighted to have this relevance and it only turned relevant two days before the oral hearing. In this connection, it is irrelevant that the current attorney has only taken the responsibility of the case after the grounds of opposition were filed. This is not an excuse for introducing new lines of attack at a very late stage. This is particularly true in view of the necessity to provide a fair treatment to all parties and the fact that whatever happens internally of the Opponent's representation, also the rights of the Patentee shall still be respected.

Moreover, as correctly submitted by the Opposition Division in the Decision, the document is not even prima facie relevant for novelty, because it can be immediately recognized that a feature of claim 1 is missing (see the Decision, item 3.1.2):

> The opposition-division does not admit the late filed novelty-objection based on E9 into the proceedings (Rule 116(1) EPC). Prima facie, the opposition-division cannot identify an "edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet". Figure 5 of E9, see below, only shows a rounded continuous structure which connects side wall (3) to top sheet (33). Therefore already feature (ii) of claim 1 is not disclosed in E9, which is therefore prima facie not relevant for assessing novelty.

This gap of lacking feature has not been fixed by the Appellant in the statements of the Grounds of Appeal. In the Grounds of Appeal, item 3.2.2, the Appellant has referred to this feature as a "trivial feature", nevertheless acknowledging that the feature is actually missing from E9. For this reason, even if E9 lacks a trivial feature (which, however, it is not submitted to be trivial by the Respondent), E9 actually is not relevant for novelty of claim 1. The decision of the Opposition Division is considered to be correct in this concern, and it is maintained that the novelty attack based on E9 shall not be admitted in the proceeding.

It is submitted that the inadmissibility of E9 for the discussion of novelty has not deprived the Appellant of the use of E9 as a combining document for inventive step, as also included in the decision. The matter is only about admissibility of a late-filed fact which, for the reasons above, was correctly not admitted into the proceeding.

Document **E18** was admitted only for slides 2-5 and 9-13 which refer to alternative exotic interpretations of E1. The discussion brought to the conclusion that E1 was not novelty destroying with respect of claim 1, neither is any of its further interpretations as shown in E18, slides 2 and 3.

E19 has been filed for the first time in the second instance proceedings. It is respectfully underlined that E19 was a catalogue from the Appellant's side, so it could (and it should) have been provided well before. The reason why E19 is filed only now cannot be understood. In the Appellant's view, E19 "represents the common general knowledge available to the skilled person at the priority date of the Patent." (page 15 lines 23-24 of the statements of the grounds of appeal). This assumption is contested. A catalogue provides a disclosure which cannot define the common general knowledge in the art. It is a single piece of prior art, showing internal parts of an inflatable member which, normally, are not visible. Common general knowledge is something different and is proven by handbooks or other texts specifically provided for that purpose. Following the Appellant's view, any piece of prior art (even a single patent) would disclose the common general knowledge, which is of course a speculation on the definition of common general knowledge.
Moreover, the Appellant submits (emphasis added) that "the filing of E19 as evidence at appeal is admissible as it supports the reasoning presented to date and supports the observations raised above concerning what a skilled person would derive from E1 as a whole in combination with their common general knowledge." (page 16 of the statements of the grounds of appeal). As explained before, no proof of general knowledge can be furnished by E19.
Additionally, the Appellant also submitted that "the filing of E19, and supporting evidence E20 & E21, constitutes a legitimate reaction to the Opposition Division's incorrect findings in the impugned Decision." This opinion is absolutely wrong and tries to circumnavigate the provisions of Art. 12(4) RPBA. Of course, if an Opponent finds its opposition rejected, he has reasons to find that the decision of the Opposition Division is wrong. But, of course, this is not an excuse to file new prior art in appeal, which could have been filed before. If the Opponent did not file such documents in the Opposition Procedure (while being in principle able to) and finds the decision wrong, he shall remain adherent to the prior art cited and discussed during the Opposition Procedure. Any attempt to file additional prior art which could have been filed before (and which comes from the Appellant's side itself) is an attempt to have a second chance to challenge the validity of the patent and not a request for a revision of the Opposition Procedure. This is a clear violation of Art. 12(4) RPBA and of the fundamental principle of appeal before the EPO.

For these reasons, it is requested all the new documents filed with the grounds of appeal be NOT admitted into the proceeding.

3. NOVELTY OF CLAIM 1 IN VIEW OF E1

Novelty of claim 1 in view of E1 has been already widely discussed both in writing and during Oral Hearing.

Once again, the Proprietor states that E1 fails to disclose at least features *vi*, viii, *ix, xi* and *xii* of claim 1.
E1 clearly does not show an inflatable bed according to the Appellant's interpretation.
Due to the very confused nature of the drawings, the disclosure of document E1 is open to speculation by attributing features which are not explicitly disclosed, that is what seems to have happened when looking at the arguments from the Opponent. Therefore, E1 must be carefully considered in order to distinguish between what is actually disclosed and what seems to be disclosed with a hindsight.
E1 does not allow a skilled reader to understand how the several internal parts of the inflatable device shall be realized. In this connection, when a document is not sufficiently clear, care must be taken in order to avoid that an ex-post facto interpretation is given to the document, namely to avoid that an unclear feature is interpreted in a "biased" manner towards a view that is not taught by the document.
In particular, the inflatable bed of E1 fails to exhibit:

vi) *at least two outside edges of said support structure being respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent;* - Indeed, E1 shows only one outside edge of the support structure coupled to the side wall (along plastic strip 53);

viii) *wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure,* - Indeed E1 shows only a second tensioning structure and not a third tensioning structure;

ix) *at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are respectively coupled the side wall adjacent,* - Indeed E1 shows only one outside edge of the second tensioning structure coupled to the side wall (along plastic strip 53);

xi) *and at least two outside edges of said third tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent,* - Indeed E1 doesn't show a third tensioning structure at all;

xii) *at least one inside edge of said third tensioning structure is coupled to the bottom sheet adjacent;* – Indeed E1 doesn't show a third tensioning structure at all.

3.1 Discussion of the terms "edge" and "structure"

The Appellant makes a discussion on some terms of claim 1 which, according to the Proprietor's opinion, are already clearly explained in the patent itself.

In any case, the interpretation of the Proprietor about the term edge is exactly as the dictionary indicates, that is the final end of the support structure 15 or 16. Considering figure 5 of the appealed patent for example, in which a cross section of the inflatable bed is shown, support structures 151 and 161 are clearly visible and also the exploded representation shown in figure 7, for example, in order to further better understand how the support structure is realized and which are its edges (inside and outside), it is clearly evident what is intended for outside and inside edges.

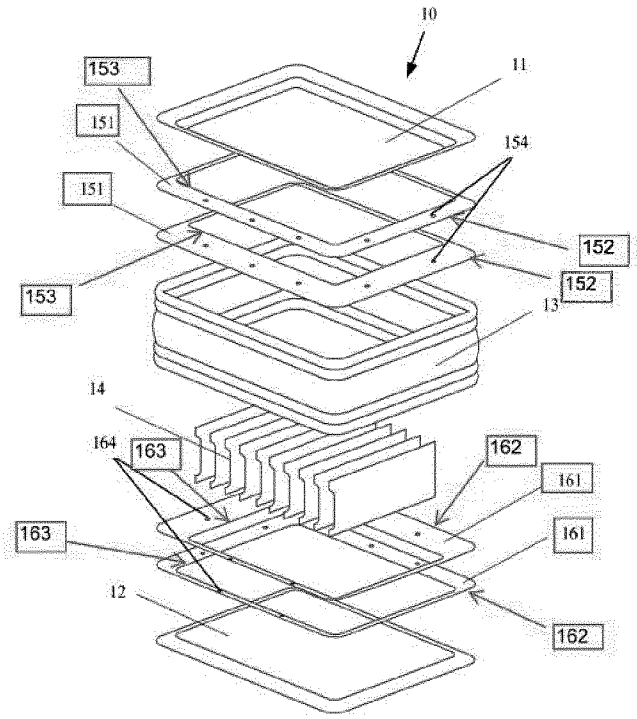


Fig. 7

Considering the annular shape of the support structure 151 and 161, they have an inside edge (153, 163) and an outside edge (152, 162). These edges are perimetral edges exactly as the dictionary defines the term “edge”, namely “the place or line where it stops, or the part of it that is further from the middle”. According to this definition, considering the width of each side of the support structure, taking the middle point of it, the inside edge is the line or the end placed further from the middle towards the inside of the support structure (since it has an annular shape) and the outside edge is the line or the end placed further from the middle towards the outside of the support structure.

Looking to figure 5, this definition is again well understandable: the edges are the terminal or final ends of the support structures (indicated with 151 and 161) located towards the inside or the outside of the annular shape of the support structure. The outside edges are indicated with reference numbers 152 and 162 and with 153 and 163 for the inside edges.

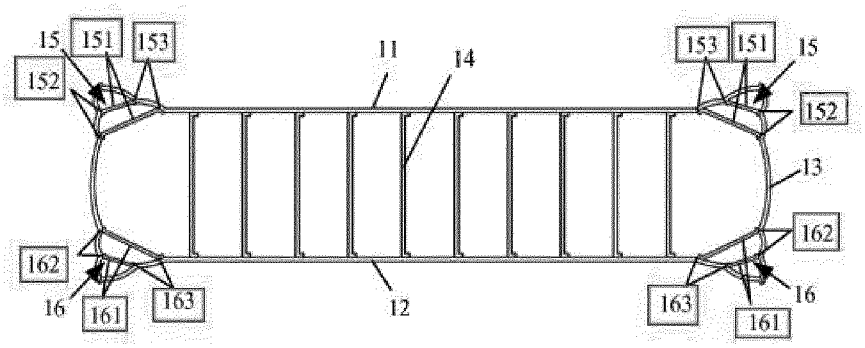


Fig. 5

The definition of the term edge as illustrated in document E22, E22a. E22b, E22c doesn't add anything more than what already is clear and widely explained in the opposed patent. Considering the elongated surface of the support structure 151, 161 extending along the longitudinal direction of at least one side of the sidewalls, the points indicated with reference number 152 and 153 and 162 and 163 are exactly edges of that support structure as explained above.

So what the Appellant states on page 6 lines 31-34 about the fact that “the linguistic structure of claim 1 doesn’t allow for a narrow definition of the term “edge”, even in view of the rest of the Patent as filed, where there is no specific disclosure overriding the true, well established meaning of the term “edge” is absolutely not sharable.

Please consider that claim 1 expressly recites:

v) at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber, said support structure being disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls,

This feature provides exactly the indication that the Appellant would have. Indeed, the support structure is disposed, according claim 1, along at least one longitudinal direction of the side wall.
The inflatable bed has a plurality of sides: the side wall 13 comprises a plurality of sides and the support structure, as claimed on point v) of claim 1, is disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of the side walls, that is along one of those side walls. This means that all the features listed after are referred to as the support structure are considered extending along one longitudinal direction of one of the side walls.

From what above clearly derives, the two outside edges should be considered along one single longitudinal direction and not one along one side wall and the other the another side wall.
The interpretation that the Appellant wants to give goes beyond what is intended by the appealed Patent and is not what the Proprietor meant or what is derivable from the description and drawings of the appealed Patent.

The term "structure" is correctly used in the appealed Patent since the supporting structure comprises at least two different elements which, cooperating together, forms the supporting structure.
In detail, claim 1 recites:
v) at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber….

viii) wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure.

and in any showed embodiments, both the second and the third tensioning structures present at least two elements (at least two elements in the upper part of the air chamber of the inflatable bed and at least two elements in the lower part of the air chamber of the inflatable bed), so correctly defining a structure, exactly in accordance with the normal use of the term in English, where a "structure" generally refers to an arrangement of different (more than one) components (and according to what the Appellant declared on page 7).

So once again it is not clear what kind of attack the Appellant wants to raise against claim 1.

According to what is explained above about the interpretation of the support structure, as disclosed in claim 1, which is disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of the side walls and that all the features disclosed in points vi)-xii) have to be considered along the same longitudinal direction, and considering the figures of the appealed Patent, it is undoubtful that the correct and only interpretation that can be given to claim 1 is that the outside edges have to be coupled to the same longitudinal direction along which the support structure is disposed. This means that the at least two outside edges are connected to the same side wall of the inflatable bed and not to two different side walls of the inflatable bed.

Also considering the side wrapping belt 5 as the claimed supporting structure of the present appealed patent, it is once again demonstrated that E1 doesn't anticipate claim 1 since *(see page 4 lines 22-28 of E2)*:

- the side wrapping belt is formed by a plurality of cables 52 extending integrally from the upper surface 1 (to which they are connected through the plastic strip 51) to the lower surface 2 ((to

which they are connected through the plastic strip 51). There is only one continuous tensioning structure extending from the upper part to the lower part, fixed through the plastic strip 53 at the middle of the side wall 4. Therefore, if the side wrapping belt 5 can be considered as supporting structure, then this supporting structure comprises only one tensioning structure (the plurality of cables 52) which can be called "second tensioning structure". E1, however, fails to disclose the third tensioning structure. In the appealed Patent, the second tensioning structure is clearly and definitely separated from the third tensioning structure;

- There is only one outside edge at the plastic strip 53, and not at least two outside edges as required in claim 1.

3.2 First interpretation of the relevance of E1 to claim 1

According to the first interpretation, the Appellant considers two different sides of the inflatable bed (the long side and the short side) in order to identify the two tensioning structures (the second and the third). The long side of the side wrapping belt 5 corresponds to the second tensioning structure and the short side of the side wrapping belt 5 corresponds to the third tensioning structure.

By contrast, according to what is explained above, features vi)-xii) have to be considered applied at least to one single side wall. In addition, they can be considered applied to each single side wall, but never mixing two side walls.
The support structure is disposed along a longitudinal direction of at least one of the side walls of the inflatable bed, therefore the support structure and all its elements (second and third tensioning structure, inside and outside edges) must be considered applied along and coupled to at least a longitudinal direction of at least one of the side walls.
The second and third tensioning structures must be evaluated along the same side wall as well as the outside edges must be present on the very same side wall and not on two different separated walls.
Therefore, the first interpretation is wrong and cannot be applied to the appealed Patent.
Therefore, the first interpretation of E1 does not anticipate the teachings of claims 1.

3.3 Second interpretation of the relevance of E1 to claim 1

According to the second interpretation, the Appellant considers a same side wall but splits the cables 52 into two portions: an upper portion extending from the plastic strip 51 placed above to the plastic strip 53 put in the middle of the side wall, and a lower portion extending from the plastic strip 53 put in the middle of the side wall to the plastic strip 51 placed in the bottom.

The second and third tensioning structures in the present patent are two different and separated structures.
By contrast, each one of the plurality of cables 52 is a continuous element, and not a discrete element, which is simply fixed in the middle of the side wall by the plastic strip 53 *(see page 4 lines 22-28 of E2)*.
One continuous surface is a single surface and must be considered as one single and integral surface, it cannot be considered as a sum of a plurality of smaller surfaces.
In the same way, a cable cannot be considered as a sum of two or more smaller portions of the same cable.

The Appellant continues stating that the plastic strip 53 can be considered as defining two different outside edges.
The Opposition Division stated that it is unreasonable to split the plastic strip 53 into an upper edge and a lower edge. Moreover, the geometry of the plastic strip 53 is unknown and could have also a circular cross section.
But even if E1/E2 explicitly declared that the plastic strip 53 has a flat surface, the consideration would not change.
The plastic strip 53 defines one single contact profile and, therefore, one single contact edge in the sense of the appealed Patent, otherwise, following the Appellant's interpretation, the appealed Patent would present four outside edges of the second (or third) tensioning structure coupled to the side wall adjacent since, considering the height, each edge presents at least two edges (one upper and one lower).
And once again, an element cannot be split in two or more smaller parts only for speculative purposes and just to force a pure artificial (and wrong) interpretation.
Also the Opposition Division agreed with the Proprietor position.

3.4 Third interpretation of the relevance of E1 to claim 1

According to the third interpretation, the Appellant considers the upper and lower ring-shaped suction pieces 11 and 21, together with the side wrapping belt 5, as the second and third tensioning structures.

The Opposition Division concluded that also the third interpretation was not convincing and cannot be followed.
The Appellant stated that "*a skilled person reviewing the disclosure of E1 would be taught that the upper and lower ring-shaped suction pieces 11, 21 are respectively provided the between the upper piece 1 and the wrapping piece 4 and between the lower piece 2 and the wrapping piece 4. A skilled person would understand this portion of the disclosure to being incomplete and would consider the rest of the disclosure to seek further clarification on how to replicate its contents*".

Therefore, if the skilled person would consider the disclosure of E1/E2 to better understand how the ring-shaped suction pieces 11, 21 are connected to the other elements of the inflatable bed and to better understand their function, he will certainly discover, on page 5 lines 4 to 10 and 23 to 29, that the ring-shaped suction pieces 11 and 21 are provided in the inflatable bed only for aesthetic purposes.

In E1/E2 is not clearly described how the ring-shaped suction pieces are connected to the upper piece 1 or to the lower piece 2 to the wrapping piece 4. It is only stated that the *ring-shaped upper suction piece 11 and the ring-shaped lower suction piece 21 are respectively disposed between the upper piece 1 and the wrapping piece 4 and between the lower piece 2 and the wrapping piece 4*. (page 5 lines 4-7).
E1/E2 goes on stating that *the upper piece 1 is connected with the upper periphery of the wrapping piece 4 through the ring-shaped upper suction piece 11, and lower piece 2 is connected with the lower periphery of the wrapping piece 4 through the ring-shaped lower suction piece 21*. (page 5 lines 7-10).

On page 12 of the Grounds of Appeal, the Appellant has added dash-dot lines and long-dashed lines to figure 2 of E1 (see figure here below) according to his own interpretation on where the ring-shaped suction pieces 11, 21 could be coupled to the upper and lower pieces 1, 2.

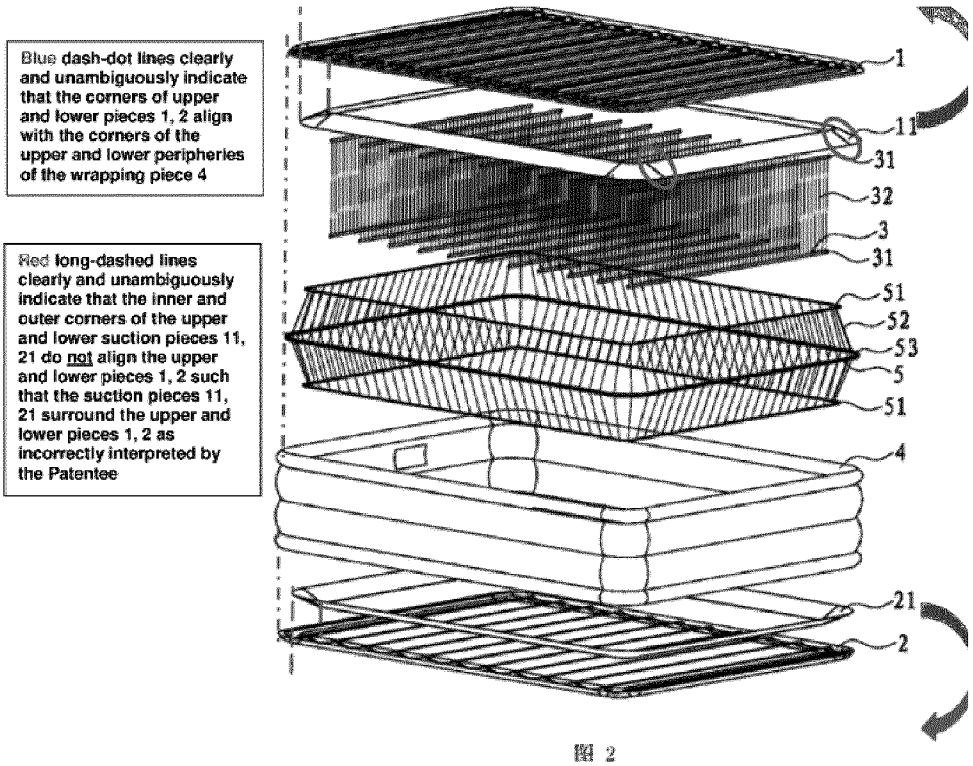


图 2

According to the Appellant's interpretation shown in the figure above, the ring-shaped suction pieces 11, 21 would be connected internally to the surface of the upper and lower pieces 1, 2, remaining internal to and without any connection with the wrapping piece 4, contrarily to what is stated on page 5 lines 7-10 of E1: *the upper piece 1 is connected with the upper periphery of the wrapping piece 4 through the ring-shaped upper suction piece 11, and lower piece 2 is connected with the lower periphery of the wrapping piece 4 through the ring-shaped lower suction piece 21*.
Therefore, just only for this discrepancy, the Appellant's interpretation of figure 2 cannot be followed.

Nothing more is said or described in the specification of E1/E2 and nothing more is shown in the attached drawings which are, among other things, confusing and unclear.
Figures 2, 3 and 4 are confusing since they report numerical references 11 and 21 indicating, in each drawing, different elements.

On page 15 of the Grounds of Appeal, the Appellant has moved by his own the numerical references 11, placing it where he considered to be more useful for his analysis.
The Appellant himself stated, on page 14 last paragraph, that in both figures 3 and 4 the reference sign 11 is incorrectly placed and that the reference signs 11 and 21 indicate two different components in both figures. So why a skilled man should clearly understand which is the correct position of the reference signs 11 and 21 without further clear and precise indications given by the description? How and why he should understand that in figures 3 and 4 there is an error? And how and why he should understand where the reference signs 11 and 21 should be correctly placed without a clear indication in the text?

Figure 3 of E1

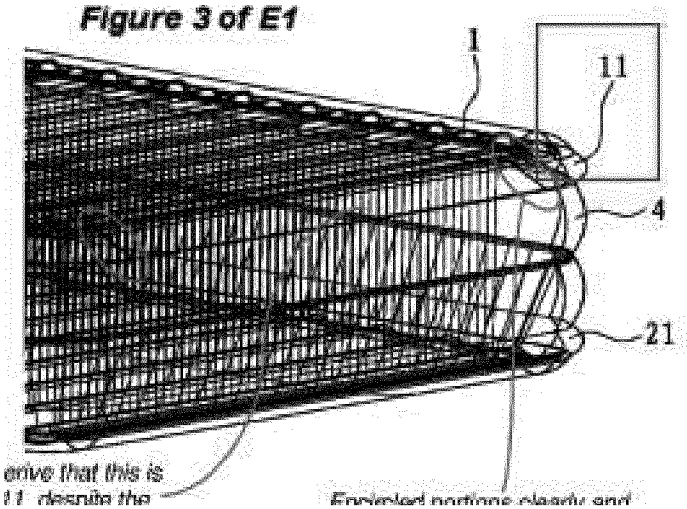


図 3

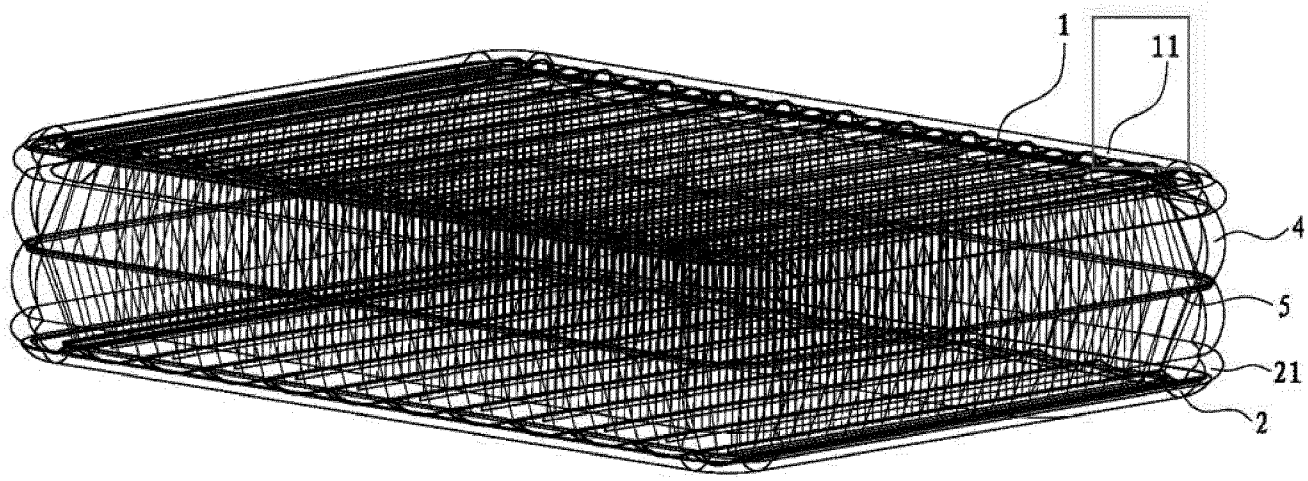
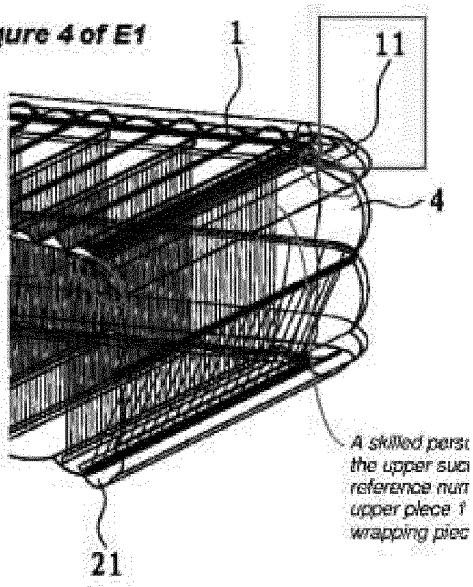
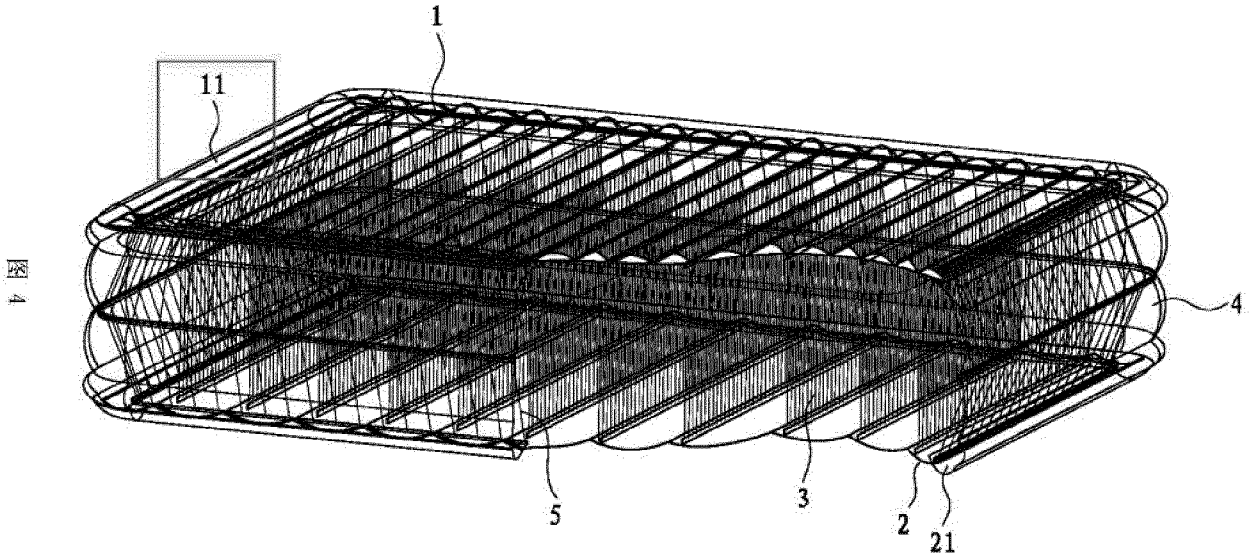


Figure 4 of E1





If the description of the text is silent about how the suctions pieces are positioned or what they are coupled to, nor do the drawings clarify this issue, this information cannot be undoubtfully and clearly derivable from the document. In the evaluation of novelty, a skilled man should take the information or the teaching by the text and by drawings of the patent without any personal and subjective interpretation.

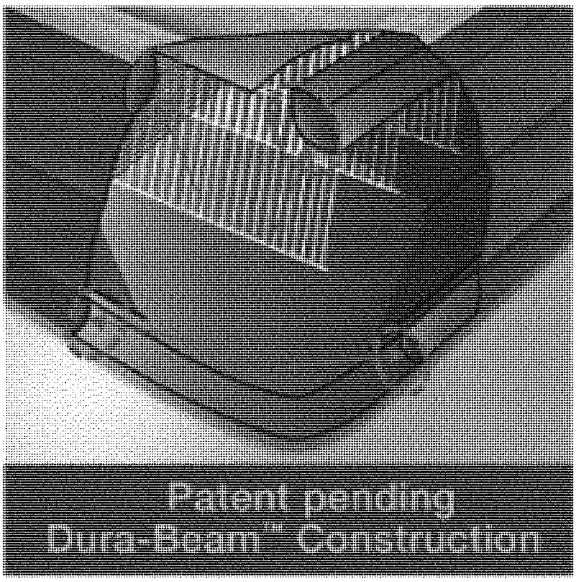
Once again, the Appellant is shaping an interpretation of the teachings of the document to his own wishes in an artificial and not objective way.

Therefore, the skilled person couldn't derive from these passages or from the attached figures the teaching of considering the upper and lower ring-shaped suction pieces as well as the support tensioning element like those claimed in the appealed Patent, nor would he derive how to couple these elements to the upper/lower pieces 1 or 2 to the wrapping piece 4 or where exactly they are positioned and to what they are coupled.

The only clarification that the skilled person would find considering the entire disclosure of E1/E2 is that the upper/lower ring-shaped suction pieces are for aesthetic purposes and that they are connected both to the upper/lower pieces and to the wrapping piece.

The Appellant disagrees with the Decision of the Opposition Division stating that they failed to consider the disclosure of E1 as a whole. But also considering E1 as a whole a skilled man couldn't reach the claimed solution since E1 fails to clearly explain and describe where and how the suction pieces 11 and 21 are coupled to the other elements but only declares that they are for improving the aesthetics of the bed and are placed *between the upper piece 1 and the wrapping piece 4 and between the lower piece 2 and the wrapping piece 4* and that *the upper piece 1 is connected with the upper periphery of the wrapping piece 4 through the ring-shaped upper suction piece 11, and lower piece 2 is connected with the lower periphery of the wrapping piece 4 through the ring-shaped lower suction piece 21.*

Finally, the combination of E1 with E19 trying to explain how the suction pieces 11 and 21 should be intepreted and considered in the entire structure of the inflatable bed is first of all inadmissible since E19 is late filed, and secondly, also considering E19 admissible and comparing E19 with figures 2 of E1, it is not understandable how and why the skilled man would undoubtfully and clearly consider the suctions pieces 11 and 21 of E1 equivalent to the elements indicated with arrows in the figure shown on page 16 of E19 since, among other things, thay have different shape and E19 shows only an image without describing any further features of those elements:



Source: Page 16 of E19

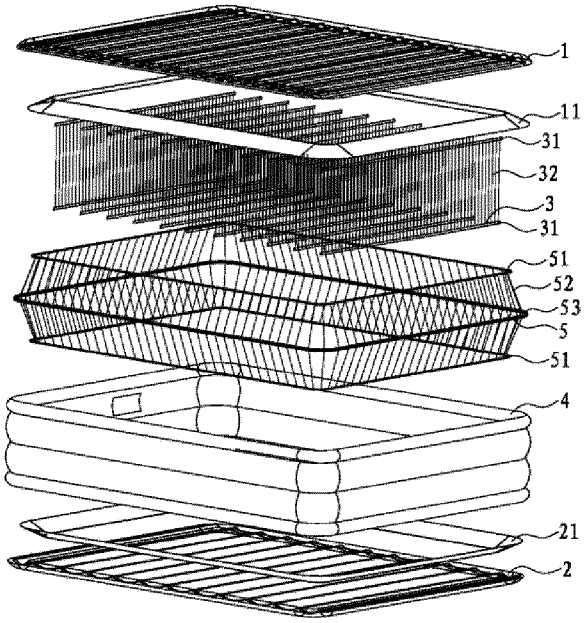


图 2

In the light of what above, it is clearly demonstrated that claim 1 is new over E1 despite any different and possible interpretation given by the Appellant.

4. NOVELTY OF CLAIM 1 IN VIEW OF E9

The attack of novelty of E9 against claim 1 has been discussed during the first instance proceeding and the Opposition Division concluded that E9 was considered not prima facie relevant and in paragraph 2 it has already explained why E9 should not be considered even now.

Once again, E9 fails to disclose at least feature ii).
This feature cannot be considered trivial since the connecting point between the upper/lower sheet and the side wall is important for the structural resistance of the inflatable bed itself.

Feature ii) of the appealed patent requires that the inflatable bed comprises "*at least one side wall, an upper edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet, a lower edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said bottom sheet*".
Therefore, the top sheet is connected to the side wall along an outer edge and the bottom sheet is coupled to the side wall along a respective outer edge.

As clearly visible in each of the figures of the appealed patent, some of them reported here below for an easy reference, the position of the connection between the top/bottom sheet and the side wall is not a trivial feature but a well precise and well reasoned feature. The bed is designed to have the connecting line, which is a delicate and weaker part of the inflatable bed, in a position in which the stress can be reduced thanks to the cooperation with other reinforcing elements, like the supporting structure; in this way, it is not necessary to make this connecting line heavier reinforcing the connecting edge.
The supporting structure, in particular the second and third tensioning structure hold the top/bottom sheet and the side wall together and they are coupled to the top/bottom sheet and to the side wall along a portion of them positioned away from the boundary edges of the top/bottom sheet and of the side wall: therefore, in the appealed patent, the connection edge is positioned along a portion not subjected to further stress and it is aided in its connecting function by reinforcing elements as the supporting structure.

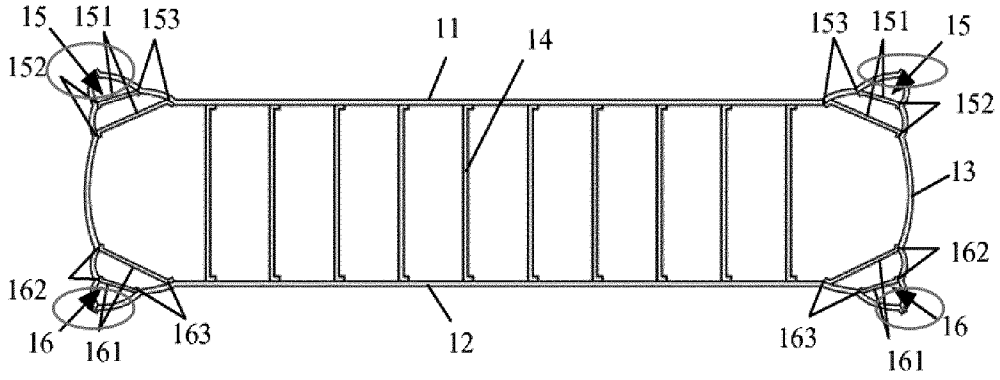


Fig. 5

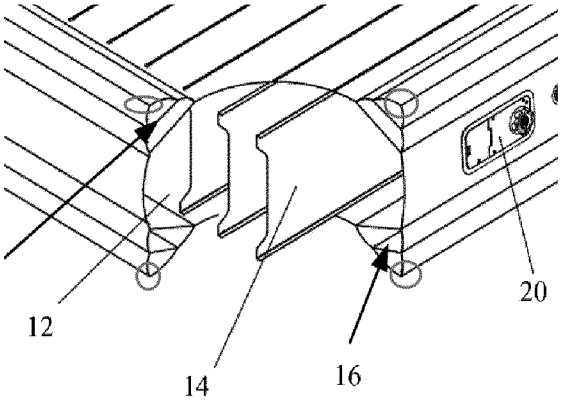


Fig. 6

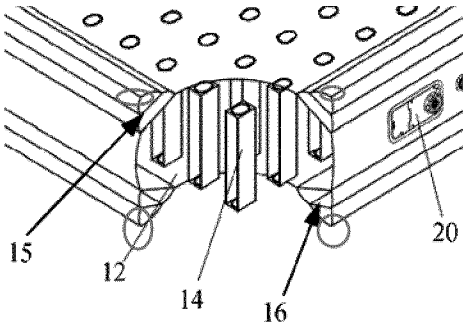


Fig. 23

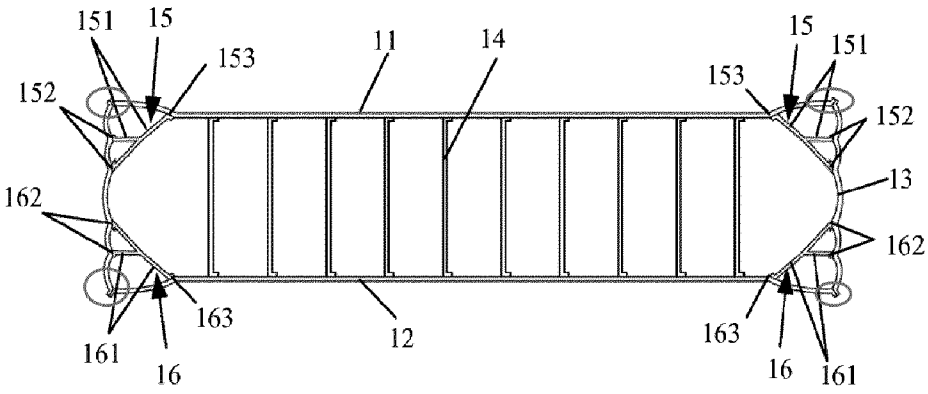


Fig. 9

By contrast, E9 teaches to connect the upper and lower sheets to the side wall along a respective internal edge (and not along an outer edge), corresponding to the edge of contact with what the Appellant considers as the second/third tensioning structure (circled in red in figure 5 of E9 reported here below).

The solution of E9 has to face at least two different problems.
First of all, a top sheet, having a square shape, has four sides. If two opposite sides in width direction are produced according to the solution taught by E9 (i.e., bent down to connect with side wall), it will be hard to produce the other two opposite sides in lengthwise direction, unless some material is cut from four corners of the square.

Secondly, In E9, the welding seam position between the top/bottom sheet and the side wall is same (or very close) to the welding seam position between the outer peripheries (62, 42c) and the side wall (top/bottom sheet).
This connecting edge is therefore stressed by the fact that it is both the connecting edge between the top/bottom sheet and the side wall as well as the connecting edge between the second/third tensioning structure and the side wall.
This connecting edge is therefore stressed by different structures coupled exactly along the same edge and must be necessarily reinforced.
If the two welding seam position is same:
a) if three pieces of material are welded at same time, the welding quality is not reliable because the melting degree between upper material and middle material will be different thanthe melting degree between lower material and middle material,
b) if two pieces of material are firstly welded together and then the third material is welded at same position to the first two pieces of material, the welding quality will be even worse because the shape of existing welding seam is not regular so it can not be welded to third material tightly.

If the two welding seam position is very close, it would be very inconvenient to produce because it would be necessary to change mold type so as to avoid overlap of first welding seam and second welding seam.

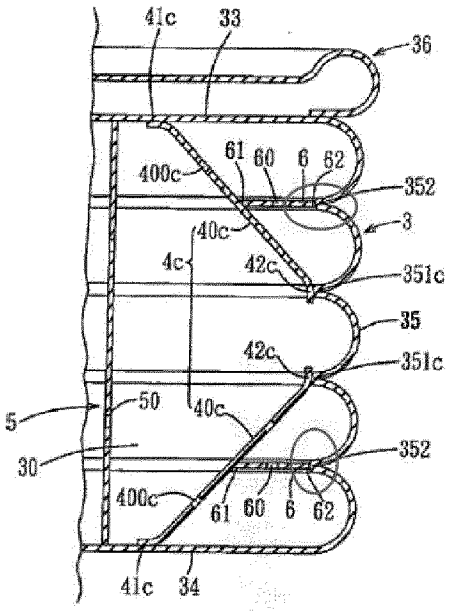


FIG. 5

E9 teaches to realize a fewer number of connecting edges with respect to what is disclosed in the appealed Patent, to realize them all along an inside edge and in an area subjected to stress,

therefore it is a teaching away for what disclosed in the appealed Patent (realized a plurality of connecting edges, all of them along outside edge and in an area with a reduced stress since reinforced by other structures).

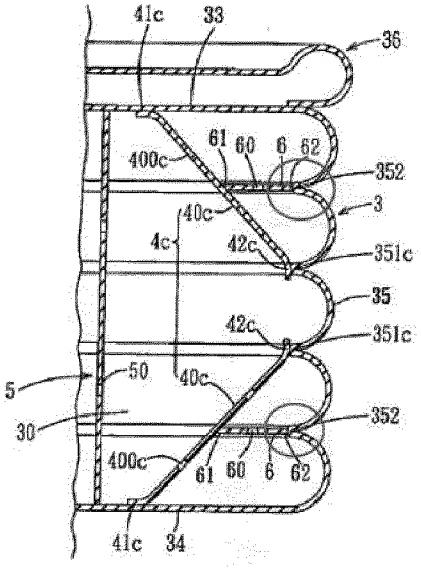


FIG. 5

Source: Figure 5 of E9

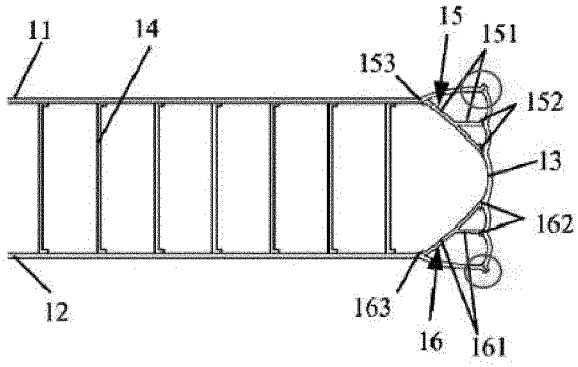


Fig. 9

Source: Figure 9 of the Patent

Therefore, at least for the not-admissibility of E9 for novelty issue and also for what above, E9 doesn't anticipate claim 1 for novelty.

5. NOVELTY OF CLAIM 1 IN VIEW OF E16

Document D16 was filed for the first time a couple of day ahead the Oral Hearing, so in a very late stage of the first instance proceeding. The admissibility of document E16 and its prima facie relevance were discussed during Oral Hearing. The Opposition Division concluded that E16 was not prima facie relevant since, at least, it doesn't show features ix and xi of claim 1. Therefore, E16 was not admitted into the proceedings.

If E16 should be admitted in the proceeding, the same interpretation already explained in connection to the novelty of claim 1 with respect to E1 shall be applied for E16.
The supporting structure, according to feature v), is disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls, therefore the supporting feature and all the elements referred to it have to be considered, in the limits of claim 1, along one side of the side wall. Therefore, also E16 and the described elements (first peripheral strip 150a and second peripheral strip 190) have to be considered along the same side wall and not along two side walls. According to this interpretation, which is exactly the interpretation of claim 1, E16 fails to disclose ix) and xi).

Therefore, E16 doesn't anticipate claim 1 for novelty.

6. INVENTIVE STEP OF CLAIM 1

The Appellant raises an attack of lack of inventive step of claim 1 in view of E1 according his third interpretation and the common general knowledge of a skilled man.

The third interpretation of E1 involves the upper and lower suctions pieces 11 and 21. The upper and lower suction pieces 11 and 21 are described in E1/E2 as elements provided for improving the aesthetics of the bed, therefore they are not defined as supporting structures.
Moreover, the name itself given to elements 11 and 21 doesn't give any hint or indication to the skilled man to consider them as supporting structures.
Therefore, considering the upper and lower suction pieces 11 and 21 as supporting structures is equivalent to make an ex post facto analysis: already knowing the solution, the skilled man, starting from a closest prior art document, seeks somewhere in other prior art documents something, independently from its real function or from what that document discloses, that could look like the missing element that is necessary to obtain exactly the claimed solution.
But a correct problem and solution approach provides that the skilled man doesn't know already the claimed solution, but he should in an easy and obvious way arrive to it simply starting from a closest prior art document, facing a particular objective technical problem and finding in prior art documents hints, suggestion or teachings to modify the closest prior art to obtain exactly what is claimed in the patent in object.

The Appellant declares on page 22 third paragraph of his Ground of Appeal that on pages 4 and 5 of E2 it is mentioned that *"the side wrapping belt 5 improves the aesthetics of an air bed having a relatively large height by prevent overprotruding. E2 then introduces the ring-shaped upper and lower suction pieces 11 and 21 and explicitly mentions that such suction pieces 11 and 21 are provided in order to improve the aesthetics of the bed; in other words, prevent overprotruding in the relatively large height beds".*
This is an arbitrary assumption and an artificial conclusion given by the Appellant himself.
The fact that:
- on pages 4 and 5 it is declared that the side wrapping belt 5 improves the aesthetics (A) of the air bed, prevents the periphery from overly protruding (B) and ensures the strength (C) of the periphery of the bed and support strength (D) of the bed does a whole and that
- on page 5 it is only declared that the ring-shaped upper and lower suction pieces 11 and 21 are provided to improve the aesthetics (A) of the bed without specifying further functionalities of these elements,
doesn't automatically imply that the suction pieces also prevent the periphery from overly protruding or ensure or support the strength of the periphery of the bed.

Therefore, if the side wrapping belt 5 has been disclosed as solving the functions A, B, C and D and the suction pieces 11 and 21 have been disclosed having only function A, why the skilled man should automatically and arbitrarily provide the suction pieces 11, 21 also of the function B? And even if the skilled man could provide to the suction pieces 11, 21 also the function B, why would he do it? What incentive would he have had to modify a solution that already solved this problem?

In the light of what is above, a skilled man, starting from E1 and combining it with his common general knowledge would not reach the claimed solution.

Another inventive step attack is made combining E1 with the common general knowledge that the skilled man could derive from E19 and E16.

E19, besides being late filed, is a catalogue showing a plurality of images. The Appellant cites the figure on page 16 which lacks any legend.
Therefore, we wonder how a skilled man could derive all the teachings and suggestions listed in last paragraph of page 22 and in the first paragraph of page 23 of the Ground of Appeal from a simple image which, among other things, shows an embodiment different from the one claimed in the appealed Patent and is silent about any description of the features shown in the image.
For example, it is not clear the function of the tubular elements indicated with the arrows or how they are connected to the top or bottom sheet and to the side wall or if there is a tubular pocket going around the perimetral edge of the bed, inside which the tubular element is inserted or if the tubular element is an integral part of the top or of the side wall. This information, just to make an example, is not explained by the indicated figure on page 16 of E19.

As regards the combination of E1 with E9 or E16, once again it is not clear how the skilled man would combine these documents and why he should take only some features from E9 and E16 to combine it with E1.
The Appellant states that "both *E9 and E16 teach about the use of corner brace structures (40 in figure 2 and 40c in figure 5 of E9 and elements 150a and 190 in E16) in inflatable beds. Similarly to E19, skilled person would also find it obvious to provide the upper and lower suction pieces 11, 21 in the air chamber in view of E9 or E16".* It is not clear why a skilled looking at E9 and E16 should consider only the elements 40 and 40c or 150a and 190 and how he should combine these elements with E1 considering the completely different structure between these documents. Why would the skilled man not take other features rather than the cited ones?

In the light of what above, claim 1 is also inventive over the combination of E1 both with the common general knowledge or from what a skilled man could derive from E19, and with the combination of E9 or E16.

7. FIRST AUXILIARY REQUEST

7.1 ADMISSIBILITY

First Auxililary Request is a new request, presented now for the first time.
This new request derives and becomes necessary in view of the new and exotic interpretations given by the Appellant during the Oral Hearing of the Opposition Proceeding.
Therefore, it was not possible for the Proprietor to present such an auxiliary request before.
For this reason, this request should be admitted according to Art. 12(2) and 12(4) RPBA.

The amendments made to claim 1 as granted, presented in the First Auxiliary Request, meet the requirements of Art 123(2) EPC.
Indeed, it has simply specified, for a better comprehension and to better clarify what was already disclosed in claim 1, that not only that the support structure is disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of the side walls but also that at least two outside edges of the support structure are coupled to each one of said at least one side wall. Also at least two outside edges of said second and of said third tensioning structure are coupled to said side wall.
Then, the terms “respectively” and “adjacent” have been deleted since redundant in view of the added clarification.

Base for this amendment is on the figures of the appealed patent besides in paragraphs [0012], [0013], [0059] and [0061].

8. SECOND AUXILIARY REQUEST

8.1 ADMISSIBILITY

Second Auxililary Request is a new request, presented now for the first time.
This new request derives and becomes necessary in view of the new and exotic interpretations given by the Appellant during the Oral Hearing of the Opposition Proceeding.
Therefore, it was not possible for the Proprietor to present such an auxiliary request before.
For this reason, this request should be admitted according to Art. 12(2) and 12(4) RPBA.

The amendments made to claim 1 as granted, presented in the Second Auxiliary Request, meet the requirements of Art 123(2) EPC.
It derives from the combination between the first auxiliary request here presented and the fourth auxialiry request here presented.
Please consider what stated above for the first auxiliary request.

The fourth auxiliary request corresponds to the second auxiliary requests presented in the first intance proceeding.
Therfore, present second auxiliallry request is a combination of an already presented auxiliary request and the new one here presented in reply to an attack firstly porposed only during the Oral Hearing of last January 14, 2021.

9. THIRD, FOURTH AND FIFTH AUXILIARY REQUESTS

These three auxiliary requests correspond respectively to the first, second and third auxiliary requests already presented during the Opposition Proceeding.

10. CONCLUSION

Summarizing, the Proprietor asks that Decision of the Opposition Decision issued on February 3, 2021 declaring the rejection of the Opposition filed on June 17, 2019 against the patent EP3192401 be confirmed and that the patent will be mantained as granted.

Should the Board of Appeal not allow the request above, the Proprietor ask to be heard during Oral Proceeding in order to discuss the Main Requests and, if not allowed, the further Auxiliary Requests herewith enclosed.

Yours sincerely,

Bugnion SpA
Simona INCHINGALO

Assistant: Simone POMPONIO

Enclosures:

- Auxiliary Requests from 1 to 5 in clean and working copy;

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Letter accompanying subsequently filed items

Representative:
Simona INCHINGALO
BUGNION S.P.A.
Viale Lancetti, 17
20158 Milano
Italy

Phone: 003902693031
Fax: 00390269303501
E-mail: simona.inchingalo@bugnion.eu

80298 Munich
Germany
Tel. +49(0)89 2399-0 | Fax -4465

P.O. Box 5818
NL-2280 HV Rijswijk
Netherlands
Tel. +31(0)70 340-2040 | Fax -3016

10958 Berlin
Germany
Tel. +49(0)30 25901-0 | Fax -840

The document(s) listed below is (are) subsequently filed documents pertaining to the following application:

Application number and/or EP publication number	EP16191360.3
Reference	23B6256,12EP42
Procedural phase	All procedures
Name of represented party	Bestway Inflatables & Material Corp.

	Description of document	Original file name	Assigned file name
1	Letter relating to the appeal Procedure	23.B6256.12.EP.42@2021-10-27_Uff_Com_A_(Reply_to_Appeal) .pdf	APPEAL-LETT.pdf
2	Amended claims (clean copy)	23.B6256,12.EP.42-1stAuxReq(Clean Copy).pdf	CLMS-1.pdf
3	Amended claims with annotations	23.B6256,12.EP.42-1stAuxReq(WithAnnotations).pdf	CLMS-HWA-1.pdf
4	Amended claims (clean copy)	23.B6256,12.EP.42-2ndAuxReq(CleanCopy).pdf	CLMS-2.pdf
5	Amended claims with annotations	23.B6256,12.EP.42-2ndAuxReq(With Annotations).pdf	CLMS-HWA-2.pdf
6	Amended claims (clean copy)	23.B6256,12.EP.42-3rdAuxReq(Clean Copy).pdf	CLMS-3.pdf
7	Amended claims with annotations	23.B6256,12.EP.42-3rdAuxReq(WithAnnotations).pdf	CLMS-HWA-3.pdf
8	Amended claims (clean copy)	23.B6256,12.EP.42-4thAuxReq(Clean Copy).pdf	CLMS-4.pdf
9	Amended claims with annotations	23.B6256,12.EP.42-4thAuxReq(WithAnnotations).pdf	CLMS-HWA-4.pdf
10	Amended claims (clean copy)	23.B6256,12.EP.42-5thAuxReq(Clean Copy).pdf	CLMS-5.pdf
11	Amended claims with annotations	23.B6256,12.EP.42-5thAuxReq(WithAnnotations).pdf	CLMS-HWA-5.pdf

Signature 1

Place:

Date: **27 October 2021**

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1140
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Signed by:	**/Simona INCHINGALO/**
Capacity:	**Representative 1**

Smart card certificate 1

Common name:	**Elio Tansini 2393**
EPO ID:	**2393**
Issued by:	**European Patent Office CA G2**

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1141
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

AMENDED CLAIMS – 4TH AUXILIARY REQUEST

What is claimed is:

1. An inflatable bed (10), comprising:

a top sheet (11) and a bottom sheet (12) disposed vertically at an interval;

at least one side wall (13),

an upper edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of

said top sheet, a lower edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said bottom sheet, an air chamber formed between said top sheet, said bottom sheet and said side wall;

at least one first tensioning structure disposed in said air chamber, an upper end and a lower end of said first tensioning structure being respectively coupled to said top sheet and said bottom sheet; and

at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber, said support structure being disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls, at least two outside edges (152, 162) of

said support structure being respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge (153, 163) of said support structure being coupled to the top sheet or bottom sheet adjacent, wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure, at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the top sheet adjacent;

at least two outside edges of said third tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said third tensioning structure is coupled to the bottom sheet adjacent; and

wherein the second tensioning structure and the third tensioning structure divide the respective side wall into five sections.

2. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are respectively provided with a plurality of air holes, through which an airflow passage is formed in said air chamber.

3. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are disposed at an interval in a perpendicular direction.

4. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least two first I-beams, an outside edge and an inside edge of each of said first I-beams are respectively coupled to said side wall and said top sheet adjacent, the at least two first I-beams are disposed at an interval.

5. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least two second I-beams, an outside edge and an inside edge of each of said second I-beams are respectively coupled to the side wall and said bottom sheet adjacent, the at least two second I-beams are disposed at an interval.

6. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first Y-beam, wherein two outside edges of said first Y-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said top sheet.

7. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second Y-beam, wherein two outside edges of said second Y-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.

8. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first tubular beam, which has at least two outside edges respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge is coupled to said top sheet.

9. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second tubular beam, which has at least two outside edges respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.

10. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first V-beam, wherein two outside edges of said first V-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said top sheet.

11. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second V-beam, wherein two outside edges of said second V-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.

12. The inflatable bed according to claim 4, wherein said at least two first I-beams are spaced apart from each other at a lower surface of said top sheet.

13. The inflatable bed according to claim 5, wherein said at least two second I-beams are spaced apart from each other at an upper surface of said bottom sheet.

14. The inflatable bed according to claim 4, wherein said at least two first I-beams are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

15. The inflatable bed according to claim 5, wherein said at least two second I-beams are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

16. The inflatable bed according to claim 6, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one first Y-beam are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

17. The inflatable bed according to claim 7, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one second Y-beam are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

18. The inflatable bed according to claim 8, wherein said at least two outside edges of said at least one first tubular beam, which are coupled to the side wall adjacent, are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

19. The inflatable bed according to claim 9, wherein said at least two outside edges of said at least one second tubular beam, which are coupled to the side wall adjacent, are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

20. The inflatable bed according to claim 10, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one first V-beam are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

21. The inflatable bed according to claim 11, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one second V-beam are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

22. The inflatable bed according to claim 4, wherein said at least two first V-beams as a whole are of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

23. The inflatable bed according to claim 5, wherein said at least two second I-beam as a whole are of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

24. The inflatable bed according to claim 6, wherein said at least one first Y-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

25. The inflatable bed according to claim 7, wherein said at least one second Y-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

26. The inflatable bed according to claim 8, wherein said at least one first tubular beam as a whole is of a segmental annular structure.

27. The inflatable bed according to claim 9, wherein said at least one second tubular beam as a whole is of a segmental annular structure.

28. The inflatable bed according to claim 10, wherein said at least one first V-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

29. The inflatable bed according to claim 11, wherein said at least one second V-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

30. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said first tensioning structure is one or more beams selected from I-beams, coil beams, Y-beams or X-beams.

31. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said first tensioning structure, said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are all made of thermoplastic plastic sheet.

32. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein one or more of said first tensioning structure, said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure at least partially comprise mesh, laminated plastic sheet or a threads.

33. The inflatable bed according to claim 32, wherein two side surfaces of said mesh or said threads are at least partially coupled integrally with two opposite plastic strips, said mesh and said threads are sandwiched between the two opposite plastic strips.

34. The inflatable bed according to claim 32, wherein two side surfaces of said mesh or said threads are at least partially coupled integrally with an U-shaped plastic strip, said mesh and said threads are sandwiched between the U-shaped plastic strip.

35. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said first tensioning structure is coupled to said top and bottom sheets by means of high-frequency welding; said second tensioning structure is coupled to said top sheet and said side wall by means of high-frequency welding; and said third tensioning structure is coupled to said bottom sheet and said side wall by means of high-frequency welding.

36. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein the location where said top sheet is located in the inside part of an upper edge of said second tensioning structure is lower than the location where said top sheet is located in the outside part of the upper edge of said second tensioning structure.

37. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein the location where said bottom sheet is located in the inside part of a lower edge of said third tensioning structure is lower than the location where said bottom sheet is located in the outside part of the lower edge of said third tensioning structure.

38. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said inflatable bed further comprises a built-in air pump, which is disposed on said side wall and is located between a lower edge of said second tensioning structure and an upper edge of said third tensioning structure for inflating said air chamber.

39. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said inflatable bed further comprises an air valve, which is disposed on said side wall for the inflation and deflation of said inflatable bed.

AMENDED CLAIMS – 1ST AUXILIARY REQUEST (WITH ANNOTATIONS)

What is claimed is:

1. An inflatable bed (10), comprising:

a top sheet (11) and a bottom sheet (12) disposed vertically at an interval;

at least one side wall (13),

an upper edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet, a lower edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said bottom sheet, an air chamber formed between said top sheet, said bottom sheet and said side wall;

at least one first tensioning structure disposed in said air chamber, an upper end and a lower end of said first tensioning structure being respectively coupled to said top sheet and said bottom sheet; and

at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber, said support structure being disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls,

wherein for each one of said at least one side wall:

at least two outside edges (152, 162) of said support structure being coupled to the side wall,

at least one inside edge (153, 163) of said support structure being coupled to the top sheet or bottom sheet adjacent,

wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure,

and for each one of said at least one side wall:

at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are coupled to the side wall,

at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the top sheet; and

at least two outside edges of said third tensioning structure are coupled to the side wall,

at least one inside edge of said third tensioning structure is coupled to the bottom sheet.

2. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are respectively provided with a plurality of air holes, through which an airflow passage is formed in said air chamber.

3. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are disposed at an interval in a perpendicular direction.

4. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least two first I-beams, an outside edge and an inside edge of each of said first I-beams are respectively coupled to said side wall and said top sheet adjacent, the at least two first I-beams are disposed at an interval.

5. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least two second I-beams, an outside edge and an inside edge of each of said second

I-beams are respectively coupled to the side wall and said bottom sheet adjacent, the at least two second I-beams are disposed at an interval.

6. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first Y-beam, wherein two outside edges of said first Y-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said top sheet.

7. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second Y-beam, wherein two outside edges of said second Y-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.

8. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first tubular beam, which has at least two outside edges respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge is coupled to said top sheet.

9. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second tubular beam, which has at least two outside edges respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.

10. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first V-beam, wherein two outside edges of said first V-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said top sheet.

11. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second V-beam, wherein two outside edges of said second V-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.

12. The inflatable bed according to claim 4, wherein said at least two first I-beams are spaced apart from each other at a lower surface of said top sheet.

13. The inflatable bed according to claim 5, wherein said at least two second I-beams are spaced apart from each other at an upper surface of said bottom sheet.

14. The inflatable bed according to claim 4, wherein said at least two first I-beams are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

15. The inflatable bed according to claim 5, wherein said at least two second I-beams are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

16. The inflatable bed according to claim 6, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one first Y-beam are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

17. The inflatable bed according to claim 7, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one second Y-beam are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

18. The inflatable bed according to claim 8, wherein said at least two outside edges of said at least one first tubular beam, which are coupled to the side wall adjacent, are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

19. The inflatable bed according to claim 9, wherein said at least two outside edges of said at least one second tubular beam, which are coupled to the side wall adjacent, are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

20. The inflatable bed according to claim 10, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one first V-beam are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

21. The inflatable bed according to claim 11, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one second V-beam are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

22. The inflatable bed according to claim 4, wherein said at least two first V-beams as a whole are of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

23. The inflatable bed according to claim 5, wherein said at least two second I-beam as a whole are of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

24. The inflatable bed according to claim 6, wherein said at least one first Y-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

25. The inflatable bed according to claim 7, wherein said at least one second Y-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

26. The inflatable bed according to claim 8, wherein said at least one first tubular beam as a whole is of a segmental annular structure.

27. The inflatable bed according to claim 9, wherein said at least one second tubular beam as a whole is of a segmental annular structure.

28. The inflatable bed according to claim 10, wherein said at least one first V-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

29. The inflatable bed according to claim 11, wherein said at least one second V-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

30. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said first tensioning structure is one or more beams selected from I-beams, coil beams, Y-beams or X-beams.

31. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said first tensioning structure, said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are all made of thermoplastic plastic sheet.

32. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein one or more of said first tensioning structure, said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure at least partially comprise mesh, laminated plastic sheet or a threads.

33. The inflatable bed according to claim 32, wherein two side surfaces of said mesh or said threads are at least partially coupled integrally with two opposite plastic strips, said mesh and said threads are sandwiched between the two opposite plastic strips.

34. The inflatable bed according to claim 32, wherein two side surfaces of said mesh or said threads are at least partially coupled integrally with an U-shaped plastic strip, said mesh and said threads are sandwiched between the U-shaped plastic strip.

35. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said first tensioning structure is coupled to said top and bottom sheets by means of high-frequency welding; said second tensioning structure is coupled to said top sheet and said side wall by means of high-frequency welding; and said third tensioning structure is coupled to said bottom sheet and said side wall by means of high-frequency welding.

36. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein the location where said top sheet is located in the inside part of an upper edge of said second tensioning structure is lower than the location where said top sheet is located in the outside part of the upper edge of said second tensioning structure.

37. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein the location where said bottom sheet is located in the inside part of a lower edge of said third tensioning structure is lower than the location where said bottom sheet is located in the outside part of the lower edge of said third tensioning structure.

38. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said inflatable bed further comprises a built-in air pump, which is disposed on said side wall and is located between a lower edge of said second tensioning structure and an upper edge of said third tensioning structure for inflating said air chamber.

39. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said inflatable bed further comprises an air valve, which is disposed on said side wall for the inflation and deflation of said inflatable bed.

AMENDED CLAIMS – 3RD AUXILIARY REQUEST

What is claimed is:

1. An inflatable bed (10), comprising:

a top sheet (11) and a bottom sheet (12) disposed vertically at an interval;

at least one side wall (13),

an upper edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet, a lower edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said bottom sheet, an air chamber formed between said top sheet, said bottom sheet and said side wall;

at least one first tensioning structure disposed in said air chamber, an upper end and a lower end of said first tensioning structure being respectively coupled to said top sheet and said bottom sheet; and

at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber, said support structure being disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls, at least two outside edges (152, 162) of said support structure being respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge (153, 163) of said support structure being coupled to the top sheet or bottom sheet adjacent, wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure, at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the top sheet adjacent;

at least two outside edges of said third tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said third tensioning structure is coupled to the bottom sheet adjacent;

wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least two first I-beams, an outside edge and an inside edge of each of said first I-beams are respectively coupled to said side wall and said top sheet adjacent, the at least two first I-beams are disposed at an interval; and

wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least two second I-beams, an outside edge and an inside edge of each of said second I-beams are respectively coupled to the side wall and said bottom sheet adjacent, the at least two second I-beams are disposed at an interval.

2. An inflatable bed (10), comprising:

a top sheet (11) and a bottom sheet (12) disposed vertically at an interval;

at least one side wall (13),

an upper edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet, a lower edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said bottom sheet, an air chamber formed between said top sheet, said bottom sheet and said side wall;

at least one first tensioning structure disposed in said air chamber, an upper end and a lower end of said first tensioning structure being respectively coupled to said top sheet and said bottom sheet; and

at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber, said support structure being disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls, at least two outside edges (152, 162) of said support structure being respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge (153, 163) of said support structure being coupled to the top sheet or bottom sheet adjacent, wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure, at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the top sheet adjacent;

at least two outside edges of said third tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said third tensioning structure is coupled to the bottom sheet adjacent;

wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first Y-beam, wherein two outside edges of said first Y-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said top sheet; and

wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second Y-beam, wherein two outside edges of said second Y-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.

3. An inflatable bed (10), comprising:

a top sheet (11) and a bottom sheet (12) disposed vertically at an interval;

at least one side wall (13),

an upper edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet, a lower edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said bottom sheet, an air chamber formed between said top sheet, said bottom sheet and said side wall;

at least one first tensioning structure disposed in said air chamber, an upper end and a lower end of said first tensioning structure being respectively coupled to said top sheet and said bottom sheet; and

at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber, said support structure being disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls, at least two outside edges (152, 162) of said support structure being respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge (153, 163) of said support structure being coupled to the top sheet or bottom sheet adjacent, wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure, at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are

respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the top sheet adjacent;

wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first tubular beam, which has at least two outside edges respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge is coupled to said top sheet; and

wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second tubular beam, which has at least two outside edges respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.

4. An inflatable bed (10), comprising:

a top sheet (11) and a bottom sheet (12) disposed vertically at an interval;

at least one side wall (13),

an upper edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet, a lower edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said bottom sheet, an air chamber formed between said top sheet, said bottom sheet and said side wall;

at least one first tensioning structure disposed in said air chamber, an upper end and a lower end of said first tensioning structure being respectively coupled to said top sheet and said bottom sheet; and

at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber, said support structure being disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls, at least two outside edges (152, 162) of said support structure being respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge (153, 163) of said support structure being coupled to the top sheet or bottom sheet adjacent, wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure, at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the top sheet adjacent;

at least two outside edges of said third tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said third tensioning structure is coupled to the bottom sheet adjacent;

wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first V-beam, wherein two outside edges of said first V-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said top sheet; and

wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second V-beam, wherein two outside edges of said second V-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.

5. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are respectively provided with a plurality of air holes, through which an airflow passage is formed in said air chamber.

6. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are disposed at an interval in a perpendicular direction.

7. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said at least two first I-beams are spaced apart from each other at a lower surface of said top sheet.

8. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said at least two second I-beams are spaced apart from each other at an upper surface of said bottom sheet.

9. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said at least two first I-beams are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

10. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said at least two second I-beams are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

11. The inflatable bed according to claim 2, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one first Y-beam are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

12. The inflatable bed according to claim 2, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one second Y-beam are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

13. The inflatable bed according to claim 3, wherein said at least two outside edges of said at least one first tubular beam, which are coupled to the side wall adjacent, are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

14. The inflatable bed according to claim 3, wherein said at least two outside edges of said at least one second tubular beam, which are coupled to the side wall adjacent, are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

15. The inflatable bed according to claim 4, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one first V-beam are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

16. The inflatable bed according to claim 4, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one second V-beam are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

17. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said at least two first V-beams as a whole are of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

18. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said at least two second I-beam as a whole are of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

19. The inflatable bed according to claim 2, wherein said at least one first Y-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

20. The inflatable bed according to claim 2, wherein said at least one second Y-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

21. The inflatable bed according to claim 3, wherein said at least one first tubular beam as a whole is of a segmental annular structure.

22. The inflatable bed according to claim 3, wherein said at least one second tubular beam as a whole is of a segmental annular structure.

23. The inflatable bed according to claim 4, wherein said at least one first V-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

24. The inflatable bed according to claim 4, wherein said at least one second V-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

25. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said first tensioning structure is one or more beams selected from I-beams, coil beams, Y-beams or X-beams.

26. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said first tensioning structure, said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are all made of thermoplastic plastic sheet.

27. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein one or more of said first tensioning structure, said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure at least partially comprise mesh, laminated plastic sheet or a threads.

28. The inflatable bed according to claim 27, wherein two side surfaces of said mesh or said threads are at least partially coupled integrally with two opposite plastic strips, said mesh and said threads are sandwiched between the two opposite plastic strips.

29. The inflatable bed according to claim 27, wherein two side surfaces of said mesh or said threads are at least partially coupled integrally with an U-shaped plastic strip, said mesh and said threads are sandwiched between the U-shaped plastic strip.

30. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said first tensioning structure is coupled to said top and bottom sheets by means of high-frequency welding; said second tensioning structure is coupled to said top sheet and said side wall by means of high-frequency welding; and said third tensioning structure is coupled to said bottom sheet and said side wall by means of high-frequency welding.

31. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the location where said top sheet is located in the inside part of an upper edge of said second tensioning structure is lower than the location where said top sheet is located in the outside part of the upper edge of said second tensioning structure.

32. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the location where said bottom sheet is located in the inside part of a lower edge of said third tensioning structure is lower than the location where said bottom sheet is located in the outside part of the lower edge of said third tensioning structure.

33. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said inflatable bed further comprises a built-in air pump, which is disposed on said side wall and is located between a lower edge of said second tensioning structure and an upper edge of said third tensioning structure for inflating said air chamber.

34. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said inflatable bed further comprises an air valve, which is disposed on said side wall for the inflation and deflation of said inflatable bed.

AMENDED CLAIMS – 2ND AUXILIARY REQUEST

What is claimed is:

1. An inflatable bed (10), comprising:

a top sheet (11) and a bottom sheet (12) disposed vertically at an interval;

at least one side wall (13),

an upper edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet, a lower edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said bottom sheet, an air chamber formed between said top sheet, said bottom sheet and said side wall;

at least one first tensioning structure disposed in said air chamber, an upper end and a lower end of said first tensioning structure being respectively coupled to said top sheet and said bottom sheet; and

at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber, said support structure being disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls,

wherein for each one of said at least one side wall:

at least two outside edges (152, 162) of said support structure being coupled to the side wall,

at least one inside edge (153, 163) of said support structure being coupled to the top sheet or bottom sheet adjacent,

wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure,

and for each one of said at least one side wall:

at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are coupled to the side wall,

at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the top sheet adjacent;

at least two outside edges of said third tensioning structure are coupled to the side wall,

at least one inside edge of said third tensioning structure is coupled to the bottom sheet adjacent; and

wherein the second tensioning structure and the third tensioning structure divide the respective side wall into five sections.

2. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are respectively provided with a plurality of air holes, through which an airflow passage is formed in said air chamber.

3. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are disposed at an interval in a perpendicular direction.

4. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least two first I-beams, an outside edge and an inside edge of each of said first

I-beams are respectively coupled to said side wall and said top sheet adjacent, the at least two first I-beams are disposed at an interval.

5. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least two second I-beams, an outside edge and an inside edge of each of said second I-beams are respectively coupled to the side wall and said bottom sheet adjacent, the at least two second I-beams are disposed at an interval.

6. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first Y-beam, wherein two outside edges of said first Y-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said top sheet.

7. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second Y-beam, wherein two outside edges of said second Y-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.

8. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first tubular beam, which has at least two outside edges respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge is coupled to said top sheet.

9. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second tubular beam, which has at least two outside edges respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.

10. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first V-beam, wherein two outside edges of said first V-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said top sheet.

11. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second V-beam, wherein two outside edges of said second V-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.

12. The inflatable bed according to claim 4, wherein said at least two first I-beams are spaced apart from each other at a lower surface of said top sheet.

13. The inflatable bed according to claim 5, wherein said at least two second I-beams are spaced apart from each other at an upper surface of said bottom sheet.

14. The inflatable bed according to claim 4, wherein said at least two first I-beams are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

15. The inflatable bed according to claim 5, wherein said at least two second I-beams are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

16. The inflatable bed according to claim 6, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one first Y-beam are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

17. The inflatable bed according to claim 7, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one second Y-beam are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

18. The inflatable bed according to claim 8, wherein said at least two outside edges of said at least one first tubular beam, which are coupled to the side wall adjacent, are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

19. The inflatable bed according to claim 9, wherein said at least two outside edges of said at least one second tubular beam, which are coupled to the side wall adjacent, are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

20. The inflatable bed according to claim 10, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one first V-beam are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

21. The inflatable bed according to claim 11, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one second V-beam are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

22. The inflatable bed according to claim 4, wherein said at least two first V-beams as a whole are of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

23. The inflatable bed according to claim 5, wherein said at least two second I-beam as a whole are of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

24. The inflatable bed according to claim 6, wherein said at least one first Y-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

25. The inflatable bed according to claim 7, wherein said at least one second Y-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

26. The inflatable bed according to claim 8, wherein said at least one first tubular beam as a whole is of a segmental annular structure.

27. The inflatable bed according to claim 9, wherein said at least one second tubular beam as a whole is of a segmental annular structure.

28. The inflatable bed according to claim 10, wherein said at least one first V-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

29. The inflatable bed according to claim 11, wherein said at least one second V-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

30. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said first tensioning structure is one or more beams selected from I-beams, coil beams, Y-beams or X-beams.

31. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said first tensioning structure, said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are all made of thermoplastic plastic sheet.

32. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein one or more of said first tensioning structure, said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure at least partially comprise mesh, laminated plastic sheet or a threads.

33. The inflatable bed according to claim 32, wherein two side surfaces of said mesh or said threads are at least partially coupled integrally with two opposite plastic strips, said mesh and said threads are sandwiched between the two opposite plastic strips.

34. The inflatable bed according to claim 32, wherein two side surfaces of said mesh or said threads are at least partially coupled integrally with an U-shaped plastic strip, said mesh and said threads are sandwiched between the U-shaped plastic strip.

35. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said first tensioning structure is coupled to said top and bottom sheets by means of high-frequency welding; said second tensioning structure is coupled to said top sheet and said side wall by means of high-frequency welding; and said third tensioning structure is coupled to said bottom sheet and said side wall by means of high-frequency welding.

36. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein the location where said top sheet is located in the inside part of an upper edge of said second tensioning structure is lower than the location where said top sheet is located in the outside part of the upper edge of said second tensioning structure.

37. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein the location where said bottom sheet is located in the inside part of a lower edge of said third tensioning structure is lower than the location where said bottom sheet is located in the outside part of the lower edge of said third tensioning structure.

38. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said inflatable bed further comprises a built-in air pump, which is disposed on said side wall and is located between a lower edge of said second tensioning structure and an upper edge of said third tensioning structure for inflating said air chamber.

39. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said inflatable bed further comprises an air valve, which is disposed on said side wall for the inflation and deflation of said inflatable bed.

AMENDED CLAIMS – 5th AUXILIARY REQUEST

What is claimed is:

1. An inflatable bed (10), comprising:

a top sheet (11) and a bottom sheet (12) disposed vertically at an interval;

at least one side wall (13),

an upper edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of

said top sheet, a lower edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said bottom sheet, an air chamber formed between said top sheet, said bottom sheet and said side wall;

at least one first tensioning structure disposed in said air chamber, an upper end and a lower end of said first tensioning structure being respectively coupled to said top sheet and said bottom sheet; and

at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber, said support structure being disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls, at least two outside edges (152, 162) of

said support structure being respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge (153, 163) of said support structure being coupled to the top sheet or bottom sheet adjacent, wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure, at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the top sheet adjacent;

at least two outside edges of said third tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said third tensioning structure is coupled to the bottom sheet adjacent;

wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least two first I-beams, an outside edge and an inside edge of each of said first I-beams are respectively coupled to said side wall and said top sheet adjacent, the at least two first I-beams are disposed at an interval;

wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least two second I-beams, an outside edge and an inside edge of each of said second I-beams are respectively coupled to the side wall and said bottom sheet adjacent, the at least two second I-beams are disposed at an interval; and

wherein the second tensioning structure and the third tensioning structure divide the respective side wall into five sections.

2. An inflatable bed (10), comprising:

a top sheet (11) and a bottom sheet (12) disposed vertically at an interval;

at least one side wall (13),

an upper edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet, a lower edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said bottom sheet, an air chamber formed between said top sheet, said bottom sheet and said side wall;

at least one first tensioning structure disposed in said air chamber, an upper end and a lower end of said first tensioning structure being respectively coupled to said top sheet and said bottom sheet; and

at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber, said support structure being disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls, at least two outside edges (152, 162) of said support structure being respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge (153, 163) of said support structure being coupled to the top sheet or bottom sheet adjacent, wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure, at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the top sheet adjacent;

at least two outside edges of said third tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said third tensioning structure is coupled to the bottom sheet adjacent;

wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first Y-beam, wherein two outside edges of said first Y-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said top sheet;

wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second Y-beam, wherein two outside edges of said second Y-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet; and

wherein the second tensioning structure and the third tensioning structure divide the respective side wall into five sections.

3. An inflatable bed (10), comprising:

a top sheet (11) and a bottom sheet (12) disposed vertically at an interval;

at least one side wall (13),

an upper edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet, a lower edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said bottom sheet, an air chamber formed between said top sheet, said bottom sheet and said side wall;

at least one first tensioning structure disposed in said air chamber, an upper end and a lower end of said first tensioning structure being respectively coupled to said top sheet and said bottom sheet; and

at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber, said support structure being disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls, at least two outside edges (152, 162) of said support structure being respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge (153, 163) of said support structure being coupled to the top sheet or bottom sheet adjacent, wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure, at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the top sheet adjacent;

wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first tubular beam, which has at least two outside edges respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge is coupled to said top sheet;

wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second tubular beam, which has at least two outside edges respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet; and

wherein the second tensioning structure and the third tensioning structure divide the respective side wall into five sections.

4. An inflatable bed (10), comprising:

a top sheet (11) and a bottom sheet (12) disposed vertically at an interval;

at least one side wall (13),

an upper edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet, a lower edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said bottom sheet, an air chamber formed between said top sheet, said bottom sheet and said side wall;

at least one first tensioning structure disposed in said air chamber, an upper end and a lower end of said first tensioning structure being respectively coupled to said top sheet and said bottom sheet; and

at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber, said support structure being disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls, at least two outside edges (152, 162) of said support structure being respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge (153, 163) of said support structure being coupled to the top sheet or bottom sheet adjacent, wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure, at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the top sheet adjacent;

at least two outside edges of said third tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said third tensioning structure is coupled to the bottom sheet adjacent;

wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first V-beam, wherein two outside edges of said first V-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said top sheet;

wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second V-beam, wherein two outside edges of said second V-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet; and

wherein the second tensioning structure and the third tensioning structure divide the respective side wall into five sections.

5. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are respectively provided with a plurality of air holes, through which an airflow passage is formed in said air chamber.

6. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are disposed at an interval in a perpendicular direction.

7. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said at least two first I-beams are spaced apart from each other at a lower surface of said top sheet.

8. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said at least two second I-beams are spaced apart from each other at an upper surface of said bottom sheet.

9. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said at least two first I-beams are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

10. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said at least two second I-beams are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

11. The inflatable bed according to claim 2, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one first Y-beam are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

12. The inflatable bed according to claim 2, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one second Y-beam are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

13. The inflatable bed according to claim 3, wherein said at least two outside edges of said at least one first tubular beam, which are coupled to the side wall adjacent, are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

14. The inflatable bed according to claim 3, wherein said at least two outside edges of said at least one second tubular beam, which are coupled to the side wall adjacent, are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

15. The inflatable bed according to claim 4, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one first V-beam are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

16. The inflatable bed according to claim 4, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one second V-beam are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

17. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said at least two first V-beams as a whole are of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

18. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said at least two second I-beam as a whole are of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

19. The inflatable bed according to claim 2, wherein said at least one first Y-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

20. The inflatable bed according to claim 2, wherein said at least one second Y-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

21. The inflatable bed according to claim 3, wherein said at least one first tubular beam as a whole is of a segmental annular structure.

22. The inflatable bed according to claim 3, wherein said at least one second tubular beam as a whole is of a segmental annular structure.

23. The inflatable bed according to claim 4, wherein said at least one first V-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

24. The inflatable bed according to claim 4, wherein said at least one second V-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

25. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said first tensioning structure is one or more beams selected from I-beams, coil beams, Y-beams or X-beams.

26. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said first tensioning structure, said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are all made of thermoplastic plastic sheet.

27. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein one or more of said first tensioning structure, said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure at least partially comprise mesh, laminated plastic sheet or a threads.

28. The inflatable bed according to claim 27, wherein two side surfaces of said mesh or said threads are at least partially coupled integrally with two opposite plastic strips, said mesh and said threads are sandwiched between the two opposite plastic strips.

29. The inflatable bed according to claim 27, wherein two side surfaces of said mesh or said threads are at least partially coupled integrally with an U-shaped plastic strip, said mesh and said threads are sandwiched between the U-shaped plastic strip.

30. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said first tensioning structure is coupled to said top and bottom sheets by means of high-frequency welding; said second tensioning structure is coupled to said top sheet and said side wall by means of high-frequency welding; and said third tensioning structure is coupled to said bottom sheet and said side wall by means of high-frequency welding.

31. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the location where said top sheet is located in the inside part of an upper edge of said second tensioning structure is lower than the location where said top sheet is located in the outside part of the upper edge of said second tensioning structure.

32. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the location where said bottom sheet is located in the inside part of a lower edge of said third tensioning structure is lower than the location where said bottom sheet is located in the outside part of the lower edge of said third tensioning structure.

33. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said inflatable bed further comprises a built-in air pump, which is disposed on said side wall and is located between a lower edge of said second tensioning structure and an upper edge of said third tensioning structure for inflating said air chamber.

34. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said inflatable bed further comprises an air valve, which is disposed on said side wall for the inflation and deflation of said inflatable bed.

AMENDED CLAIMS –3ST AUXILIARY REQUEST (WITH ANNOTATIONS)

What is claimed is:

1. An inflatable bed (10), comprising:

a top sheet (11) and a bottom sheet (12) disposed vertically at an interval;

at least one side wall (13),

an upper edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet, a lower edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said bottom sheet, an air chamber formed between said top sheet, said bottom sheet and said side wall;

at least one first tensioning structure disposed in said air chamber, an upper end and a lower end of said first tensioning structure being respectively coupled to said top sheet and said bottom sheet; and

at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber, said support structure being disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls, at least two outside edges (152, 162) of said support structure being respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge (153, 163) of said support structure being coupled to the top sheet or bottom sheet adjacent, wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure, at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the top sheet adjacent; ~~and~~

at least two outside edges of said third tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said third tensioning structure is coupled to the bottom sheet adjacent;

wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least two first I-beams, an outside edge and an inside edge of each of said first I-beams are respectively coupled to said side wall and said top sheet adjacent, the at least two first I-beams are disposed at an interval; and

wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least two second I-beams, an outside edge and an inside edge of each of said second I-beams are respectively coupled to the side wall and said bottom sheet adjacent, the at least two second I-beams are disposed at an interval.

2. An inflatable bed (10), comprising:

a top sheet (11) and a bottom sheet (12) disposed vertically at an interval;

at least one side wall (13),

an upper edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet, a lower edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said bottom sheet, an air chamber formed between said top sheet, said bottom sheet and said side wall;

at least one first tensioning structure disposed in said air chamber, an upper end and a lower end of said first tensioning structure being respectively coupled to said top sheet and said bottom sheet; and

at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber, said support structure being disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls, at least two outside edges (152, 162) of said support structure being respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge (153, 163) of said support structure being coupled to the top sheet or bottom sheet adjacent, wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure, at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the top sheet adjacent;

at least two outside edges of said third tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said third tensioning structure is coupled to the bottom sheet adjacent;

wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first Y-beam, wherein two outside edges of said first Y-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said top sheet; and

wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second Y-beam, wherein two outside edges of said second Y-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.

3. An inflatable bed (10), comprising:

a top sheet (11) and a bottom sheet (12) disposed vertically at an interval;

at least one side wall (13),

an upper edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet, a lower edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said bottom sheet, an air chamber formed between said top sheet, said bottom sheet and said side wall;

at least one first tensioning structure disposed in said air chamber, an upper end and a lower end of said first tensioning structure being respectively coupled to said top sheet and said bottom sheet; and

at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber, said support structure being disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls, at least two outside edges (152, 162) of said support structure being respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge (153, 163) of said support structure being coupled to the top sheet or bottom sheet adjacent, wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure, at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are

respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the top sheet adjacent;

wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first tubular beam, which has at least two outside edges respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge is coupled to said top sheet; and

wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second tubular beam, which has at least two outside edges respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.

4. An inflatable bed (10), comprising:

a top sheet (11) and a bottom sheet (12) disposed vertically at an interval;

at least one side wall (13),

an upper edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet, a lower edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said bottom sheet, an air chamber formed between said top sheet, said bottom sheet and said side wall;

at least one first tensioning structure disposed in said air chamber, an upper end and a lower end of said first tensioning structure being respectively coupled to said top sheet and said bottom sheet; and

at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber, said support structure being disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls, at least two outside edges (152, 162) of said support structure being respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge (153, 163) of said support structure being coupled to the top sheet or bottom sheet adjacent, wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure, at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the top sheet adjacent;

at least two outside edges of said third tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said third tensioning structure is coupled to the bottom sheet adjacent;

wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first V-beam, wherein two outside edges of said first V-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said top sheet; and

wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second V-beam, wherein two outside edges of said second V-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.

~~2~~5. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are respectively provided with a plurality of air holes, through which an airflow passage is formed in said air chamber.

~~3~~6. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are disposed at an interval in a perpendicular direction.

~~4. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least two first I beams, an outside edge and an inside edge of each of said first I beams are respectively coupled to said side wall and said top sheet adjacent, the at least two first I beams are disposed at an interval.~~

~~5. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least two second I beams, an outside edge and an inside edge of each of said second I beams are respectively coupled to the side wall and said bottom sheet adjacent, the at least two second I beams are disposed at an interval.~~

~~6. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first Y beam, wherein two outside edges of said first Y beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said top sheet.~~

~~7. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second Y beam, wherein two outside edges of said second Y beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.~~

~~8. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first tubular beam, which has at least two outside edges respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge is coupled to said top sheet.~~

~~9. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second tubular beam, which has at least two outside edges respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.~~

~~10. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first V beam, wherein two outside edges of said first V beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said top sheet.~~

~~11. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second V beam, wherein two outside edges of said second V beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.~~

~~12~~7. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~4~~1, wherein said at least two first I-beams are spaced apart from each other at a lower surface of said top sheet.

~~13~~8. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~5~~1, wherein said at least two second I-beams are spaced apart from each other at an upper surface of said bottom sheet.

~~14~~9. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~4~~1, wherein said at least two first I-beams are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

~~15~~10. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~5~~1, wherein said at least two second I-beams are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

~~16~~11. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~6~~2, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one first Y-beam are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

~~17~~12. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~7~~2, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one second Y-beam are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

~~18~~13. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~8~~3, wherein said at least two outside edges of said at least one first tubular beam, which are coupled to the side wall adjacent, are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

~~19~~14. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~9~~3, wherein said at least two outside edges of said at least one second tubular beam, which are coupled to the side wall adjacent, are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

~~20~~15. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~10~~4, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one first V-beam are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

~~21~~16. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~11~~4, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one second V-beam are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

~~22~~17. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~4~~1, wherein said at least two first V-beams as a whole are of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

~~23~~18. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~5~~1, wherein said at least two second I-beam as a whole are of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

~~24~~19. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~6~~2, wherein said at least one first Y-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

~~25~~20. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~7~~2, wherein said at least one second Y-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

~~26~~21. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~8~~3, wherein said at least one first tubular beam as a whole is of a segmental annular structure.

~~27~~22. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~9~~3, wherein said at least one second tubular beam as a whole is of a segmental annular structure.

~~28~~23. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~10~~4, wherein said at least one first V-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

~~29~~24. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~11~~4, wherein said at least one second V-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

~~30~~25. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said first tensioning structure is one or more beams selected from I-beams, coil beams, Y-beams or X-beams.

~~31~~26. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said first tensioning structure, said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are all made of thermoplastic plastic sheet.

~~32~~27. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein one or more of said first tensioning structure, said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure at least partially comprise mesh, laminated plastic sheet or a threads.

~~33~~28. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~32~~27, wherein two side surfaces of said mesh or said threads are at least partially coupled integrally with two opposite plastic strips, said mesh and said threads are sandwiched between the two opposite plastic strips.

~~34~~29. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~32~~27, wherein two side surfaces of said mesh or said threads are at least partially coupled integrally with an U-shaped plastic strip, said mesh and said threads are sandwiched between the U-shaped plastic strip.

~~35~~30. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said first tensioning structure is coupled to said top and bottom sheets by means of high-frequency welding; said second tensioning structure is coupled to said top sheet and said side wall by means of high-frequency welding; and said third tensioning structure is coupled to said bottom sheet and said side wall by means of high-frequency welding.

~~36~~31. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the location where said top sheet is located in the inside part of an upper edge of said second tensioning structure is lower than the location where said top sheet is located in the outside part of the upper edge of said second tensioning structure.

~~37~~32. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the location where said bottom sheet is located in the inside part of a lower edge of said third tensioning structure is lower than the location where said bottom sheet is located in the outside part of the lower edge of said third tensioning structure.

~~38~~33. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said inflatable bed further comprises a built-in air pump, which is disposed on said side wall and is located between a lower edge of said second tensioning structure and an upper edge of said third tensioning structure for inflating said air chamber.

~~39~~34. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said inflatable bed further comprises an air valve, which is disposed on said side wall for the inflation and deflation of said inflatable bed.

AMENDED CLAIMS – 4th AUXILIARY REQUEST (WITH ANNOTATIONS)

What is claimed is:

1. An inflatable bed (10), comprising:

a top sheet (11) and a bottom sheet (12) disposed vertically at an interval;

at least one side wall (13),

an upper edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet, a lower edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said bottom sheet, an air chamber formed between said top sheet, said bottom sheet and said side wall;

at least one first tensioning structure disposed in said air chamber, an upper end and a lower end of said first tensioning structure being respectively coupled to said top sheet and said bottom sheet; and

at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber, said support structure being disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls, at least two outside edges (152, 162) of said support structure being respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge (153, 163) of said support structure being coupled to the top sheet or bottom sheet adjacent, wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure, at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the top sheet adjacent; ~~and~~

at least two outside edges of said third tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said third tensioning structure is coupled to the bottom sheet adjacent; and

wherein the second tensioning structure and the third tensioning structure divide the respective side wall into five sections.

2. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are respectively provided with a plurality of air holes, through which an airflow passage is formed in said air chamber.

3. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are disposed at an interval in a perpendicular direction.

4. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least two first I-beams, an outside edge and an inside edge of each of said first I-beams are respectively coupled to said side wall and said top sheet adjacent, the at least two first I-beams are disposed at an interval.

5. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least two second I-beams, an outside edge and an inside edge of each of said second I-beams are respectively coupled to the side wall and said bottom sheet adjacent, the at least two second I-beams are disposed at an interval.

6. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first Y-beam, wherein two outside edges of said first Y-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said top sheet.

7. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second Y-beam, wherein two outside edges of said second Y-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.

8. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first tubular beam, which has at least two outside edges respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge is coupled to said top sheet.

9. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second tubular beam, which has at least two outside edges respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.

10. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first V-beam, wherein two outside edges of said first V-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said top sheet.

11. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second V-beam, wherein two outside edges of said second V-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.

12. The inflatable bed according to claim 4, wherein said at least two first I-beams are spaced apart from each other at a lower surface of said top sheet.

13. The inflatable bed according to claim 5, wherein said at least two second I-beams are spaced apart from each other at an upper surface of said bottom sheet.

14. The inflatable bed according to claim 4, wherein said at least two first I-beams are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

15. The inflatable bed according to claim 5, wherein said at least two second I-beams are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

16. The inflatable bed according to claim 6, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one first Y-beam are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

17. The inflatable bed according to claim 7, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one second Y-beam are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

18. The inflatable bed according to claim 8, wherein said at least two outside edges of said at least one first tubular beam, which are coupled to the side wall adjacent, are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

19. The inflatable bed according to claim 9, wherein said at least two outside edges of said at least one second tubular beam, which are coupled to the side wall adjacent, are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

20. The inflatable bed according to claim 10, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one first V-beam are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

21. The inflatable bed according to claim 11, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one second V-beam are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

22. The inflatable bed according to claim 4, wherein said at least two first V-beams as a whole are of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

23. The inflatable bed according to claim 5, wherein said at least two second I-beam as a whole are of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

24. The inflatable bed according to claim 6, wherein said at least one first Y-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

25. The inflatable bed according to claim 7, wherein said at least one second Y-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

26. The inflatable bed according to claim 8, wherein said at least one first tubular beam as a whole is of a segmental annular structure.

27. The inflatable bed according to claim 9, wherein said at least one second tubular beam as a whole is of a segmental annular structure.

28. The inflatable bed according to claim 10, wherein said at least one first V-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

29. The inflatable bed according to claim 11, wherein said at least one second V-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

30. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said first tensioning structure is one or more beams selected from I-beams, coil beams, Y-beams or X-beams.

31. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said first tensioning structure, said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are all made of thermoplastic plastic sheet.

32. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein one or more of said first tensioning structure, said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure at least partially comprise mesh, laminated plastic sheet or a threads.

33. The inflatable bed according to claim 32, wherein two side surfaces of said mesh or said threads are at least partially coupled integrally with two opposite plastic strips, said mesh and said threads are sandwiched between the two opposite plastic strips.

34. The inflatable bed according to claim 32, wherein two side surfaces of said mesh or said threads are at least partially coupled integrally with an U-shaped plastic strip, said mesh and said threads are sandwiched between the U-shaped plastic strip.

35. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said first tensioning structure is coupled to said top and bottom sheets by means of high-frequency welding; said second tensioning structure is coupled to said top sheet and said side wall by means of high-frequency welding; and said third tensioning structure is coupled to said bottom sheet and said side wall by means of high-frequency welding.

36. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein the location where said top sheet is located in the inside part of an upper edge of said second tensioning structure is lower than the location where said top sheet is located in the outside part of the upper edge of said second tensioning structure.

37. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein the location where said bottom sheet is located in the inside part of a lower edge of said third tensioning structure is lower than the location where said bottom sheet is located in the outside part of the lower edge of said third tensioning structure.

38. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said inflatable bed further comprises a built-in air pump, which is disposed on said side wall and is located between a lower edge of said second tensioning structure and an upper edge of said third tensioning structure for inflating said air chamber.

39. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said inflatable bed further comprises an air valve, which is disposed on said side wall for the inflation and deflation of said inflatable bed.

AMENDED CLAIMS – 1ST AUXILIARY REQUEST (WITH ANNOTATIONS)

What is claimed is:

1. An inflatable bed (10), comprising:

a top sheet (11) and a bottom sheet (12) disposed vertically at an interval;

at least one side wall (13),

an upper edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet, a lower edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said bottom sheet, an air chamber formed between said top sheet, said bottom sheet and said side wall;

at least one first tensioning structure disposed in said air chamber, an upper end and a lower end of said first tensioning structure being respectively coupled to said top sheet and said bottom sheet; and

at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber, said support structure being disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls,

wherein for each one of said at least one side wall:

at least two outside edges (152, 162) of said support structure being ~~respectively~~ coupled to the side wall ~~adjacent~~,

at least one inside edge (153, 163) of said support structure being coupled to the top sheet or bottom sheet adjacent,

wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure,

and for each one of said at least one side wall:

at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are ~~respectively~~ coupled to the side wall ~~adjacent~~,

at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the top sheet adjacent; and

at least two outside edges of said third tensioning structure are ~~respectively~~ coupled to the side wall ~~adjacent~~,

at least one inside edge of said third tensioning structure is coupled to the bottom sheet adjacent.

2. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are respectively provided with a plurality of air holes, through which an airflow passage is formed in said air chamber.

3. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are disposed at an interval in a perpendicular direction.

4. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least two first I-beams, an outside edge and an inside edge of each of said first

I-beams are respectively coupled to said side wall and said top sheet adjacent, the at least two first I-beams are disposed at an interval.

5. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least two second I-beams, an outside edge and an inside edge of each of said second I-beams are respectively coupled to the side wall and said bottom sheet adjacent, the at least two second I-beams are disposed at an interval.

6. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first Y-beam, wherein two outside edges of said first Y-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said top sheet.

7. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second Y-beam, wherein two outside edges of said second Y-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.

8. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first tubular beam, which has at least two outside edges respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge is coupled to said top sheet.

9. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second tubular beam, which has at least two outside edges respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.

10. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first V-beam, wherein two outside edges of said first V-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said top sheet.

11. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second V-beam, wherein two outside edges of said second V-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.

12. The inflatable bed according to claim 4, wherein said at least two first I-beams are spaced apart from each other at a lower surface of said top sheet.

13. The inflatable bed according to claim 5, wherein said at least two second I-beams are spaced apart from each other at an upper surface of said bottom sheet.

14. The inflatable bed according to claim 4, wherein said at least two first I-beams are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

15. The inflatable bed according to claim 5, wherein said at least two second I-beams are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

16. The inflatable bed according to claim 6, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one first Y-beam are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

17. The inflatable bed according to claim 7, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one second Y-beam are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

18. The inflatable bed according to claim 8, wherein said at least two outside edges of said at least one first tubular beam, which are coupled to the side wall adjacent, are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

19. The inflatable bed according to claim 9, wherein said at least two outside edges of said at least one second tubular beam, which are coupled to the side wall adjacent, are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

20. The inflatable bed according to claim 10, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one first V-beam are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

21. The inflatable bed according to claim 11, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one second V-beam are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

22. The inflatable bed according to claim 4, wherein said at least two first V-beams as a whole are of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

23. The inflatable bed according to claim 5, wherein said at least two second I-beam as a whole are of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

24. The inflatable bed according to claim 6, wherein said at least one first Y-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

25. The inflatable bed according to claim 7, wherein said at least one second Y-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

26. The inflatable bed according to claim 8, wherein said at least one first tubular beam as a whole is of a segmental annular structure.

27. The inflatable bed according to claim 9, wherein said at least one second tubular beam as a whole is of a segmental annular structure.

28. The inflatable bed according to claim 10, wherein said at least one first V-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

29. The inflatable bed according to claim 11, wherein said at least one second V-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

30. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said first tensioning structure is one or more beams selected from I-beams, coil beams, Y-beams or X-beams.

31. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said first tensioning structure, said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are all made of thermoplastic plastic sheet.

32. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein one or more of said first tensioning structure, said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure at least partially comprise mesh, laminated plastic sheet or a threads.

33. The inflatable bed according to claim 32, wherein two side surfaces of said mesh or said threads are at least partially coupled integrally with two opposite plastic strips, said mesh and said threads are sandwiched between the two opposite plastic strips.

34. The inflatable bed according to claim 32, wherein two side surfaces of said mesh or said threads are at least partially coupled integrally with an U-shaped plastic strip, said mesh and said threads are sandwiched between the U-shaped plastic strip.

35. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said first tensioning structure is coupled to said top and bottom sheets by means of high-frequency welding; said second tensioning structure is coupled to said top sheet and said side wall by means of high-frequency welding; and said third tensioning structure is coupled to said bottom sheet and said side wall by means of high-frequency welding.

36. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein the location where said top sheet is located in the inside part of an upper edge of said second tensioning structure is lower than the location where said top sheet is located in the outside part of the upper edge of said second tensioning structure.

37. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein the location where said bottom sheet is located in the inside part of a lower edge of said third tensioning structure is lower than the location where said bottom sheet is located in the outside part of the lower edge of said third tensioning structure.

38. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said inflatable bed further comprises a built-in air pump, which is disposed on said side wall and is located between a lower edge of said second tensioning structure and an upper edge of said third tensioning structure for inflating said air chamber.

39. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said inflatable bed further comprises an air valve, which is disposed on said side wall for the inflation and deflation of said inflatable bed.

AMENDED CLAIMS – 2ND AUXILIARY REQUEST (WITH ANNOTATIONS)

What is claimed is:

1. An inflatable bed (10), comprising:

a top sheet (11) and a bottom sheet (12) disposed vertically at an interval;

at least one side wall (13),

an upper edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet, a lower edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said bottom sheet, an air chamber formed between said top sheet, said bottom sheet and said side wall;

at least one first tensioning structure disposed in said air chamber, an upper end and a lower end of said first tensioning structure being respectively coupled to said top sheet and said bottom sheet; and

at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber, said support structure being disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls,

wherein for each one of said at least one side wall:

at least two outside edges (152, 162) of said support structure being ~~respectively~~ coupled to the side wall ~~adjacent~~,

at least one inside edge (153, 163) of said support structure being coupled to the top sheet or bottom sheet adjacent,

wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure,

and for each one of said at least one side wall:

at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are ~~respectively~~ coupled to the side wall ~~adjacent~~,

at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the top sheet adjacent; ~~and~~

at least two outside edges of said third tensioning structure are ~~respectively~~ coupled to the side wall ~~adjacent~~,

at least one inside edge of said third tensioning structure is coupled to the bottom sheet adjacent; and

wherein the second tensioning structure and the third tensioning structure divide the respective side wall into five sections.

2. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are respectively provided with a plurality of air holes, through which an airflow passage is formed in said air chamber.

3. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are disposed at an interval in a perpendicular direction.

4. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least two first I-beams, an outside edge and an inside edge of each of said first I-beams are respectively coupled to said side wall and said top sheet adjacent, the at least two first I-beams are disposed at an interval.

5. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least two second I-beams, an outside edge and an inside edge of each of said second I-beams are respectively coupled to the side wall and said bottom sheet adjacent, the at least two second I-beams are disposed at an interval.

6. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first Y-beam, wherein two outside edges of said first Y-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said top sheet.

7. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second Y-beam, wherein two outside edges of said second Y-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.

8. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first tubular beam, which has at least two outside edges respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge is coupled to said top sheet.

9. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second tubular beam, which has at least two outside edges respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.

10. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first V-beam, wherein two outside edges of said first V-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said top sheet.

11. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second V-beam, wherein two outside edges of said second V-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.

12. The inflatable bed according to claim 4, wherein said at least two first I-beams are spaced apart from each other at a lower surface of said top sheet.

13. The inflatable bed according to claim 5, wherein said at least two second I-beams are spaced apart from each other at an upper surface of said bottom sheet.

14. The inflatable bed according to claim 4, wherein said at least two first I-beams are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

15. The inflatable bed according to claim 5, wherein said at least two second I-beams are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

16. The inflatable bed according to claim 6, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one first Y-beam are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

17. The inflatable bed according to claim 7, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one second Y-beam are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

18. The inflatable bed according to claim 8, wherein said at least two outside edges of said at least one first tubular beam, which are coupled to the side wall adjacent, are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

19. The inflatable bed according to claim 9, wherein said at least two outside edges of said at least one second tubular beam, which are coupled to the side wall adjacent, are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

20. The inflatable bed according to claim 10, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one first V-beam are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

21. The inflatable bed according to claim 11, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one second V-beam are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

22. The inflatable bed according to claim 4, wherein said at least two first V-beams as a whole are of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

23. The inflatable bed according to claim 5, wherein said at least two second I-beam as a whole are of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

24. The inflatable bed according to claim 6, wherein said at least one first Y-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

25. The inflatable bed according to claim 7, wherein said at least one second Y-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

26. The inflatable bed according to claim 8, wherein said at least one first tubular beam as a whole is of a segmental annular structure.

27. The inflatable bed according to claim 9, wherein said at least one second tubular beam as a whole is of a segmental annular structure.

28. The inflatable bed according to claim 10, wherein said at least one first V-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

29. The inflatable bed according to claim 11, wherein said at least one second V-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

30. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said first tensioning structure is one or more beams selected from I-beams, coil beams, Y-beams or X-beams.

31. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said first tensioning structure, said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are all made of thermoplastic plastic sheet.

32. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein one or more of said first tensioning structure, said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure at least partially comprise mesh, laminated plastic sheet or a threads.

33. The inflatable bed according to claim 32, wherein two side surfaces of said mesh or said threads are at least partially coupled integrally with two opposite plastic strips, said mesh and said threads are sandwiched between the two opposite plastic strips.

34. The inflatable bed according to claim 32, wherein two side surfaces of said mesh or said threads are at least partially coupled integrally with an U-shaped plastic strip, said mesh and said threads are sandwiched between the U-shaped plastic strip.

35. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said first tensioning structure is coupled to said top and bottom sheets by means of high-frequency welding; said second tensioning structure is coupled to said top sheet and said side wall by means of high-frequency welding; and said third tensioning structure is coupled to said bottom sheet and said side wall by means of high-frequency welding.

36. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein the location where said top sheet is located in the inside part of an upper edge of said second tensioning structure is lower than the location where said top sheet is located in the outside part of the upper edge of said second tensioning structure.

37. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein the location where said bottom sheet is located in the inside part of a lower edge of said third tensioning structure is lower than the location where said bottom sheet is located in the outside part of the lower edge of said third tensioning structure.

38. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said inflatable bed further comprises a built-in air pump, which is disposed on said side wall and is located between a lower edge of said second tensioning structure and an upper edge of said third tensioning structure for inflating said air chamber.

39. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said inflatable bed further comprises an air valve, which is disposed on said side wall for the inflation and deflation of said inflatable bed.

AMENDED CLAIMS – 5th AUXILIARY REQUEST (WITH ANNOTATIONS)

What is claimed is:

1. An inflatable bed (10), comprising:

a top sheet (11) and a bottom sheet (12) disposed vertically at an interval;

at least one side wall (13),

an upper edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet, a lower edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said bottom sheet, an air chamber formed between said top sheet, said bottom sheet and said side wall;

at least one first tensioning structure disposed in said air chamber, an upper end and a lower end of said first tensioning structure being respectively coupled to said top sheet and said bottom sheet; and

at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber, said support structure being disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls, at least two outside edges (152, 162) of said support structure being respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge (153, 163) of said support structure being coupled to the top sheet or bottom sheet adjacent, wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure, at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the top sheet adjacent; ~~and~~

at least two outside edges of said third tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said third tensioning structure is coupled to the bottom sheet adjacent;

wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least two first I-beams, an outside edge and an inside edge of each of said first I-beams are respectively coupled to said side wall and said top sheet adjacent, the at least two first I-beams are disposed at an interval;

wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least two second I-beams, an outside edge and an inside edge of each of said second I-beams are respectively coupled to the side wall and said bottom sheet adjacent, the at least two second I-beams are disposed at an interval; and

wherein the second tensioning structure and the third tensioning structure divide the respective side wall into five sections.

2. An inflatable bed (10), comprising:

a top sheet (11) and a bottom sheet (12) disposed vertically at an interval;

at least one side wall (13),

an upper edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet, a lower edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said bottom sheet, an air chamber formed between said top sheet, said bottom sheet and said side wall;

at least one first tensioning structure disposed in said air chamber, an upper end and a lower end of said first tensioning structure being respectively coupled to said top sheet and said bottom sheet; and

at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber, said support structure being disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls, at least two outside edges (152, 162) of said support structure being respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge (153, 163) of said support structure being coupled to the top sheet or bottom sheet adjacent, wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure, at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the top sheet adjacent;

at least two outside edges of said third tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said third tensioning structure is coupled to the bottom sheet adjacent;

wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first Y-beam, wherein two outside edges of said first Y-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said top sheet;

wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second Y-beam, wherein two outside edges of said second Y-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet; and

wherein the second tensioning structure and the third tensioning structure divide the respective side wall into five sections.

3. An inflatable bed (10), comprising:

a top sheet (11) and a bottom sheet (12) disposed vertically at an interval;

at least one side wall (13),

an upper edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet, a lower edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said bottom sheet, an air chamber formed between said top sheet, said bottom sheet and said side wall;

at least one first tensioning structure disposed in said air chamber, an upper end and a lower end of said first tensioning structure being respectively coupled to said top sheet and said bottom sheet; and

at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber, said support structure being disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls, at least two outside edges (152, 162) of said support structure being respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge (153, 163) of said support structure being coupled to the top sheet or bottom sheet adjacent, wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure, at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the top sheet adjacent;

wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first tubular beam, which has at least two outside edges respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge is coupled to said top sheet;

wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second tubular beam, which has at least two outside edges respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet; and

wherein the second tensioning structure and the third tensioning structure divide the respective side wall into five sections.

4. An inflatable bed (10), comprising:

a top sheet (11) and a bottom sheet (12) disposed vertically at an interval;

at least one side wall (13),

an upper edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet, a lower edge of said side wall being coupled to an outer edge of said bottom sheet, an air chamber formed between said top sheet, said bottom sheet and said side wall;

at least one first tensioning structure disposed in said air chamber, an upper end and a lower end of said first tensioning structure being respectively coupled to said top sheet and said bottom sheet; and

at least one support structure disposed in said air chamber, said support structure being disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of said side walls, at least two outside edges (152, 162) of said support structure being respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge (153, 163) of said support structure being coupled to the top sheet or bottom sheet adjacent, wherein said support structure comprises a second tensioning structure and a third tensioning structure, at least two outside edges of said second tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said second tensioning structure is coupled to the top sheet adjacent;

at least two outside edges of said third tensioning structure are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge of said third tensioning structure is coupled to the bottom sheet adjacent;

wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first V-beam, wherein two outside edges of said first V-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said top sheet;

wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second V-beam, wherein two outside edges of said second V-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet; and

wherein the second tensioning structure and the third tensioning structure divide the respective side wall into five sections.

~~2~~5. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are respectively provided with a plurality of air holes, through which an airflow passage is formed in said air chamber.

~~3~~6. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are disposed at an interval in a perpendicular direction.

~~4. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least two first I beams, an outside edge and an inside edge of each of said first I beams are respectively coupled to said side wall and said top sheet adjacent, the at least two first I beams are disposed at an interval.~~

~~5. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least two second I beams, an outside edge and an inside edge of each of said second I beams are respectively coupled to the side wall and said bottom sheet adjacent, the at least two second I beams are disposed at an interval.~~

~~6. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first Y beam, wherein two outside edges of said first Y beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said top sheet.~~

~~7. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second Y beam, wherein two outside edges of said second Y beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.~~

~~8. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first tubular beam, which has at least two outside edges respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge is coupled to said top sheet.~~

~~9. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second tubular beam, which has at least two outside edges respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, at least one inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.~~

~~10. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said second tensioning structure comprises at least one first V-beam, wherein two outside edges of said first V-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said top sheet.~~

~~11. The inflatable bed according to claim 1, wherein said third tensioning structure comprises at least one second V-beam, wherein two outside edges of said second V-beam are respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent, an inside edge is coupled to said bottom sheet.~~

~~12~~7. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~4~~1, wherein said at least two first I-beams are spaced apart from each other at a lower surface of said top sheet.

~~13~~8. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~5~~1, wherein said at least two second I-beams are spaced apart from each other at an upper surface of said bottom sheet.

~~14~~9. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~4~~1, wherein said at least two first I-beams are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

~~15~~10. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~5~~1, wherein said at least two second I-beams are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

~~16~~11. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~6~~2, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one first Y-beam are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

~~17~~12. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~7~~2, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one second Y-beam are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

~~18~~13. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~8~~3, wherein said at least two outside edges of said at least one first tubular beam, which are coupled to the side wall adjacent, are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

~~19~~14. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~9~~3, wherein said at least two outside edges of said at least one second tubular beam, which are coupled to the side wall adjacent, are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

~~20~~15. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~10~~4, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one first V-beam are disposed at an interval on an inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

~~21~~16. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~11~~4, wherein the two outside edges of said at least one second V-beam are disposed at an interval on the inner surface of said side wall in a perpendicular direction.

~~22~~17. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~4~~1, wherein said at least two first V-beams as a whole are of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

~~23~~18. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~5~~1, wherein said at least two second I-beam as a whole are of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

~~24~~19. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~6~~2, wherein said at least one first Y-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

~~25~~20. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~7~~2, wherein said at least one second Y-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

~~26~~21. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~8~~3, wherein said at least one first tubular beam as a whole is of a segmental annular structure.

~~27~~22. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~9~~3, wherein said at least one second tubular beam as a whole is of a segmental annular structure.

~~28~~23. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~10~~4, wherein said at least one first V-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

~~29~~24. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~11~~4, wherein said at least one second V-beam as a whole is of a continuous annular structure or a segmental annular structure.

~~30~~25. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said first tensioning structure is one or more beams selected from I-beams, coil beams, Y-beams or X-beams.

~~31~~26. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said first tensioning structure, said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure are all made of thermoplastic plastic sheet.

~~32~~27. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein one or more of said first tensioning structure, said second tensioning structure and said third tensioning structure at least partially comprise mesh, laminated plastic sheet or a threads.

~~33~~28. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~32~~27, wherein two side surfaces of said mesh or said threads are at least partially coupled integrally with two opposite plastic strips, said mesh and said threads are sandwiched between the two opposite plastic strips.

~~34~~29. The inflatable bed according to claim ~~32~~27, wherein two side surfaces of said mesh or said threads are at least partially coupled integrally with an U-shaped plastic strip, said mesh and said threads are sandwiched between the U-shaped plastic strip.

~~35~~30. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said first tensioning structure is coupled to said top and bottom sheets by means of high-frequency welding; said second tensioning structure is coupled to said top sheet and said side wall by

means of high-frequency welding; and said third tensioning structure is coupled to said bottom sheet and said side wall by means of high-frequency welding.

~~36~~31. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the location where said top sheet is located in the inside part of an upper edge of said second tensioning structure is lower than the location where said top sheet is located in the outside part of the upper edge of said second tensioning structure.

~~37~~32. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the location where said bottom sheet is located in the inside part of a lower edge of said third tensioning structure is lower than the location where said bottom sheet is located in the outside part of the lower edge of said third tensioning structure.

~~38~~33. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said inflatable bed further comprises a built-in air pump, which is disposed on said side wall and is located between a lower edge of said second tensioning structure and an upper edge of said third tensioning structure for inflating said air chamber.

~~39~~34. The inflatable bed according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said inflatable bed further comprises an air valve, which is disposed on said side wall for the inflation and deflation of said inflatable bed.

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Acknowledgement of receipt

We hereby acknowledge receipt of the following subsequently filed document(s):

Submission number	10332198
Application number	EP16191360.3
Date of receipt	27 October 2021
Filing Office	European Patent Office, The Hague
Procedural phase	All procedures
Your reference	23B6256,12EP42

Documents submitted	
package-data.xml	ep-cms-sfd-request.xml
ep-cms-sfd-request.pdf (2 p.)	APPEAL-LETT.pdf\23.B6256.12.EP.42@2021-10-27_Uff_Com_A_(Reply_to_Appeal) .pdf (23 p.)
CLMS-1.pdf\23.B6256,12.EP.42-1stAuxReq(CleanCopy).pdf (4 p.)	CLMS-HWA-1.pdf\23.B6256,12.EP.42-1stAuxReq(WithAnnotations).pdf (4 p.)
CLMS-2.pdf\23.B6256,12.EP.42-2ndAuxReq(CleanCopy).pdf (4 p.)	CLMS-HWA-2.pdf\23.B6256,12.EP.42-2ndAuxReq(WithAnnotations).pdf (5 p.)
CLMS-3.pdf\23.B6256,12.EP.42-3rdAuxReq(CleanCopy).pdf (6 p.)	CLMS-HWA-3.pdf\23.B6256,12.EP.42-3rdAuxReq(WithAnnotations).pdf (7 p.)
CLMS-4.pdf\23.B6256,12.EP.42-4thAuxReq(CleanCopy).pdf (4 p.)	CLMS-HWA-4.pdf\23.B6256,12.EP.42-4thAuxReq(WithAnnotations).pdf (4 p.)
CLMS-5.pdf\23.B6256,12.EP.42-5thAuxReq(CleanCopy).pdf (6 p.)	CLMS-HWA-5.pdf\23.B6256,12.EP.42-5thAuxReq(WithAnnotations).pdf (7 p.)

Submitted by	CN=secure.epoline.org
Method of submission	Online
Date and time receipt generated	27 October 2021, 12:17 (CEST)

Message Digest	51:9F:4D:25:DE:7B:73:AE:42:4E:32:6B:57:B2:EC:AD:1D:0D:E5:36

/European Patent Office/

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Beschwerdekammern
Boards of Appeal
Chambres de recours

Boards of Appeal of the
European Patent Office
Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8
85540 Haar
GERMANY
Tel. +49 (0)89 2399-0
Fax +49 (0)89 2399-4465

Parsi Mendiola, Joshua
Reddie & Grose LLP
The White Chapel Building
10 Whitechapel High Street
London E1 8QS
ROYAUME UNI

Datum/Date
02.11.21

Zeichen/Reference/Référence	
MP19609.EP01/JV	/ OPPO01
Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°//Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°	16191360.3 / 3192401
Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur//Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire	
Bestway Inflatables & Material Corp.	

Appeal number: **T0311/21-3.2.01**

Please find enclosed a copy

☑ of a letter of the patent proprietor dated 27.10.21

☐ of a letter of the opponent dated

☐

for your information.

The Registrar A. Vottner

Tel.: 089 / 2399 - 3211

Annex(es):

Registered letter

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1195
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Beschwerdekammern
Boards of Appeal
Chambres de recours

Boards of Appeal of the
European Patent Office
Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8
85540 Haar
GERMANY
Tel. +49 (0)89 2399-0
Fax +49 (0)89 2399-4465

Appeal number: T0311/21-3.2.01

Order

1. In accordance with the business distribution scheme of the Technical Boards of Appeal, the following shall hear the above appeal:

Chairman: G. Pricolo

technically qualified member: J. J. de Acha González

as legally qualified member: S. Fernández de Córdoba

In the case of an extended Board:

technically qualified member: _____

as legally qualified member: _____

2. The rapporteur shall be: J. J. de Acha González

3. The additional rapporteur shall be: _____

4. Back to the Registry for further action.

Munich, 06.12.21

The Chairman: G. Pricolo

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Beschwerdekammern
Boards of Appeal
Chambres de recours

Boards of Appeal of the
European Patent Office
Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8
85540 Haar
GERMANY
Tel. +49 (0)89 2399-0
Fax +49 (0)89 2399-4465

Appeal number: **T0311/21-3.2.01**

Order

Oral proceedings are to be held

on 12.07.22

at 09:00 hours

Munich 15.12.21

The Chairman: G. Pricolo

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1197
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Letter accompanying subsequently filed items

Representative:

Simona INCHINGALO
BUGNION S.P.A.
Viale Lancetti, 17
20158 Milano
Italy

Phone: 003902693031
Fax: 00390269303501
E-mail: simona.inchingalo@bugnion.eu

80298 Munich
Germany
Tel. +49(0)89 2399-0 | Fax -4465

P.O. Box 5818
NL-2280 HV Rijswijk
Netherlands
Tel. +31(0)70 340-2040 | Fax -3016

10958 Berlin
Germany
Tel. +49(0)30 25901-0 | Fax -840

The document(s) listed below is (are) subsequently filed documents pertaining to the following application:

Application number and/or EP publication number	EP16191360.3
Reference	27.D8235A,12.EP.42
Procedural phase	All procedures
Name of represented party	Bestway Inflatables & Material Corp.

	Description of document	Original file name	Assigned file name
1	Acknowledgement	27.D8235A,12.EP.42-Acknowledgement-Summons-OP.pdf	ADVOFDELIVRY-1.pdf

Signature 1

Place:

Date: **20 December 2021**

Signed by: **/Simona INCHINGALO/**

Capacity: **Representative 1**

Smart card certificate 1

Common name: **Elio Tansini 2393**

EPO ID: **2393**

Issued by: **European Patent Office CA G2**

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1198
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Beschwerdekammern
Boards of Appeal
Chambres de recours

Boards of Appeal of the
European Patent Office
Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8
85540 Haar
GERMANY
Tel. +49 (0)89 2399-0
Fax +49 (0)89 2399-4465

Inchingalo, Simona
Bugnion S.p.A.
Viale Lancetti, 17
20158 Milano
ITALIE

Date
20.12.21

Zeichen/Reference/Référence	
27D8343A,12EP42	/ APPR
Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°//Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°	16191360.3 / 3192401
Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur//Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire	
Bestway Inflatables & Material Corp.	

Appeal number: **T0311/21-3.2.01**

Summons to oral proceedings pursuant to Rule 115(1) EPC

You are hereby summoned to the oral proceedings concerning the above appeal. The proceedings are scheduled to take place

on 12.07.22 at 09:00 hrs

Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8, 85540 Haar (DE)

The proceedings will be public.

Upon arrival, please consult the notice board at reception for the number of the room in which the oral proceedings will be held.

A main waiting area is located at the entrance, directly after the security check. Further waiting rooms are located near to the oral proceedings rooms.

You are requested to make your way to the appointed room at least **10 minutes** before the hearing.

Registered letter

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1199
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Beschwerdekammern
Boards of Appeal
Chambres de recours

Boards of Appeal of the
European Patent Office
Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8
85540 Haar
GERMANY
Tel. +49 (0)89 2399-0
Fax +49 (0)89 2399-4465

Appeal number: **T0311/21-3.2.01**

You are furthermore reminded of the following:

- if a party who has been duly summoned to oral proceedings does not appear, the proceedings may continue without that party (Rule 115(2) EPC).
- oral proceedings will only be postponed at the request of a party for serious reasons (see Article 15(2) of the Rules of Procedure of the Boards of Appeal of the European Patent Office).

- as regards filing authorisations for representatives or company employees, see Decision of the President of the EPO dated 12.7.2007 on the filing of authorisations in Special edition No. 3 OJ EPO 2007, 128.
- concerning the language of the proceedings, attention is drawn to Rule 4 EPC. Notice given pursuant to Rule 4(1) EPC before the first instance is not valid in proceedings before the Boards of Appeal.
- attention is drawn to Rule 103(3)(a), (4)(a) and (c) EPC, according to which it is possible, under certain circumstances, to obtain a partial reimbursement of the appeal fee if the appeal or the request for oral proceedings is withdrawn.

Composition of the Board

Chairman: G. Pricolo
Member: J. J. de Acha González
Member: S. Fernández de Córdoba

For any urgent communication in connection with the oral proceedings please use <u>only</u> EPO Online Services (preferably) or fax No. + 49 (0) 89 2399 3014.

If you are planning not to attend the oral proceedings or if you are aware of any matter that could have a bearing on the appointment of interpreters, you are requested to inform the Board of this, preferably in writing, at the earliest possible opportunity.

The Registrar A. Voyé
Tel.: 089 / 2399 - 3211

Annex(es):
- [x] Confirmation of receipt Form 3936
- [ ] Communication pursuant to Article 15(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Boards of Appeal
- [ ] Instructions for mixed-mode oral proceedings
- [ ] Technical guidelines Zoom/ EPO data protection guidance Zoom

Registered letter

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1200
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Beschwerdekammern
Boards of Appeal
Chambres de recours

Boards of Appeal of the
European Patent Office
Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8
85540 Haar
GERMANY
Tel. +49 (0)89 2399-0
Fax +49 (0)89 2399-4465

Inchingalo, Simona
Bugnion S.p.A.
Viale Lancetti, 17
20158 Milano
ITALIE

Boards of Appeal

The Registry

Name: A. Voyé

Tel.: 089 / 2399 - 3211

Date: 20.12.21

Zeichen/Reference/Référence		
27D8343A,12EP42		/ APPR
Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°//Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°	16191360.3	/ 3192401
Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur//Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire		
Bestway Inflatables & Material Corp.		

Do not return if registered letter received via the EPO Mailbox.

Appeal number: T0311/21-3.2.01

EPA/EPO/OEB Formblatt/Form/Formulaire: 3011.1

Empfangsbescheinigung über den Zugang des vorstehend bezeichneten Schriftstücks
Acknowledgement of receipt of the document specified above
Récépissé du document spécifié ci-dessus

Unter Bezugnahme auf die Mitteilung im ABl. EPA 7/2010, 377 wird gebeten, die Empfangsbescheinigung mit Empfangsdatum und Unterschrift zu versehen und **umgehend** an das EPA zurückzusenden:

With reference to the Notice in OJ EPO 7/2010, 377, you are requested to date and sign the acknowledgement of receipt and return it to the EPO **immediately:**

Conformément au communiqué paru au JO OEB 7/2010, 377, vous êtes prié d'indiquer sur le récépissé la date de réception du document, de signer le récépissé et de le renvoyer **sans délai** à l' OEB:

- **über die Online-Dienste des EPA** (als Anlage zu EPA Form 1038) / **through EPO Online Services** (as annex to EPO Form 1038) / **par les services en ligne de l'OEB** (en tant que pièce jointe au formulaire OEB 1038),
- **per Fax / by fax / par téléfax (+49 (0) 89 2399-4465 or +31 (0)70 340-3016)**
- oder per Post / or by post / ou par courrier

Empfangen am / Received on / Reçu le:

Unterschrift / Signature:

Empfangsberechtigter/authorised recipient/
le destinataire ou la personne dûment mandatée

Rücksende-Adresse / Return address / Adresse de retour
(Umschlag / envelope / enveloppe ISO C4 / DL / C6/C5 / C6)

Beschwerdekammern des
Europäischen Patentamts
Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8
85540 HAAR
DEUTSCHLAND

Rücksende-Adresse / Return address / Adresse de retour

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Beschwerdekammern
Boards of Appeal
Chambres de recours

Boards of Appeal of the
European Patent Office
Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8
85540 Haar
GERMANY
Tel. +49 (0)89 2399-0
Fax +49 (0)89 2399-4465

Parsi Mendiola, Joshua
Reddie & Grose LLP
The White Chapel Building
10 Whitechapel High Street
London E1 8QS
ROYAUME UNI

Date
20.12.21

Zeichen/Reference/Référence	
MP19609.EP01/JV	/ OPPO01
Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°//Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°	16191360.3 / 3192401
Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur//Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire	
Bestway Inflatables & Material Corp.	

Appeal number: **T0311/21-3.2.01**

Summons to oral proceedings pursuant to Rule 115(1) EPC

You are hereby summoned to the oral proceedings concerning the above appeal. The proceedings are scheduled to take place

on 12.07.22 at 09:00 hrs

Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8, 85540 Haar (DE)

The proceedings will be public.

Upon arrival, please consult the notice board at reception for the number of the room in which the oral proceedings will be held.

A main waiting area is located at the entrance, directly after the security check. Further waiting rooms are located near to the oral proceedings rooms.

You are requested to make your way to the appointed room at least **10 minutes** before the hearing.

.**Registered letter**

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1202
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Beschwerdekammern
Boards of Appeal
Chambres de recours

Boards of Appeal of the
European Patent Office
Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8
85540 Haar
GERMANY
Tel. +49 (0)89 2399-0
Fax +49 (0)89 2399-4465

Appeal number: **T0311/21-3.2.01**

You are furthermore reminded of the following:

- if a party who has been duly summoned to oral proceedings does not appear, the proceedings may continue without that party (Rule 115(2) EPC).
- oral proceedings will only be postponed at the request of a party for serious reasons (see Article 15(2) of the Rules of Procedure of the Boards of Appeal of the European Patent Office).

- as regards filing authorisations for representatives or company employees, see Decision of the President of the EPO dated 12.7.2007 on the filing of authorisations in Special edition No. 3 OJ EPO 2007, 128.
- concerning the language of the proceedings, attention is drawn to Rule 4 EPC. Notice given pursuant to Rule 4(1) EPC before the first instance is not valid in proceedings before the Boards of Appeal.
- attention is drawn to Rule 103(3)(a), (4)(a) and (c) EPC, according to which it is possible, under certain circumstances, to obtain a partial reimbursement of the appeal fee if the appeal or the request for oral proceedings is withdrawn.

Composition of the Board

Chairman: G. Pricolo
Member: J. J. de Acha González
Member: S. Fernández de Córdoba

For any urgent communication in connection with the oral proceedings please use <u>only</u> EPO Online Services (preferably) or fax No. + 49 (0) 89 2399 3014.

If you are planning not to attend the oral proceedings or if you are aware of any matter that could have a bearing on the appointment of interpreters, you are requested to inform the Board of this, preferably in writing, at the earliest possible opportunity.

The Registrar A. Voyé
Tel.: 089 / 2399 - 3211

Annex(es):
- [x] Confirmation of receipt Form 3936
- [ ] Communication pursuant to Article 15(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Boards of Appeal
- [ ] Instructions for mixed-mode oral proceedings
- [ ] Technical guidelines Zoom/ EPO data protection guidance Zoom

Registered letter

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1203
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Beschwerdekammern
Boards of Appeal
Chambres de recours

Boards of Appeal of the
European Patent Office
Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8
85540 Haar
GERMANY
Tel. +49 (0)89 2399-0
Fax +49 (0)89 2399-4465

Parsi Mendiola, Joshua
Reddie & Grose LLP
The White Chapel Building
10 Whitechapel High Street
London E1 8QS
ROYAUME UNI

Boards of Appeal

The Registry

Name: A. Voyé

Tel.: 089 / 2399 - 3211

Date: 20.12.21

Zeichen/Reference/Référence	
MP19609.EP01/JV	/ OPPO01
Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°//Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°	16191360.3 / 3192401
Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur//Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire	
Bestway Inflatables & Material Corp.	

Do not return if registered letter received via the EPO Mailbox.

Appeal number: T0311/21-3.2.01

EPA/EPO/OEB Formblatt/Form/Formulaire: 3011.1

Empfangsbescheinigung über den Zugang des vorstehend bezeichneten Schriftstücks
Acknowledgement of receipt of the document specified above
Récépissé du document spécifié ci-dessus

Unter Bezugnahme auf die Mitteilung im ABl. EPA 7/2010, 377 wird gebeten, die Empfangsbescheinigung mit Empfangsdatum und Unterschrift zu versehen und **umgehend** an das EPA zurückzusenden:

With reference to the Notice in OJ EPO 7/2010, 377, you are requested to date and sign the acknowledgement of receipt and return it to the EPO **immediately:**

Conformément au communiqué paru au JO OEB 7/2010, 377, vous êtes prié d'indiquer sur le récépissé la date de réception du document, de signer le récépissé et de le renvoyer **sans délai** à l' OEB:

- **über die Online-Dienste des EPA** (als Anlage zu EPA Form 1038) / **through EPO Online Services** (as annex to EPO Form 1038) / **par les services en ligne de l'OEB** (en tant que pièce jointe au formulaire OEB 1038),
- **per Fax / by fax / par téléfax (+49 (0) 89 2399-4465 or +31 (0)70 340-3016)**
- oder per Post / or by post / ou par courrier

Empfangen am / Received on / Reçu le:

Unterschrift / Signature:

Empfangsberechtigter/authorised recipient/
le destinataire ou la personne dûment mandatée

Rücksende-Adresse / Return address / Adresse de retour
(Umschlag / envelope / enveloppe ISO C4 / DL / C6/C5 / C6)

Beschwerdekammern des
Europäischen Patentamts
Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8
85540 HAAR
DEUTSCHLAND

Rücksende-Adresse / Return address / Adresse de retour

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Beschwerdekammern
Boards of Appeal
Chambres de recours

Boards of Appeal of the
European Patent Office
Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8
85540 Haar
GERMANY
Tel. +49 (0)89 2399-0
Fax +49 (0)89 2399-4465

Inchingalo, Simona
Bugnion S.p.A.
Viale Lancetti, 17
20158 Milano
ITALIE

Boards of Appeal

The Registry

Name: A. Voyé

Tel.: 089 / 2399 - 3211

Date: 20.12.21

Zeichen/Reference/Référence	
27D8343A,12EP42	/ APPR
Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°//Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°	16191360.3 / 3192401
Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur//Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire	
Bestway Inflatables & Material Corp.	

Do not return if registered letter received via the EPO Mailbox.

Appeal number: T0311/21-3.2.01

EPA/EPO/OEB Formblatt/Form/Formulaire: 3011.1

Empfangsbescheinigung über den Zugang des vorstehend bezeichneten Schriftstücks
Acknowledgement of receipt of the document specified above
Récépissé du document spécifié ci-dessus

Unter Bezugnahme auf die Mitteilung im ABl. EPA 7/2010, 377 wird gebeten, die Empfangsbescheinigung mit Empfangsdatum und Unterschrift zu versehen und **umgehend** an das EPA zurückzusenden:

With reference to the Notice in OJ EPO 7/2010, 377, you are requested to date and sign the acknowledgement of receipt and return it to the EPO **immediately:**

Conformément au communiqué paru au JO OEB 7/2010, 377, vous êtes prié d'indiquer sur le récépissé la date de réception du document, de signer le récépissé et de le renvoyer **sans délai** à l' OEB:

- **über die Online-Dienste des EPA** (als Anlage zu EPA Form 1038) / **through EPO Online Services** (as annex to EPO Form 1038) / **par les services en ligne de l'OEB** (en tant que pièce jointe au formulaire OEB 1038),
- **per Fax / by fax / par téléfax (+49 (0) 89 2399-4465 or +31 (0)70 340-3016)**
- oder per Post / or by post / ou par courrier

Empfangen am / Received on / Reçu le:

20/12/'21

Unterschrift / Signature:

Empfangsberechtigter/authorised recipient/
le destinataire ou la personne dûment mandatée

Rücksende-Adresse / Return address / Adresse de retour
(Umschlag / envelope / enveloppe ISO C4 / DL / C6/C5 / C6)

Beschwerdekammern des
Europäischen Patentamts
Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8
85540 HAAR
DEUTSCHLAND

Rücksende-Adresse / Return address / Adresse de retour

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Acknowledgement of receipt

We hereby acknowledge receipt of the following subsequently filed document(s):

Submission number	10503764	
Application number	EP16191360.3	
Date of receipt	20 December 2021	
Filing Office	European Patent Office, The Hague	
Procedural phase	All procedures	
Your reference	27.D8235A,12.EP.42	
Documents submitted	package-data.xml ep-cms-sfd-request.pdf (1 p.)	ep-cms-sfd-request.xml ADVOFDELIVRY-1.pdf\27.D8235A,12.EP.42-Acknowledgement-Summons-OP.pdf (1 p.)
Submitted by	CN=secure.epoline.org	
Method of submission	Online	
Date and time receipt generated	20 December 2021, 12:30 (CET)	
Message Digest	CB:1C:37:6C:17:8F:85:E7:12:36:2E:29:16:EE:9C:27:71:67:04:B9	

/European Patent Office/

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Letter accompanying subsequently filed items

Representative:

Mr. Joshua PARSI MENDIOLA
Reddie & Grose LLP
10 Whitechapel High Street
London Greater London E1 8QS
United Kingdom

Phone: 442072420901
Fax: 442072423290
E-mail: epo@reddie.co.uk

80298 Munich
Germany
Tel. +49(0)89 2399-0 | Fax -4465

P.O. Box 5818
2280 HV Rijswijk
Netherlands
Tel. +31(0)70 340-2040 | Fax -3016

10958 Berlin
Germany
Tel. +49(0)30 25901-0 | Fax -840

The document(s) listed below is (are) subsequently filed documents pertaining to the following application:

Application number	16191360.3
Applicant's or representative's reference	M/P19609.EP01

	Description of document	Original file name	Assigned file name
1	Acknowledgement	MP19609.EP01 - Summons to OPs - 20.12.2021.pdf	ADVOFDELIVRY-1.pdf

	Payment	
1	Method of payment	Not specified

Signatures

Place:	**LONDON, UK**
Date:	**27 December 2021**
Signed by:	**Joshua Parsi Mendiola 65949**
Representative name:	**Joshua PARSI MENDIOLA**
Capacity:	**(Representative)**

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1207
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Beschwerdekammern
Boards of Appeal
Chambres de recours

Boards of Appeal of the
European Patent Office
Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8
85540 Haar
GERMANY
Tel. +49 (0)89 2399-0
Fax +49 (0)89 2399-4465

Parsi Mendiola, Joshua
Reddie & Grose LLP
The White Chapel Building
10 Whitechapel High Street
London E1 8QS
ROYAUME UNI

Date
20.12.21

Zeichen/Reference/Référence	
MP19609.EP01/JV	/ OPPO01
Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°//Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°	16191360.3 / 3192401
Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur//Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire	
Bestway Inflatables & Material Corp.	

Appeal number: **T0311/21-3.2.01**

Summons to oral proceedings pursuant to Rule 115(1) EPC

You are hereby summoned to the oral proceedings concerning the above appeal. The proceedings are scheduled to take place

on 12.07.22 at 09:00 hrs

Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8, 85540 Haar (DE)

The proceedings will be public.

Upon arrival, please consult the notice board at reception for the number of the room in which the oral proceedings will be held.

A main waiting area is located at the entrance, directly after the security check. Further waiting rooms are located near to the oral proceedings rooms.

You are requested to make your way to the appointed room at least **10 minutes** before the hearing.

.**Registered letter**

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1208
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Beschwerdekammern
Boards of Appeal
Chambres de recours

Boards of Appeal of the
European Patent Office
Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8
85540 Haar
GERMANY
Tel. +49 (0)89 2399-0
Fax +49 (0)89 2399-4465

Appeal number: **T0311/21-3.2.01**

You are furthermore reminded of the following:

- if a party who has been duly summoned to oral proceedings does not appear, the proceedings may continue without that party (Rule 115(2) EPC).
- oral proceedings will only be postponed at the request of a party for serious reasons (see Article 15(2) of the Rules of Procedure of the Boards of Appeal of the European Patent Office).

- as regards filing authorisations for representatives or company employees, see Decision of the President of the EPO dated 12.7.2007 on the filing of authorisations in Special edition No. 3 OJ EPO 2007, 128.
- concerning the language of the proceedings, attention is drawn to Rule 4 EPC. Notice given pursuant to Rule 4(1) EPC before the first instance is not valid in proceedings before the Boards of Appeal.
- attention is drawn to Rule 103(3)(a), (4)(a) and (c) EPC, according to which it is possible, under certain circumstances, to obtain a partial reimbursement of the appeal fee if the appeal or the request for oral proceedings is withdrawn.

Composition of the Board

Chairman: G. Pricolo
Member: J. J. de Acha González
Member: S. Fernández de Córdoba

For any urgent communication in connection with the oral proceedings please use only EPO Online Services (preferably) or fax No. + 49 (0) 89 2399 3014.

If you are planning not to attend the oral proceedings or if you are aware of any matter that could have a bearing on the appointment of interpreters, you are requested to inform the Board of this, preferably in writing, at the earliest possible opportunity.

The Registrar A. Voyé
Tel.: 089 / 2399 - 3211

Annex(es):
- [x] Confirmation of receipt Form 3936
- [ ] Communication pursuant to Article 15(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Boards of Appeal
- [ ] Instructions for mixed-mode oral proceedings
- [ ] Technical guidelines Zoom/ EPO data protection guidance Zoom

Registered letter

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1209
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Beschwerdekammern
Boards of Appeal
Chambres de recours

Boards of Appeal of the
European Patent Office
Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8
85540 Haar
GERMANY
Tel. +49 (0)89 2399-0
Fax +49 (0)89 2399-4465

Parsi Mendiola, Joshua
Reddie & Grose LLP
The White Chapel Building
10 Whitechapel High Street
London E1 8QS
ROYAUME UNI

Boards of Appeal

The Registry

Name: A. Voyé

Tel.: 089 / 2399 - 3211

Date: 20.12.21

Zeichen/Reference/Référence	
MP19609.EP01/JV	/ OPPO01
Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°//Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°	16191360.3 / 3192401
Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur//Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire	
Bestway Inflatables & Material Corp.	

Do not return if registered letter received via the EPO Mailbox.

Appeal number: T0311/21-3.2.01

EPA/EPO/OEB Formblatt/Form/Formulaire: 3011.1

Empfangsbescheinigung über den Zugang des vorstehend bezeichneten Schriftstücks
Acknowledgement of receipt of the document specified above
Récépissé du document spécifié ci-dessus

Unter Bezugnahme auf die Mitteilung im ABl. EPA 7/2010, 377 wird gebeten, die Empfangsbescheinigung mit Empfangsdatum und Unterschrift zu versehen und **umgehend** an das EPA zurückzusenden:

With reference to the Notice in OJ EPO 7/2010, 377, you are requested to date and sign the acknowledgement of receipt and return it to the EPO **immediately:**

Conformément au communiqué paru au JO OEB 7/2010, 377, vous êtes prié d'indiquer sur le récépissé la date de réception du document, de signer le récépissé et de le renvoyer **sans délai** à l' OEB:

- **über die Online-Dienste des EPA** (als Anlage zu EPA Form 1038) / **through EPO Online Services** (as annex to EPO Form 1038) / **par les services en ligne de l'OEB** (en tant que pièce jointe au formulaire OEB 1038),
- **per Fax / by fax / par téléfax (+49 (0) 89 2399-4465 or +31 (0)70 340-3016)**
- oder per Post / or by post / ou par courrier

Empfangen am / Received on / Reçu le:

Unterschrift / Signature:

Empfangsberechtigter/authorised recipient/
le destinataire ou la personne dûment mandatée

Rücksende-Adresse / Return address / Adresse de retour
(Umschlag / envelope / enveloppe ISO C4 / DL / C6/C5 / C6)

Beschwerdekammern des
Europäischen Patentamts
Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8
85540 HAAR
DEUTSCHLAND

Rücksende-Adresse / Return address / Adresse de retour

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Acknowledgement of receipt

We hereby acknowledge receipt of the following subsequently filed document(s):

Submission number	10525765
Application number	EP16191360.3
Date of receipt	27 December 2021
Receiving Office	European Patent Office, The Hague
Your reference	M/P19609.EP01
Applicant	All applicants as on file
Documents submitted	package-data.xml epf1038.pdf (1 p.) ep-sfd-request.xml ADVOFDELIVRY-1.pdf\MP19609.EP01 - Summons to OPs - 20.12.2021.pdf (3 p.)
Submitted by	CN=Joshua Parsi Mendiola 65949
Method of submission	Online
Date and time receipt generated	27 December 2021, 13:02 (CET)
Message Digest	EB:B9:17:07:A2:85:48:A4:B6:35:4F:D2:71:3D:4E:45:48:1A:9A:FD

/European Patent Office/

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Beschwerdekammern

Boards of Appeal

Chambres de recours

Boards of Appeal of the
European Patent Office
Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8
85540 Haar
GERMANY
Tel. +49 (0)89 2399-0
Fax +49 (0)89 2399-4465

Inchingalo, Simona
Bugnion S.p.A.
Viale Lancetti, 17
20158 Milano
ITALIE

Datum / Date
14.03.2022

Zeichen/Reference/Référence 27D8343A,12EP42	/ APPR
Anmeldung Nr. / Application No. / Demande n°. // Patent Nr. / Patent No. / Brevet n°.	16191360.3 // 3192401
Anmelder / Applicant / Demandeur // Patentinhaber / Proprietor / Titulaire Bestway Inflatables & Material Corp.	

Appeal number: **T0311/21-3.2.01**

Communication of the Board of Appeal pursuant to Article 15(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Boards of Appeal

The Rapporteur J. J. de Acha González
The Registrar A. Voyé
Tel.: 089 / 2399 - 3211

Beschwerdekammern des Europäischen Patentamts
Chambres de recours de l'Office européen des brevets
Boards of Appeal of the European Patent Office

Registered letter

This document: 6 page(s) including this page

Annex(es):

Communication text

I. This communication sets out a preliminary non-binding assessment of the case by the Board.

Since the assessment is **negative** and **the appeal is likely to be dismissed** for the reasons given below, the appellant's attention is drawn to the provisions of Rule 103(3)(a) EPC according to which the appeal fee shall be **reimbursed at 50% if the appeal is withdrawn within one month of notification of this communication.**

It is further noted that this communication is not an invitation to file further observations but merely serves as preparation for the upcoming oral proceedings and accordingly to allow the parties evaluate whether oral proceedings are required.

The parties' attention is further drawn to Article 13(2) RPBA (Rules of Procedure of the Boards of Appeal OJ EPO 2019, A63) according to which any amendment to a party's appeal case after notification of a summons to oral proceedings shall not be taken into account unless there are exceptional circumstances, which have been justified with cogent reasons by the party concerned.

II. The document numbering used by the parties and the feature numbering of granted claim 1 in the contested decision are adhered to.

III. The Opposition Division rejected the opposition against the current European patent.

The opponent (appellant) has filed an appeal and requests to set the decision aside and to revoke the patent.

The patent proprietor (respondent) requests to confirm the decision of the Opposition Division, i.e. to dismiss the appeal, as a main request, or, in the

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1213
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

alternative, to maintain the patent according to the auxiliary requests 1 to 5 filed with the reply.

IV. Opinion of the Board on the present case

1. *Main request - Patent as granted*

1.1 As regards novelty of the subject-matter of granted claim 1 over E1 features vi, viii, ix, xi and xii are in dispute.

The Opposition Division considered that E1 failed to disclose directly and unambiguously features ix and xi of claim 1.

The Board currently shares the view of the Opposition Division. In particular, according to claim 1 as granted it appears that a side wall of a bed represents one of the lateral walls of the bed. Claim 1 defines the support structure with reference to a single side wall. Further, the support structure comprises two tensioning structures. Accordingly, these tensioning structures are different entities within the support structure such that it appears to be excluded from the subject-matter of claim 1 that edges of the two tensioning structures can be shared.
It further does not appear to derive directly and unambiguously from E1 that the strip 53 comprises a plurality of outside edges coupled to a side wall of the bed. This is also seemingly supported by the submissions of the appellant regarding the sketch of figure 4 on page 14 of the statement of grounds of appeal.

1.2 The Opposition Division did not admit the late filed novelty objection in view of E9 and late filed document E16 (see points 3.1.2 and 3.1.3 of the decision).

According to Article 12(6) RPBA, the Board shall not admit objections or evidence which were not admitted in the proceedings leading to the decision under appeal, unless the decision not to admit them suffered from an error in the use of discretion or unless the circumstances of the appeal case justify their admittance.

In the case at hand, the Board currently does not recognize any error in the use of the discretion by the Opposition Division.
The Opposition Division assessed *prima facie* the disclosure of E9 according to the embodiment of figure 5 and could not identify an edge of the side wall 35 being coupled to an outer edge of the top sheet 33 of the bed. The appellant makes reference to figure 2 and its description which, however, refers to another embodiment than that of figure 5. The disclosure of the embodiment of figure 5 appears to be silent on any outer edge of the top sheet 33 and an upper edge of the side wall 35.
As regards E16 and bearing in mind the interpretation of claim 1 mentioned above, the Board cannot also identify any error of judgement in the exercise of discretion, since outer opposite edges of strip 150a or 190 are not coupled to the same side wall of the bed, but to opposite ones.

Thus, it appears that the Opposition Division applied its discretion according to the right principles and in a reasonable way (see also G7/93, point 2.6). Further, the circumstances of the case do not also justify their admittance since the granted patent is still contested and defended, and the conflicting issues were already submitted and addressed during the opposition proceedings. The Board sees thus no reason to overturn the exercise of discretion of the Opposition Division.

1.3 As regards inventive step of the subject-matter of granted claim 1, the decision is reasoned for an objection based on a combination of E1 with E9. The Opposition Division found that claim 1 differed from the disclosure of E1 on account of features ix and xi (see last paragraphs of points 3.2.1, 3.2.2 and 3.2.3). The Board as mentioned above under point 1.1 currently follows that view. The different lines of attack formulated by the appellant in the appeal proceedings (E1 alone, together with common general knowledge, E19, E9 or E16) start from the third interpretation of E1 as the closest prior art. These attacks cannot persuade since they are based on the assumption that feature v represents the only distinguishing feature of the subject-matter of claim 1 with respect to E1.

If applicable, the admissibility of the new evidence E19 and of the new attacks not forming part of the decision under appeal will be discussed (Article 12(4) and (6) RPBA).

2. Consequently, it appears that the appeal is to be dismissed.

3. *Auxiliary requests 1 to 5*

Auxiliary requests 1 to 5 have been submitted with the reply to the statement of grounds of appeal.

Auxiliary requests 1 and 2 are new. Auxiliary requests 3 to 4 correspond to auxiliary requests 1 to 3 underlying the contested decision upon which the Opposition Division did not get to decide.

If applicable, the admissibility of auxiliary requests 1 and 2 will be discussed (Article 12(4) and (6) RPBA).

The auxiliary requests 3 to 5 are unsubstantiated (Article 12(3) and (5) RPBA). Should these requests become the matter of discussion, the Board intends to apply its discretion and not admit them into the procedure.

4. Considering that pursuant to Article 12(3) RPBA, the statement of grounds of appeal and the reply shall contain a party's complete case no other points of discussion are apparent.

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1217
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Beschwerdekammern

Boards of Appeal

Chambres de recours

Boards of Appeal of the
European Patent Office
Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8
85540 Haar
GERMANY
Tel. +49 (0)89 2399-0
Fax +49 (0)89 2399-4465

Parsi Mendiola, Joshua
Reddie & Grose LLP
The White Chapel Building
10 Whitechapel High Street
London E1 8QS
ROYAUME UNI

Datum / Date
14.03.2022

Zeichen/Reference/Référence MP19609.EP01/JV	/ OPPO 01
Anmeldung Nr. / Application No. / Demande n°. // Patent Nr. / Patent No. / Brevet n°.	16191360.3 // 3192401
Anmelder / Applicant / Demandeur // Patentinhaber / Proprietor / Titulaire Bestway Inflatables & Material Corp.	

Appeal number: **T0311/21-3.2.01**

Communication of the Board of Appeal pursuant to Article 15(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Boards of Appeal

The Rapporteur J. J. de Acha González
The Registrar A. Voyé
Tel.: 089 / 2399 - 3211

Beschwerdekammern des Europäischen Patentamts
Boards of Appeal of the European Patent Office
Chambres de recours de l'Office européen des brevets

Registered letter

This document: 6 page(s) including this page

Annex(es):

Communication text

I. This communication sets out a preliminary non-binding assessment of the case by the Board.

Since the assessment is **negative** and **the appeal is likely to be dismissed** for the reasons given below, the appellant's attention is drawn to the provisions of Rule 103(3)(a) EPC according to which the appeal fee shall be **reimbursed at 50% if the appeal is withdrawn within one month of notification of this communication.**

It is further noted that this communication is not an invitation to file further observations but merely serves as preparation for the upcoming oral proceedings and accordingly to allow the parties evaluate whether oral proceedings are required.

The parties' attention is further drawn to Article 13(2) RPBA (Rules of Procedure of the Boards of Appeal OJ EPO 2019, A63) according to which any amendment to a party's appeal case after notification of a summons to oral proceedings shall not be taken into account unless there are exceptional circumstances, which have been justified with cogent reasons by the party concerned.

II. The document numbering used by the parties and the feature numbering of granted claim 1 in the contested decision are adhered to.

III. The Opposition Division rejected the opposition against the current European patent.

The opponent (appellant) has filed an appeal and requests to set the decision aside and to revoke the patent.

The patent proprietor (respondent) requests to confirm the decision of the Opposition Division, i.e. to dismiss the appeal, as a main request, or, in the

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1219
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

alternative, to maintain the patent according to the auxiliary requests 1 to 5 filed with the reply.

IV. Opinion of the Board on the present case

1. *Main request - Patent as granted*

1.1 As regards novelty of the subject-matter of granted claim 1 over E1 features vi, viii, ix, xi and xii are in dispute.

The Opposition Division considered that E1 failed to disclose directly and unambiguously features ix and xi of claim 1.

The Board currently shares the view of the Opposition Division. In particular, according to claim 1 as granted it appears that a side wall of a bed represents one of the lateral walls of the bed. Claim 1 defines the support structure with reference to a single side wall. Further, the support structure comprises two tensioning structures. Accordingly, these tensioning structures are different entities within the support structure such that it appears to be excluded from the subject-matter of claim 1 that edges of the two tensioning structures can be shared.
It further does not appear to derive directly and unambiguously from E1 that the strip 53 comprises a plurality of outside edges coupled to a side wall of the bed. This is also seemingly supported by the submissions of the appellant regarding the sketch of figure 4 on page 14 of the statement of grounds of appeal.

1.2 The Opposition Division did not admit the late filed novelty objection in view of E9 and late filed document E16 (see points 3.1.2 and 3.1.3 of the decision).

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1220
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

According to Article 12(6) RPBA, the Board shall not admit objections or evidence which were not admitted in the proceedings leading to the decision under appeal, unless the decision not to admit them suffered from an error in the use of discretion or unless the circumstances of the appeal case justify their admittance.

In the case at hand, the Board currently does not recognize any error in the use of the discretion by the Opposition Division.
The Opposition Division assessed *prima facie* the disclosure of E9 according to the embodiment of figure 5 and could not identify an edge of the side wall 35 being coupled to an outer edge of the top sheet 33 of the bed. The appellant makes reference to figure 2 and its description which, however, refers to another embodiment than that of figure 5. The disclosure of the embodiment of figure 5 appears to be silent on any outer edge of the top sheet 33 and an upper edge of the side wall 35.
As regards E16 and bearing in mind the interpretation of claim 1 mentioned above, the Board cannot also identify any error of judgement in the exercise of discretion, since outer opposite edges of strip 150a or 190 are not coupled to the same side wall of the bed, but to opposite ones.

Thus, it appears that the Opposition Division applied its discretion according to the right principles and in a reasonable way (see also G7/93, point 2.6). Further, the circumstances of the case do not also justify their admittance since the granted patent is still contested and defended, and the conflicting issues were already submitted and addressed during the opposition proceedings. The Board sees thus no reason to overturn the exercise of discretion of the Opposition Division.

1.3 As regards inventive step of the subject-matter of granted claim 1, the decision is reasoned for an objection based on a combination of E1 with E9. The Opposition Division found that claim 1 differed from the disclosure of E1 on account of features ix and xi (see last paragraphs of points 3.2.1, 3.2.2 and 3.2.3). The Board as mentioned above under point 1.1 currently follows that view. The different lines of attack formulated by the appellant in the appeal proceedings (E1 alone, together with common general knowledge, E19, E9 or E16) start from the third interpretation of E1 as the closest prior art. These attacks cannot persuade since they are based on the assumption that feature v represents the only distinguishing feature of the subject-matter of claim 1 with respect to E1.

If applicable, the admissibility of the new evidence E19 and of the new attacks not forming part of the decision under appeal will be discussed (Article 12(4) and (6) RPBA).

2. Consequently, it appears that the appeal is to be dismissed.

3. *Auxiliary requests 1 to 5*

Auxiliary requests 1 to 5 have been submitted with the reply to the statement of grounds of appeal.

Auxiliary requests 1 and 2 are new. Auxiliary requests 3 to 4 correspond to auxiliary requests 1 to 3 underlying the contested decision upon which the Opposition Division did not get to decide.

If applicable, the admissibility of auxiliary requests 1 and 2 will be discussed (Article 12(4) and (6) RPBA).

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1222
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

The auxiliary requests 3 to 5 are unsubstantiated (Article 12(3) and (5) RPBA). Should these requests become the matter of discussion, the Board intends to apply its discretion and not admit them into the procedure.

4. Considering that pursuant to Article 12(3) RPBA, the statement of grounds of appeal and the reply shall contain a party's complete case no other points of discussion are apparent.

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1223
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

MILANO
V.le Lancetti, 17 - 20158 Milano (IT)
Tel. 02693031 - Fax 0269303501
milano@bugnion.eu

EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE
Bayerstr. 34
80335 MUNICH
Germany

E-MAIL

Our Ref. 23.B6256.12.EP.42 **Your ref:.** Milano, May 10, 2022
Our client ref:. P16-014EP

RE.: **APPEAL NUMBER T0311/21-3.2.01**
European patent no. **EP3192401** issued SEPTEMBER 19, 2018
for: INFLATABLE BED
in the name of: BESTWAY INFLATABLES & MATERIAL CORP.

Dear Sirs,

Following the preliminary opinion issued by the Board of Appeal on March 14, 2022, the Patentee wishes to file arguments supporting novelty and inventive step of the five auxiliary requests presented in reply to the Appeal filed by Intex Recreation Corp. on June 14, 2021.

1. FIRST AUXILIARY REQUEST

1.1 ADMISSIBILITY

First Auxiliary Request is a new request, presented in Appeal for the first time.
This new request derives and becomes necessary in view of the new and exotic interpretations given by the Appellant during the Oral Hearing of the Opposition Proceeding (and also submitted again with the Grounds of Appeal and with the interpretations of the relevance of E1 to claim 1).
Therefore, it was not possible for the Proprietor to present such an auxiliary request before.
For this reason, this request should be admitted according to Art. 12(2) and 12(4) RPBA.

Base for this amendment is on the figures of the appealed patent besides in paragraphs [0012], [0013], [0059] and [0061].
The amendments made to claim 1 as granted, presented in the First Auxiliary Request, meet the requirements of Art 123(2) EPC.

1.2 NOVELTY AND INVENTIVE STEP

In claim 1 according to the First Auxiliary Request, it has simply specified, for a better comprehension and to better clarify what was already disclosed in claim 1 according to the main request (which is claim 1 as granted and as maintained in Opposition), not only that the support structure is disposed in a longitudinal direction of at least one of the side walls but also that at least two outside edges of the support structure are coupled to each one of said at least one side wall. Also at least two outside edges of said second and of said third tensioning structure are coupled to said side wall.
Therefore, it has been specified that those listed elements/features are present in each one of the side walls of the inflatable bed.
Then, the terms "respectively" and "adjacent" have been deleted since redundant in view of the added clarification.

This amendment has been substantiated by the interpretations given by the Appellant to claim 1 considering document E1. It was necessary to better explain which the correct interpretation is to be given to claim 1 of the appealed patent.

Therefore, arguments for novelty and inventive step are exactly the same proposed for the claim 1 of the main request. No further features are disclosed or added in claim 1 according to the first auxiliary request, but only a better and clearer formulation of some of the features already disclosed in claim 1 of the main request is herewith presented.

Claim 1 according to the first auxiliary request is new and inventive for the same reasons for which claim 1 of the main request is new and inventive.

2. SECOND AUXILIARY REQUEST

2.1 ADMISSIBILITY

Second Auxiliary Request is a new request, presented in Appeal for the first time.
This new request derives and becomes necessary in view of the new and exotic interpretations given by the Appellant during the Oral Hearing of the Opposition Proceeding (and also submitted again with the Grounds of Appeal and with the interpretations of the relevance of E1 to claim 1).

Therefore, it was not possible for the Proprietor to present such an auxiliary request before.
For this reason, this request should be admitted according to Art. 12(2) and 12(4) RPBA.

The amendments made to claim 1 as granted, presented in the Second Auxiliary Request, meet the requirements of Art 123(2) EPC.

It derives from the combination between the first auxiliary request here presented and the second auxiliary request presented during Opposition Procedure (now corresponding to the fourth auxiliary request here presented in Appeal).
As regards the support for the sentence "wherein for each one of said at least one side wall" and for the deletion of the words "adjacent" and "respectively", please consider what stated above for the first auxiliary request.

As regards the feature: "wherein the second tensioning structure and the third tensioning structure divide the respective side wall into five sections", please consider that such technical feature is repeatedly disclosed in the description, with respect to all the embodiments of the invention, see in particular:

- § [0063] and fig. 5 for Embodiment 1;
- § [0075] and fig. 9 for Embodiment 2;
- § [0083] and fig. 12 for Embodiment 3;
- § [0089] and fig. 16 for Embodiment 4;
- fig. 19 for Embodiment 5;
- fig. 21 for Embodiment 6; and
- fig. 22 for Embodiment 7.

All the subsequent claims remain unamended.
Accordingly, the Second Auxiliary Request fully meets the requirements of Article 123(2) EPC.

2.2 NOVELTY AND INVENTIVE STEP

Further to what already stated in connection with the first auxiliary request, please also consider that none of the cited prior art shows internal tensioning structures dividing the respective side walls into five sections. All the cited prior art documents show at the most three sections.

This configuration enhances the rigidity and resistance of the inflated bed, since it limits the upward and lateral bulging of the top sheet and the side wall after the air chamber is inflated and the respective downward and lateral bulging of the bottom sheet and the side wall after the air chamber is inflated.
Therefore, claim 1 is also inventive over the cited prior art.

3. THIRD AUXILIARY REQUEST

The third auxiliary request corresponds to the first auxiliary request already presented during the Opposition Proceeding.

3.1 ADMISSIBILITY

According to the 3rd Auxiliary Request, four new independent claims are filed, obtained as follows:

- New claim 1 originates from original claims 1+4+5;
- New claim 2 originates from original claims 1+6+7;
- New claim 3 originates from original claims 1+8+9; and
- New claim 4 originates from original claims 1+10+11.

All the other dependent claims have been amended in their numbering and in their dependencies. In particular:

- Original claims 2-3, 30-32 and 35-39, which depended directly on original claim 1, became new claims 5-6, 25-27 and 30-34 and depend now on any one of the independent claims 1 to 4.
- Original claims 12-15 and 22-23, which depended on original claims 4 and 5, became new claims 7-10 and 17-18 and depend now on new independent claim 1.
- Original claims 16-17 and 24-25, which depended on original claims 6 and 7, became new claims 11-12 and 19-20 and depend now on new independent claim 2.
- Original claims 18-19 and 26-27, which depended on original claims 8 and 9, became new claims 13-14 and 21-22 and depend now on new independent claim 3.
- Original claims 20-21 and 28-29, which depended on original claims 10 and 11, became new claims 15-16 and 23-24 and depend now on new independent claim 4.

Accordingly, the Third Auxiliary Request fully meets the requirements of Article 123(2) EPC.

3.2 NOVELTY AND INVENTIVE STEP

The third auxiliary request presents four independent claims, each one disclosing a particular and alternative shape of the beam of the second and third tensioning structures.
None of the cited prior art shows exactly all the features shown in each of the independent claims.

Moreover, as also illustrated in the figures, the I-beam, Y-beam, tubular beam and V beam of the tensioning structures overcome the defect of outward bulging and deformation of the side walls of the inflatable beds/mattresses having a relatively large height in prior art, making the appearance more attractive (see [0054]).
Furthermore, all the claimed shapes provide at least two joint point on the side wall. The lower joint between the second tensioning structure and the side wall prevents the bed/mattress from outward bulging, and the upper joint prevents the bed/mattress from deformation and makes the appearance more attractive. The third tensioning structure works similarly.
The tensioning structures, together with the seam between the side wall and the top sheet (e.g., "... coupled to an outer edge of said top sheet", see claim 1-4 of current Auxiliary Request 3), produce a synergistic effect that the upper surface of the bed/mattress may be made of full use. In other words, all or almost all the area of the top sheet can be utilized to support a user's body, making the bed/mattress more comfortable to lie on.

Going into deep of each structure, please consider that the I-beam has manufacturing process simple; the Y-beam allows to resist to big internal pressure. Sometimes the pressure inside an inflatable bed/mattress is extremely high, and the Y-beam can share the pressure so as to improve the stability. Tubular beam is beneficial for welding process. An operator can more easily insert a molding toll into the tubular beam and then weld the tubular beam onto the walls. The V-beam is the simplest process for manufacturing because there is only one sheet of beam material thus an operator doesn't need to cut it to two beams.
Therefore, each kind of tensioning structure solves a technical problem and provides an advantage.
Therefore, also the third auxiliary requests is considered to be inventive over the cited prior art.

4. FOURTH AUXILIARY REQUEST

The fourth auxiliary request corresponds to the second auxiliary request already presented during the Opposition Proceeding.

4.1 ADMISSIBILITY

According to the 4th Auxiliary Request, claim 1 has been amended by introducing in it the following technical feature: *the second tensioning structure and the third tensioning structure divide the respective side wall into five sections.* Such technical feature is repeatedly disclosed in the description, with respect to all the embodiments of the invention, see in particular:

- § [0063] and fig. 5 for Embodiment 1;
- § [0075] and fig. 9 for Embodiment 2;
- § [0083] and fig. 12 for Embodiment 3;
- § [0089] and fig. 16 for Embodiment 4;
- fig. 19 for Embodiment 5;
- fig. 21 for Embodiment 6; and
- fig. 22 for Embodiment 7.

All the subsequent claims remain unamended.

Accordingly, the new amendments of the Fourth Auxiliary Request fully meet the requirements of Article 123(2) EPC.

4.2 NOVELTY AND INVENTIVE STEP

Claim 1 according to the Fourth Auxiliary Request is new, since none of the cited prior art shows internal tensioning structures dividing the respective side walls into five sections. All the cited prior art documents show at the most three sections.
This configuration enhances the rigidity and resistance of the inflated bed, since it limits the upward and lateral bulging of the top sheet and the side wall after the air chamber is inflated and the

respective downward and lateral bulging of the bottom sheet and the side wall after the air chamber is inflated.
Therefore, claim 1 is also inventive over the cited prior art.

5. FIFTH AUXILIARY REQUEST

The fifth auxiliary request corresponds to the third auxiliary request already presented during the Opposition Proceeding.

5.1 ADMISSIBILITY

The 5th Auxiliary Request represent the union of the 3rd and 4th Auxiliary Requests. In other words, the new technical feature of the 4th Auxiliary Request is introduced in all the independent claims 1 to 4 of the 3rd Auxiliary Request. All the subsequent dependent claims are the same as those of the 3rd Auxiliary Request.

Accordingly, the Fifth Auxiliary Request fully meets the requirements of Article 123(2) EPC.

5.2 NOVELTY AND INVENTIVE STEP

Same argumentations already stated in connection with the the 3rd and 4th Auxiliary Requests can be jointly proposed also to demonstrate novelty and inventive step of the present Fifth Auxiliary Request.

6. CONCLUSION

Summarizing, the Proprietor asks that Decision of the Opposition Decision issued on February 3, 2021 declaring the rejection of the Opposition filed on June 17, 2019 against the patent EP3192401 be confirmed and that the patent will be mantained as granted.

Should the Board of Appeal not allow the request above, the Proprietor ask to be heard during Oral Proceeding in order to discuss the Main Requests and, if not allowed, the further Five Auxiliary Requests already filed and hereabove discussed, as required the BoA.

Yours sincerely,

Bugnion SpA
Simona INCHINGALO

Assistant: Simone POMPONIO

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Letter accompanying subsequently filed items

Representative:

Simona INCHINGALO
BUGNION S.P.A.
Viale Lancetti, 17
20158 Milano
Italy

Phone: 003902693031
Fax: 00390269303501
E-mail: simona.inchingalo@bugnion.eu

80298 Munich
Germany
Tel. +49(0)89 2399-0 | Fax -4465

P.O. Box 5818
2280 HV Rijswijk
Netherlands
Tel. +31(0)70 340-2040 | Fax -3016

10958 Berlin
Germany
Tel. +49(0)30 25901-0 | Fax -840

The document(s) listed below is (are) subsequently filed documents pertaining to the following application:

Application number and/or Patent number	EP16191360.3 - EP3192401
Applicant's or representative's reference	23.B6256.12.EP.42
Name of represented party	BESTWAY INFLATABLES & MATERIAL CORP.

	Description of document	Original file name	Assigned file name
1	Other document	23.B6256.12.EP.42@2022-05-10_Uff_Com_A_(Argumentsforauxiliaryrequests).pdf	OTHER-1.pdf

Signatures

Place:	
Date:	**10 May 2022**
Signed by:	**/Simona INCHINGALO/**
Representative name:	**Simona INCHINGALO**
Capacity:	**Representative**
Function of person signing:	**Representative**

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1232
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Acknowledgement of receipt

We hereby acknowledge receipt of the following subsequently filed document(s):

Submission number	10930914	
Application number	EP16191360.3	
Patent number	EP3192401	
Date of receipt	10 May 2022	
Filing Office	European Patent Office, The Hague	
Procedural phase	Opposition	
Your reference	23.B6256.12.EP.42	
Documents submitted	package-data.xml epf1038.pdf (1 p.)	ep-sfd-request.xml OTHER-1.pdf\23.B6256.12.EP.42@2022-05-10_Uff_Com_A_(Argumentsforauxiliaryrequests).pdf (8 p.)
Submitted by	CN=secure.epoline.org	
Method of submission	Online	
Date and time receipt generated	10 May 2022, 17:34 (CEST)	
Message Digest	8D:61:DA:6D:B1:83:D1:B2:A1:C2:28:4D:EF:4A:91:76:5D:32:1B:C3	

/European Patent Office/



実用新案登録願(2)

昭和47年6月28日

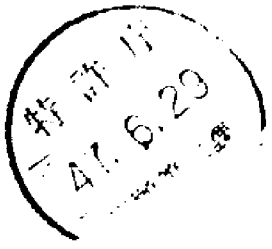
特許庁長官井土武久　殿

1. 考案の名称
   ヘコガタ
   箱型エアーマットレス

2. 考案者
   住　所（居所）栃木県アシカガシトオリ　チョウメ
   足利市通り4丁目3480番地
   氏　名　アオキ　クニタロウ
   青木　国太郎
   （その外　名）

3. 実用新案登録出願人
   郵便番号　160
   住　所　東京都新宿区大京町22番地の5
   名　称　(115)　興国化学工業株式会社　㊞
   代表者　小林　勇
   （その外　名）

4. 添附書類の目録
   (1) 明細書　1通
   (2) 図面　1通
   (3) 願書副本　1通



47 076402

49-34811-01

明　　細　　書

1　考案の名称

箱型エアーマットレス

2　実用新案登録請求の範囲

箱型になしたエアーマットレスの上面布と下面布の間に垂直吊布を設けると共に上面布と長さ方向側面布、下面布と長さ方向面布、上面布と幅方向側面布および下面布と幅方向側面布の間にそれぞれ火打吊布を設けた箱型エアーマットレス

3　考案の詳細な説明

本考案は安定性を良好にした箱型エアーマットレスの構造に関するものである。従来のいわゆる箱型エアーマットレスはただ単にエアーマットレスの上面布(a)及び下面布(b)の間に所定の高さの吊布(c)を貼着させるのみであつた。

この為、第５図に示すように空気を入れた時に箱型エアーマットレスの側面の部分が内部の空気圧により、外側に丸くふくらみ、吊布(c)の両端(d)、(d′)がたるんで本体の上面及び下面の間隔において中央部よりも周縁部の方が短かくなり、上面及

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1235
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

び下面が弧状となる。この為に座りが悪く揺れ動いて寝る人がころげ落ちやすいという不安定なものであつた。この傾向は側面布の高さが高くなればなる程増大していた。

本考案は従来のこのような欠点を解消する為になされたものである。本考案を実施例図面により詳細に説明する。

上面布(1)、下面布(2)、長さ方向側面布(3)及び幅方向側面布(4)で構成される箱型エアーマットレス(5)に於て上面布(1)と下面布(2)との間に複数個の垂直吊布(6)を設ける。この際に上面布(1)と下面布(2)の周縁部(7)を垂直吊布(6)により接着されないようにある程度あけておく。更に上面布(1)及び長さ方向側面布(3)のそれぞれの火打吊布貼着位置(8)及び(9)に火打吊布(10)の両端の接着座(11)、(11′)を接着する。同様に下面布(2)と長さ方向側面布(3)、上面布(1)と幅方向側面布(4)及び下面布(2)と幅方向側面布(4)についても火打吊布(10)を接着する。

この様に火打吊布(10)を設けることにより箱型エアーマットレス(5)内の空気圧が高くなつて長さ

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1236
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

方向側面布(3)や幅方向側面布(4)が外側にふくらもうとしても、火打吊布(10)が緊張して各面布の関係、すなわち上面布(1)及び下面布(2)に対して長さ方向側面布(3)及び幅方向側面布(4)がほぼ直角になる。箱型エアーマットレス(5)を構成する場合に前記のように1枚の上面布(1)、1枚の下面布(2)、2枚の長さ方向側面布(3)、2枚の幅方向側面布(4)の計6枚の面布で構成してもよいし、上面布(1)と下面布(2)と長さ方向側面布(3)が一体になつたものと2枚の幅方向側面布(4)の3枚で構成してもよいし同様に上面布(1)と下面布(2)と幅方向側面布(4)が一体になつたものと2枚の長さ方向側面布(4)の3枚で構成してもよいし、あるいは長さ方向側面布(3)と幅方向側面布が一体になつたものと上面布(1)と下面布(2)の3枚で構成してもよい。

加入1字

上記のいずれの場合にも面布と面布の貼着部に補強テープ(12)を貼るとよい。垂直吊布(6)や火打吊布(10)は各面布に貼着する貼着面に縫づけした接着座(11)、(11′)と中間材(13)とを縫づけや接着して作るとよい。接着した場合には中間材(13)と

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1237
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

接着座(11)、(11′) とが剝れる事がなく、中間材(13)と接着座(11)が一体となるので垂直吊布(6)や火打吊布(10)が緊張した場合にも各面布と各吊布とが剝れないだけの十分の接着能力を得ることができるようになる。

火打吊布(10)は上面布(1)あるいは下面布(2)に貼着する接着座(11)よりも長さ方向側面布(3)あるいは幅方向側面布(4)に貼着する接着座(11′) の方を長く構成するとよい。すなわち第3図に示すように火打吊布(10)は台形となる。このようにすることにより、各側面布の幅いつぱいに火打吊布(10)の接着座(11′) を貼着することができる。1つの角に1つの火打吊布だけでなく、第4図に示すように2つ以上の火打吊布を設けてもよい。このようにすれば大型の箱型エアーマットレスを構成してもその周縁部をほぼ直角にすることができる。

本考案の箱型エアーマットレス(5)は垂直吊布(6)を設けると同時に上述のように火打吊布(10)をも設けてあるので、空気を満たしても各面とも中央部がふくらんで弧状になるという事がない。それ

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1238
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

故、前述したような箱型エアーマットレスの揺れ動きもなく寝ているうちにころげ落ちるということもなく、非常に安定性がある。垂直吊布(6)の高さを低くし、幅もやや短かめのものを用いることにより、上面布(1)の垂直吊布(6)のある中央部を周縁部(7)よりへこませる事ができるので就寝時にころげ落ちる心配は更になくなる。また火打吊布を用いることによりどのような大きさの箱型エアーマットレスでも上面布及び下面布と各側面布をほぼ直角に保つことができるようになつたので大きな箱型エアーマットレスを作ることも可能になつた。

垂直吊布(6)及び火打吊布(10)と各面布との接着部にできるへこみの筋は箱型エアーマットレスの表面にアクセントをつけてデザイン的に好ましい影響を与える。

4　図面の簡単な説明

第1図は本考案品の一例の斜視図、第2図は第1図のA－A′線上拡大断面図、第3図は火打吊布の一部分を省略した斜視図、第4図は火打吊布の

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1239
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

貼着状態を示す本考案品の一例の部分断面図、第5図は従来法による箱型エアーマットレスの使用時の状態を示す断面図である。

図中(1)は上面布、(2)は下面布、(3)は長さ方向側面布、(4)は幅方向側面布、(5)は箱型エアーマットレス、(6)は垂直吊布、(7)は周縁部、(8)及び(9)は火打吊布貼着位置、(10)は火打吊布、(11)は接着座、(12)は補強テープ、(13)は火打吊布の中間材をそれぞれ示す。

訂正3字

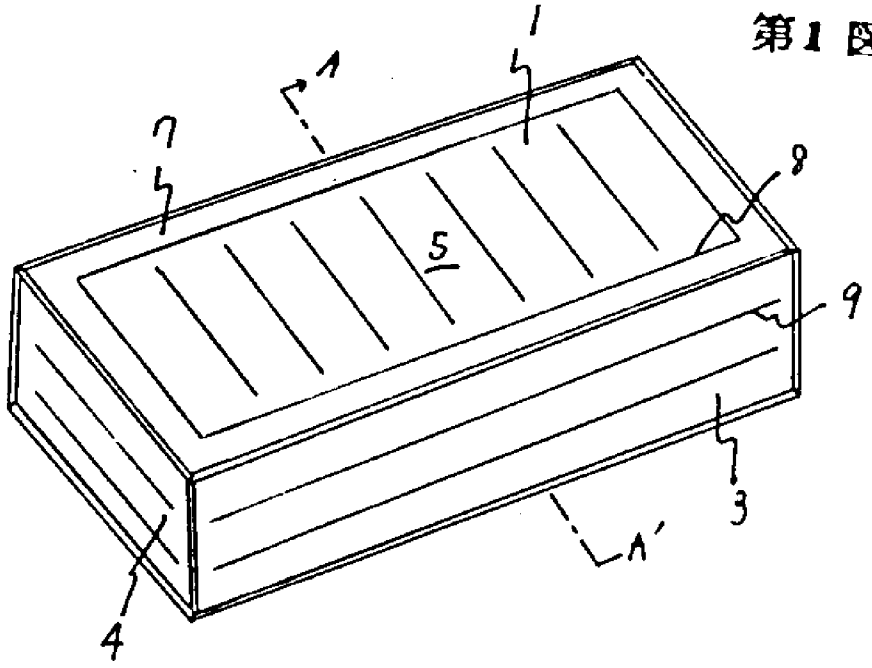
実用新案登録出願人

興国化学工業株式会社

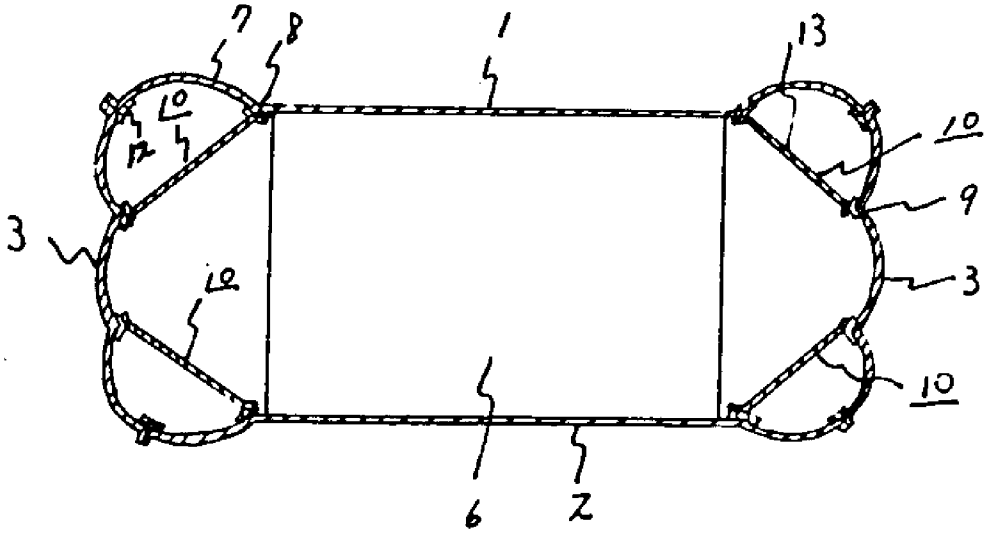
代表者　小林　勇

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1240
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

第1図



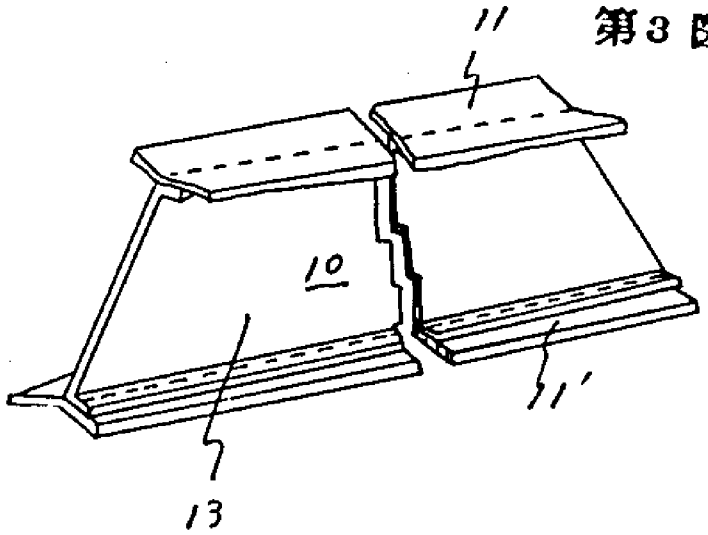
第2図



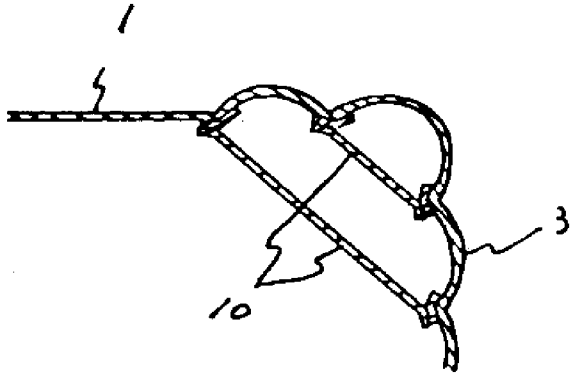
実用新案登録出願人　興国化学工業株式会社

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1241
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

第3図



第4図

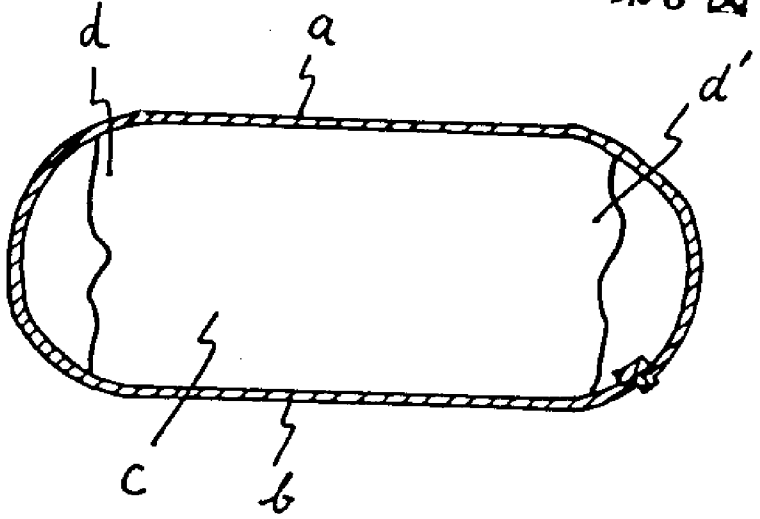


実用新案登録出願人　興国化学工業株式会社

49-34811-09

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1242
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

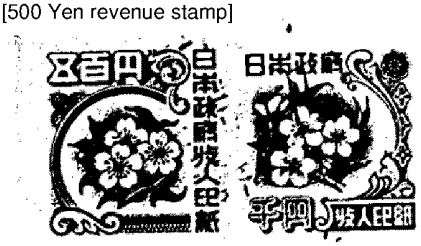
第5図



実用新案登録出願人　興国化学工業株式会社

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1243
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

[500 Yen revenue stamp]



1500 Yen

[1,000 Yen revenue stamp]

Patent application (2)

June 28, 1972

Patent office chief Takehisa Ido

[stamp:] Approved

1. Invention name: Box-shaped air mattress

2. Inventor:

(reading guide for pronunciation)

Address (Location) : 4-3480, Ashikagashi Toori, Ibaraki

(reading guide for pronunciation)

Name: Kunitarou Aoki

(Other inventors)

3. Applicant

Postal Code: 160

Address: 22-5 Daikyo-cho, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo

Name: (115) Prosperous Country Chemical Industry Co., Ltd.

Representative: Isamu Kobayashi

(Other inventors)

4. Attachments

1. Specifications 1
2. Figures 1
3. Application duplicate 1

47-076402

[Stamp:] Patent office: June 28, 1972

49-34811-01

Specifications:

1. Patent application item:
   box-shaped air mattress

2. Scope of the application
   The box-shaped air mattress was placed with a vertical hanging sheet between the upper and bottom sheet of the box-shaped air mattress, as well as a fireproof hanging sheet between the upper and lengthwise sheets, the bottom and lengthwise sheets, the upper and widthwise sheets and the bottom and widthwise sheets.
3. Detailed explanation of the plan
   This plan comprises box-shaped air mattresses that are stable. Existing air mattresses merely adhere to the vertical hanging sheet (c) between the upper (a) and bottom (b) sheets at a designated height.
   Due to this, when air is put in, the sides of the box-shaped air mattress are rounder on the outside than the inside, both ends (d) (d') of the hanging sheet (c) slacken, and the surrounding area becomes shorter, even more than the middle part of the upper and bottom layers, and the upper and bottom layers create an arch shape, just like in figure 5.

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1245
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Due to this, the air mattress becomes unstable. It is hard to sit on and wobbles when moving; sleeping people may fall off.

This tendency becomes greater the higher the sides become.

This plan is to remove this failing from existing air mattresses. It will explain in detail by example figures when the plan is carried out.

In the box-type air mattress (5) which is comprised of the upper sheet (1), bottom sheet (2), lengthwise sheet (3), and widthwise sheet (4), we will place multiple layers of vertical hanging sheet (6) in between the upper (1) and bottom (2) sheets. At this point, the periphery (7) of the upper (1) and bottom (2) sheets are not adhering due to the vertical hanging sheet (6). Each of the fireproof hanging sheet (10) adhesive positions (8) and (9) as well as both ends of the adhesive site (11), (11') of the upper sheet (1) and lengthwise sheet (3), will adhere. In the same manner, the fireproof hanging sheet (10) will adhere to the bottom (2) and lengthwise sheets (3), to the upper (1) and widthwise sheets (4), and to the bottom (2) and widthwise sheets (4).

By placing the fireproof hanging sheet (10), the air pressure inside the box-shaped air mattress (5) will become higher, so even if the lengthwise (3) and widthwise (4) sheets become rounder in the outside, the fireproof hanging sheet (10) will tense, and affect all sides. In other words, the lengthwise (3) and widthwise (4) sheets will be almost perpendicular to the upper (1) and bottom (2) sheets. To form a box-shaped air mattress (5), it would be good to have a total of 6 sheets, 1 upper sheet (1), 1 bottom sheet (2), 2 lengthwise sheets (3) and 2 widthwise sheets (4). The upper (1), the bottom (2), and the lengthwise (3) become one, with 3 pairs (2 pieces) of widthwise (4) sheets will also be good. In the same manner, the lengthwise (3) and the widthwise (4) become one, with 3 of the upper (1) and lower (2), would also be good.

No matter which of the above cases, it will be okay to place reinforcing tape (12) on the adhering portion of each sheet surface. The recommended way is to adhere or sow the vertical hanging sheet (6), the fireproof hanging sheet (10) and the intermediate materials (13) to the adhesive site (11)(11').

Added 1 word

4 9 – 3 4 8 1 1 – 0 4

Should it be adhered, intermediate materials (13) and the adhesion site (11) (11'), will not be cut, and the intermediate materials (13) and adhesion site (11) will become one, therefore, making the vertical hanging sheet (6) and the fireproof hanging sheet (10) tense, it will only be able to get enough adhesive power by not cutting off each sheet and hanging sheet.

The adhesive site (11'), which is adhered to the lengthwise (3) or the widthwise (4) sheet, will last longer even than the adhesive site (11) which is adhered to the upper (1) or bottom (2) sheet. In other words, the fireproof hanging sheet (10) will become a trapezoid, as shown in Figure 3. This way, the adhesive sheet (11') can be attached to the fireproof hanging sheet (10). Just one fireproof hanging sheet (10) for each corner is not enough, as shown in Figure 4, it would be good to place two or more fireproof hanging sheets (10). If done this way, even for large box-shaped air mattresses, it will be possible to achieve perpendicularity of the periphery.

The box-shaped air mattress (5) in this plan will be placed with a vertical hanging sheet (6), and at the same time, it will be placed with a fireproof hanging sheet (10), as stated above, therefore even if it is full of air, the middle of each surface will not blow up and create an arch.

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1248
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

As previously mentioned, there is no shaking of the box-shaped air mattress, and there is no falling while sleeping. It is extremely stable. The height of the vertical hanging sheet (6) is shortened, and by using sheets with slightly smaller widths, it is possible to depress the middle portion of the vertical hanging sheet (6) of the upper sheet (1) in relation to the surrounding area so there are no worries of falling during sleeping. By using the fireproof hanging sheet, no matter how large the box-shaped air mattress, the upper sheet, the lower sheet and the side sheets are maintained at roughly a 90-degree angle so it is possible to construct a large box-shaped air mattress.

The depression **of the main line** which can be made at the adhesion sites at each surface with the vertical hanging sheet (6) and fireproof hanging sheet (10), gives a good influence design-wise by placing an accent on the surface of the box-shaped air mattress.

4. Simple explanation of the figures

Figure 1 is one of the diagonal figures of this patent application's item. Figure 2 is a magnification of the cross-section at the A-A' line. Figure 3 is a diagonal figure that has partially removed the fireproof hanging sheet. Figure 4 is a cross-section of this patent application showing the adhesive status of the fireproof hanging sheet.

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1249
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Figure 5 is a cross-section showing the box-shaped air mattress at a state of use, with existing methods.
In the figure, 1 is the upper sheet, 2 is the bottom sheet, 3 is the lengthwise sheet, 4 is the widthwise sheet, 5 is the box-shaped air mattress, 6 is the vertical hanging sheet, 7 is peripheral portion, 8 and 9 are the adhesive state of the fireproof hanging sheet, 10 is the fireproof sheet, 11 is the adhesive site, 12 is reinforcing tape, 13 is the inside material of the fireproof sheet.

Corrected 3 words

Applicant
Prosperous Country Chemical Industry Co., Ltd.
Representative: Isamu Kobayashi

49－34811－07

Figure 1

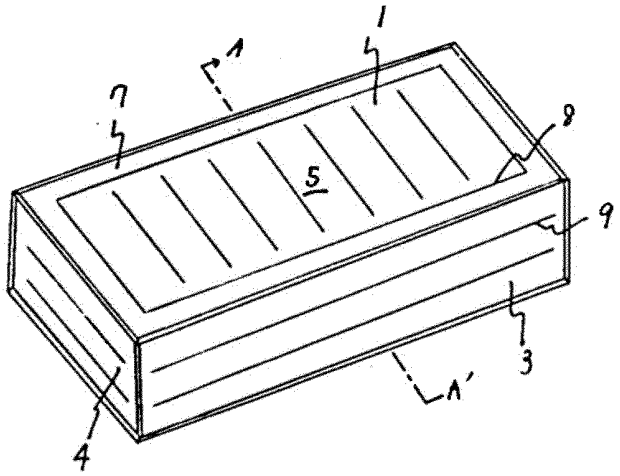
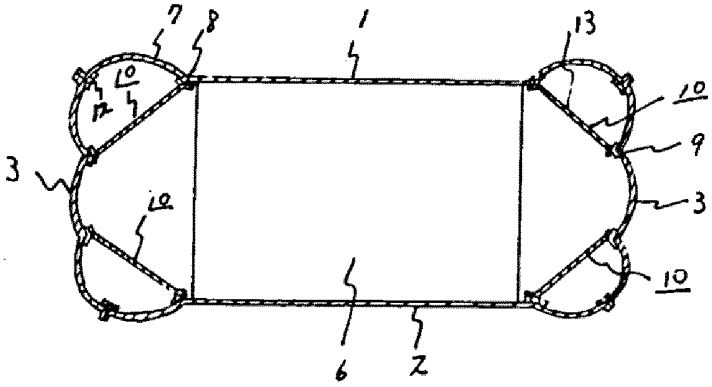


Figure 2



Applicant: Prosperous Country Chemical Industry Co., Ltd.

49－34811－08

Figure 3

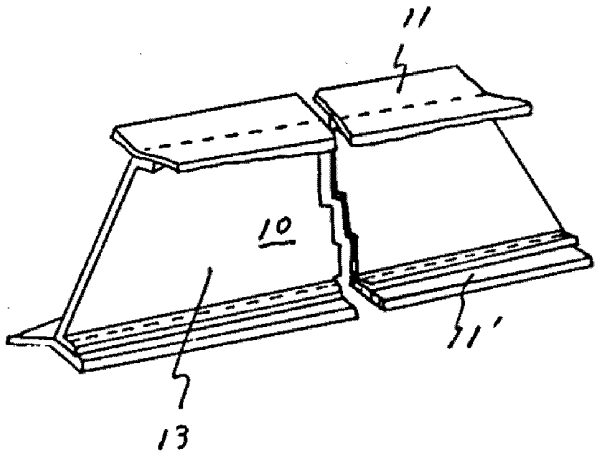
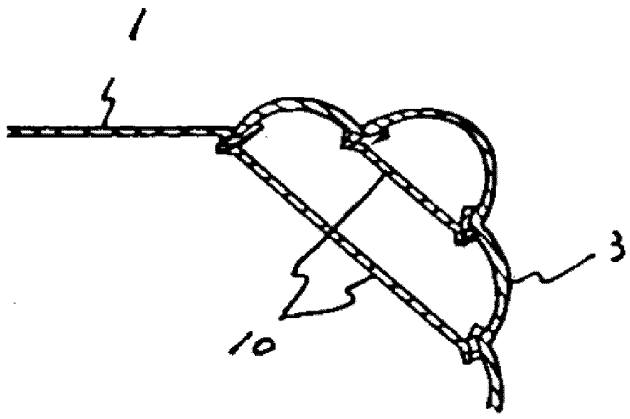


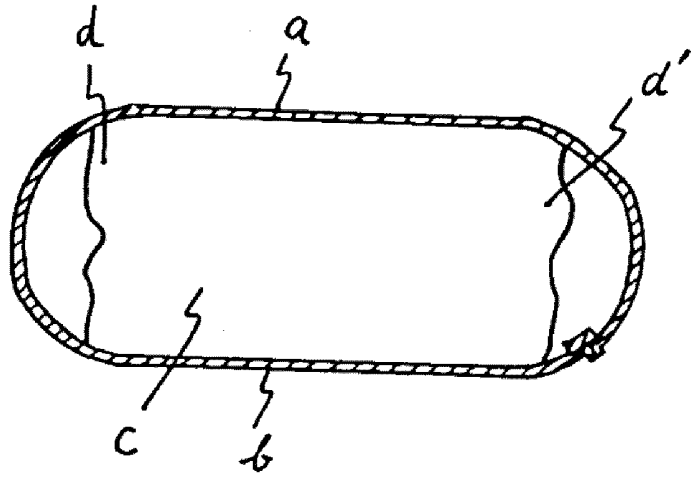
Figure 4



Applicant: Prosperous Country Chemical Industry Co., Ltd.

4 9 – 3 4 8 1 1 – 0 9

Figure 5



Applicant: Prosperous Country Chemical Industry Co., Ltd.

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1253
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

REDDIE & GROSE

13 May 2022

European Patent Office
D-80298 Munich
Germany

BY E-FILING ONLY

Dear Sirs

APPEAL NUMBER T0311/21-3.2.01

Opposition against European Patent No. 3192401 (the "Patent")
of Bestway Inflatables & Materials Corp (the "Proprietor/Respondent")
On behalf of Intex Recreation Corp. (the "Opponent/Appellant")
Our ref: M/P19609.EP01/JMV/JP

We write with reference to the abovementioned Appeal and refer to the Board's preliminary opinion issued 14 March 2022. Reference is maintained to the same feature breakdown for granted claim 1 (*i.e.* features (i) to (xii)) that has been employed so far in the present appeal proceedings and the first instance opposition proceedings.

The Board's comments in item 1.2 of the preliminary opinion suggest that the feature *"at least one side wall"* (feature (ii) of claim 1) is limited to a wall defining only one side of the *"inflatable bed"*. Such a limiting construction of feature (ii) of claim 1 raises a new issue that has not been explicitly addressed by the impugned decision issued on 3 February 2021 by the Opposition Division. The Opposition Division's decision concerning the novelty attack based on E1 (*c.f.* section 3.2 of the impugned decision) did not arrive at a conclusion that *"a side wall"* must be limited to a wall defining only one lateral side of the *"inflatable bed"*.

The above overly limiting construction is rather surprising to the Opponent/Appellant as it is not clearly derivable from the language of claim 1 and it is at odds with the requirements of feature (iii) of claim 1 – *"an air chamber formed between said top sheet, said bottom and said side wall"*. It is not physically possible for a suitable *"air chamber"* to be defined with a single side wall at one side of the inflatable bed.

It cannot be argued that the assorted usage of *"at least"* preceding the term *"side wall"* supports such an artificial limitation. For example, the claim language as a whole does not exclude an embodiment having two concentric side walls (*i.e.* an inner side wall and an outer side wall), which is not illogical and is known in the inflatable product field.

It therefore clearly follows that the recital *"...coupled to the side wall adjacent"* in features (vi), (ix) & (xi) of claim 1 need not be limited to the outside edges of the tensioning structures being coupled to the same

REDDIE & GROSE LLP
Patent and Trade Mark Attorneys
London | Cambridge

The White Chapel Building
10 Whitechapel High Street
London E1 8QS

Tel: +44 (0)20 7242 0901
Fax: +44 (0)20 7242 3290
enquiries@reddie.co.uk

www.reddie.co.uk
VAT: GB 243 9087 49

Reddie & Grose LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales with registered number OC360746, and registered office address The White Chapel Building, 10 Whitechapel High Street, London E1 8QS. Regulated by the Intellectual Property Regulation Board (IPREG).

adjacent side wall defining a single lateral side of the inflatable bed. This was alluded to at the opposition oral proceedings and formed the basis for the Opponent's admitted novelty attacks based on E1.

The Opponent/Appellant kindly requests the Board to admit into the present proceedings newly discovered evidence E24 and E24a, copies of which are being filed with this letter.

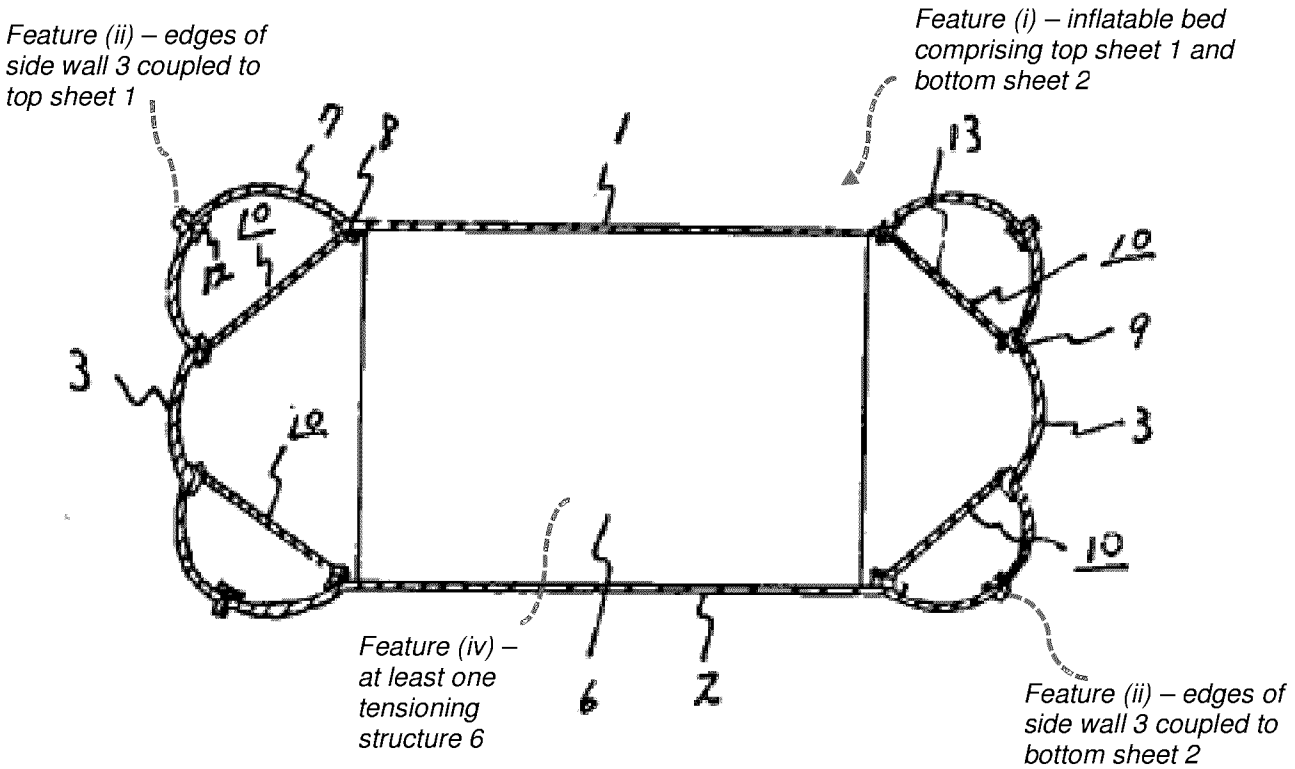
The Opponent/Appellant has only recently discovered **JPS4934811 U** (evidence **E24** - published on 27 March 1974), following recent discussions between the Opponent/Appellant and its representatives about the Board's preliminary opinion, in particular the new potentially limiting construction of the term *"side wall"* discussed above, and the Proprietor's requests, in particular newly filed Auxiliary Requests 1 & 2. Auxiliary Requests 1 & 2 incorporate, in the context of features (vi), (ix) & (xi) of granted claim 1, the recital *"for each one of said at least one side wall"* and delete instances of the terms *"respectively"* and *"adjacent"*.

For ease of reference for the Proprietor, the following link to the EspaceNet entry for E24 is provided: https://worldwide.espacenet.com/publicationDetails/biblio?DB=EPODOC&II=1&ND=3&adjacent=true&locale=en_EP&FT=D&date=19740327&CC=JP&NR=S4934811U&KC=U

E24a filed herewith is a professional English translation of E24.

It is submitted that E24 and E24a are *prima facie* relevant to novelty and inventive step of granted claim 1 and at least claim 1 of all five Auxiliary Requests submitted by the Proprietor.

As shown in Figure 2 of E24 (see annotated version below), features (i), (ii), (iii) & (iv) are clearly disclosed.

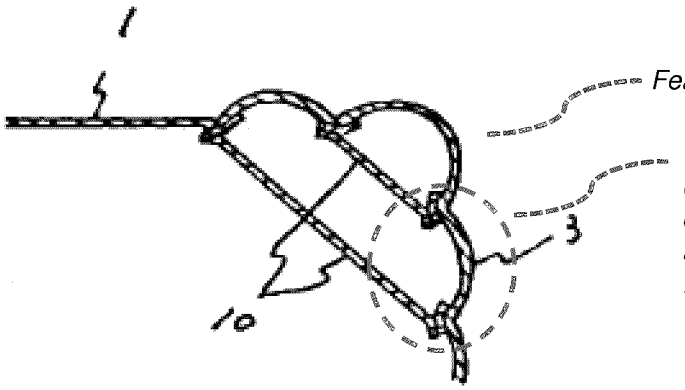


Source: Figure 2 of E24

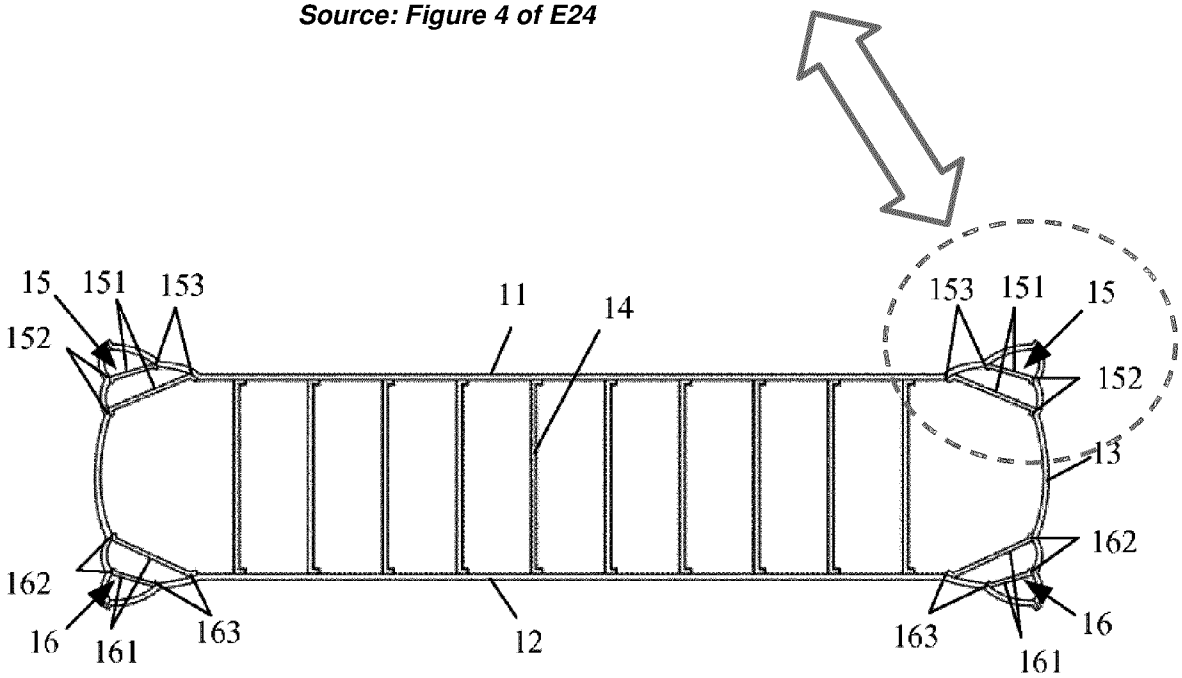
Further, E24 depicts in Figure 4 a modified embodiment based on that of Figure 2, wherein the single hanging sheet 10 is replaced with two hanging sheets 10 to *"achieve more perpendicularity of the periphery"* (see page 4 of E24a). This clearly arises in an arrangement that is similar to that shown in Figure 5 of the granted Patent (reproduced herein) and encompassed by granted claim 1.

Figure 4 of E24 is clearly simplified to focus on showing the addition of another hanging sheet 10 while not reproducing all features clearly shown in Figure 2 of E24.

Accordingly, with little investigative effort, E24 clearly discloses a support structure comprising tensioning structures having *"at least two outside edges…respectively coupled to the side wall adjacent"*, even if *"a side wall"* is considered to be limited to a wall defining only one lateral side of the *"inflatable bed"*. E24 is therefore clearly relevant to features (v) to (xii) of claim 1.



Source: Figure 4 of E24



Source: Figure 5 of the Patent

It is also clear that E24 (see, for example, Figure 2) resolves the alleged deficiencies in the assessment of *prima facie* relevance of E9 to the novelty of claim 1, with regard to the coupling of the edges of the side wall to the outer edges of the top and bottom sheets (*c.f.* feature (ii)). It is respectfully requested that E24 should at the very least be admitted as further evidence that coupling a side wall to the bottom and top sheets is well known in the field of inflatable beds.

While the Opponent/Appellant respectfully regrets the introduction of E24 (and E24a) at this stage of a rather fast-paced appeal proceedings, the Opponent/Appellant considers that the introduction of E24 & E24a adds value to the evidence currently on file and supports the main aim of EPO opposition proceedings of safeguarding the public's interest by preventing the maintenance of clearly invalid patents.

The Opponent/Appellant would be grateful for the Board's preliminary, non-binding opinion on the admittance of E24 into the present proceedings ahead of the scheduled oral proceedings.

Yours faithfully

[Electronically signed]

PARSI MENDIOLA, Joshua
PROFESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVE
epo@reddie.co.uk

cc: A copy of these submissions will also be sent to the Proprietor's professional representatives via Email at simona.inchingalo@bugnion.eu

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Letter accompanying subsequently filed items

Representative:

Mr. Joshua PARSI MENDIOLA
Reddie & Grose LLP
10 Whitechapel High Street
London Greater London E1 8QS
United Kingdom

Phone: 442072420901
Fax: 442072423290
E-mail: epo@reddie.co.uk

80298 Munich
Germany
Tel. +49(0)89 2399-0 | Fax -4465

P.O. Box 5818
2280 HV Rijswijk
Netherlands
Tel. +31(0)70 340-2040 | Fax -3016

10958 Berlin
Germany
Tel. +49(0)30 25901-0 | Fax -840

The document(s) listed below is (are) subsequently filed documents pertaining to the following application:

Application number	16191360.3
Applicant's or representative's reference	M/P19609.EP01

	Description of document	Original file name	Assigned file name
1	Letter relating to the Appeal procedure	MP19609.EP01 - EPO submissions providing E24 - 2022.05.13.pdf	APPEAL-LETT-1.pdf
2	Annexes (other than cited documents) regarding appeal procedure	E24 - JPS4934811(U).pdf	APPEAL-ANNEX-1.pdf
3	Annexes (other than cited documents) regarding appeal procedure	E24a - English Translation of E24 ..pdf	APPEAL-ANNEX-2.pdf

	Payment	
1	Method of payment	Not specified

Signatures

Place:	**LONDON, UK**
Date:	**13 May 2022**
Signed by:	**Joshua Parsi Mendiola 65949**
Representative name:	**Joshua PARSI MENDIOLA**
Capacity:	**(Representative)**

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1258
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Beschwerdekammern
Boards of Appeal
Chambres de recours

Boards of Appeal of the
European Patent Office
Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8
85540 Haar
GERMANY
Tel. +49 (0)89 2399-0
Fax +49 (0)89 2399-4465

Parsi Mendiola, Joshua
Reddie & Grose LLP
The White Chapel Building
10 Whitechapel High Street
London E1 8QS
ROYAUME UNI

Datum/Date
13.05.22

Zeichen/Reference/Référence	
MP19609.EP01/JV	/ OPPO01
Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°//Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°	16191360.3 / 3192401
Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur//Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire	
Bestway Inflatables & Material Corp.	

Appeal number: **T0311/21-3.2.01**

Please find enclosed a copy

☑ of a letter of the patent proprietor dated 10.05.22

☐ of a letter of the opponent dated

☐

for your information.

The documents specified in this letter as patent documents and as non-patent literature are available for inspection via the European Patent Register at www.epo.org/register. They will be provided to you in paper form upon request only (see Notice of the President of the Boards of Appeal dated 31 October 2020 on introducing a consolidated list of documents submitted by parties during inter partes appeal proceedings and on discontinuing the forwarding of cited documents to the other parties, OJ EPO 2020, A131).

The Registry A. Vottner

Tel.: 089 / 2399 - 3211

Annex(es):

Registered letter

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Beschwerdekammern
Boards of Appeal
Chambres de recours

Boards of Appeal of the
European Patent Office
Richard-Reitzner-Allee 8
85540 Haar
GERMANY
Tel. +49 (0)89 2399-0
Fax +49 (0)89 2399-4465

Inchingalo, Simona
Bugnion S.p.A.
Viale Lancetti, 17
20158 Milano
ITALIE

Datum/Date
13.05.22

Zeichen/Reference/Référence	
27D8343A,12EP42	/ APPR
Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°//Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°	16191360.3 / 3192401
Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur//Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire	
Bestway Inflatables & Material Corp.	

Appeal number: **T0311/21-3.2.01**

Please find enclosed a copy

☐ of a letter of the patent proprietor dated

☑ of a letter of the opponent dated 13.05.22

☐

for your information.

The Registry A. Vottner

Tel.: 089 / 2399 - 3211

Annex(es):

Registered letter

INTEX EX. 1038, Pg. 1260
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Acknowledgement of receipt

We hereby acknowledge receipt of the following subsequently filed document(s):

Submission number	10941608
Application number	EP16191360.3
Date of receipt	13 May 2022
Receiving Office	European Patent Office, The Hague
Your reference	M/P19609.EP01
Applicant	All applicants as on file
Documents submitted	package-data.xml epf1038.pdf (1 p.) APPEAL-ANNEX-1.pdf\E24 - JPS4934811(U).pdf (10 p.) ep-sfd-request.xml APPEAL-LETT-1.pdf\MP19609.EP01 - EPO submissions providing E24 - 2022.05.13.pdf (4 p.) APPEAL-ANNEX-2.pdf\E24a - English Translation of E24 ..pdf (10 p.)
Submitted by	CN=Joshua Parsi Mendiola 65949
Method of submission	Online
Date and time receipt generated	13 May 2022, 14:09 (CEST)
Message Digest	02:6C:5C:EE:2B:1F:5A:E0:4E:6F:AF:5B:CD:C1:4F:87:1E:6B:30:51

/European Patent Office/