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(54) **FREE-FLOATING DUAL LAYER SWIMSUIT**

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Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation-in-part of application No. 12/886,442, filed on Sep. 20, 2010, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 11/825,047, filed on Jul. 3, 2007, now Pat. No. 7,814,569, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 11/787,636, filed on Apr. 17, 2007, now abandoned.

Publication Classification

(51) **Int. Cl.**

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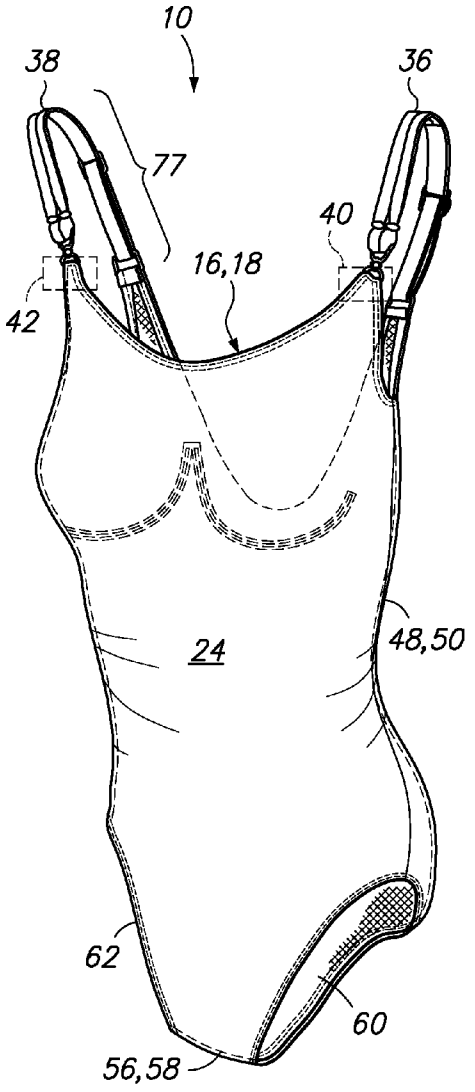
A41C 3/08	(2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **2/67**; 450/31; 450/95

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A swimsuit comprising an inner compression layer attached to an outer layer in a free floating manner is provided. The inner compression layer shapes, contours and slims the wearer's body, whereas the outer layer provides an aesthetically pleasing design. The inner and outer layers are positioned substantially independent from each other on the wearer's body for their respective purposes. It is further contemplated that the outer layer provides an additional shaping, contouring and slimming function in addition to the inner compression layer. Left and right leg openings of the inner and outer layers may be spot attached to each other at one or more locations.



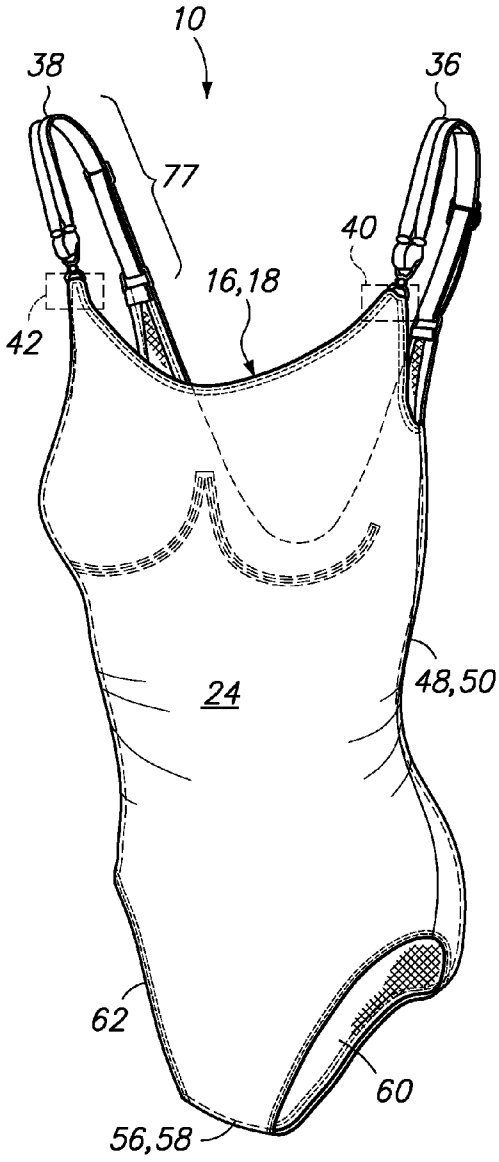

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FIG. 1

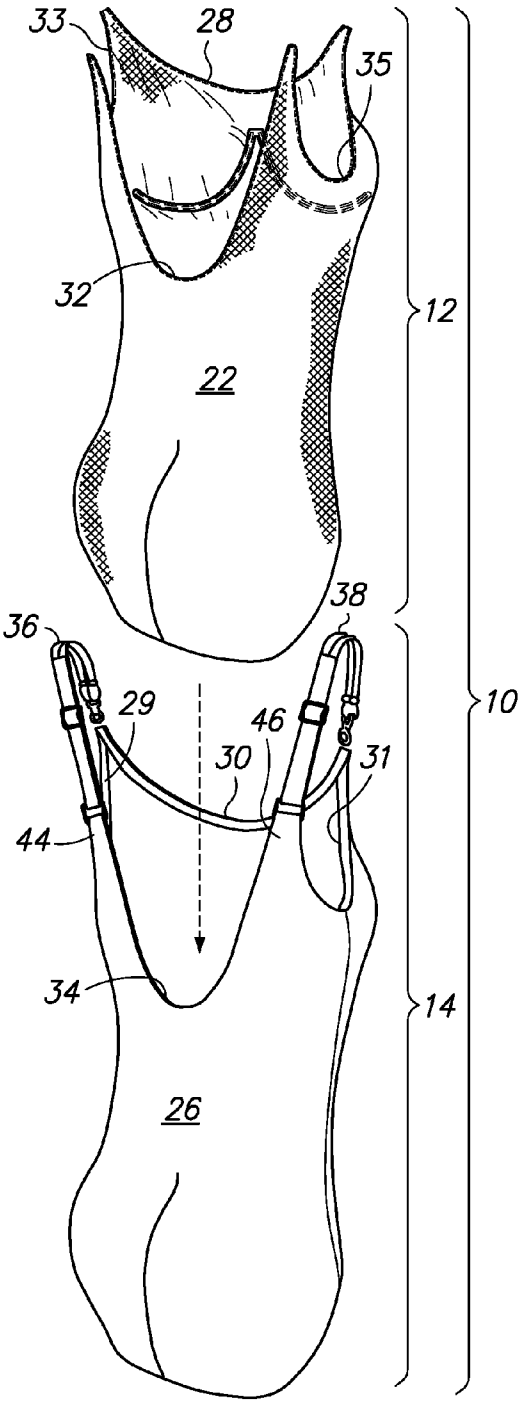
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FIG. 4

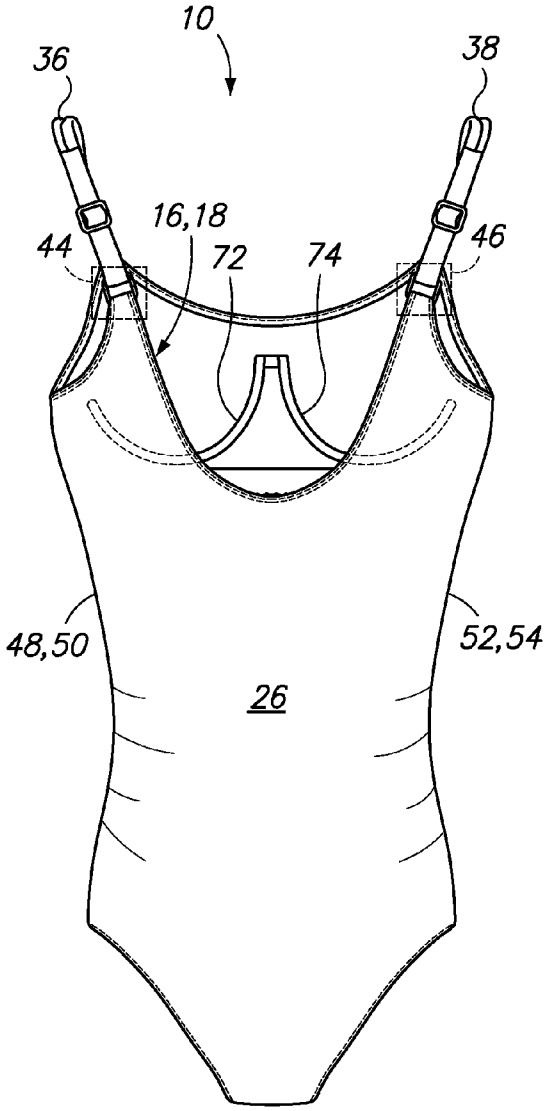
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FIG. 2

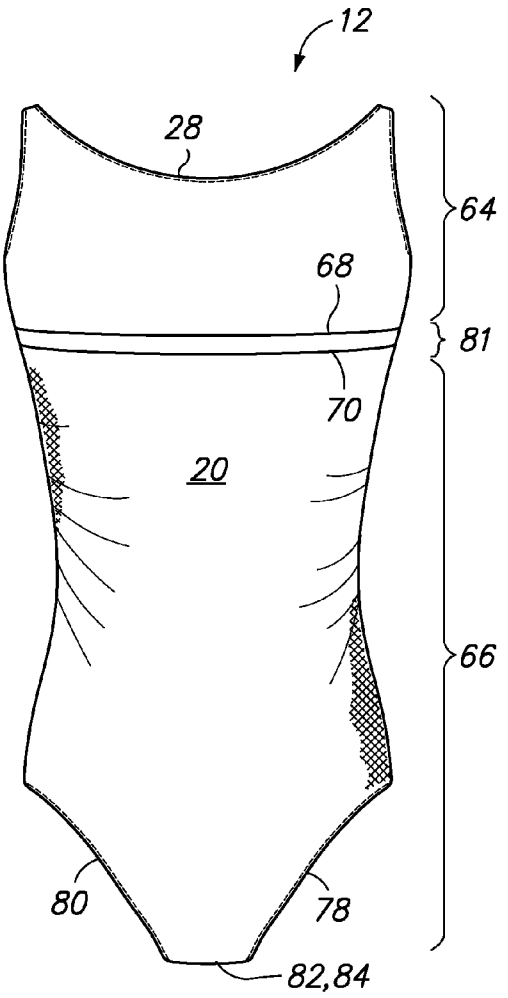
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FIG. 3

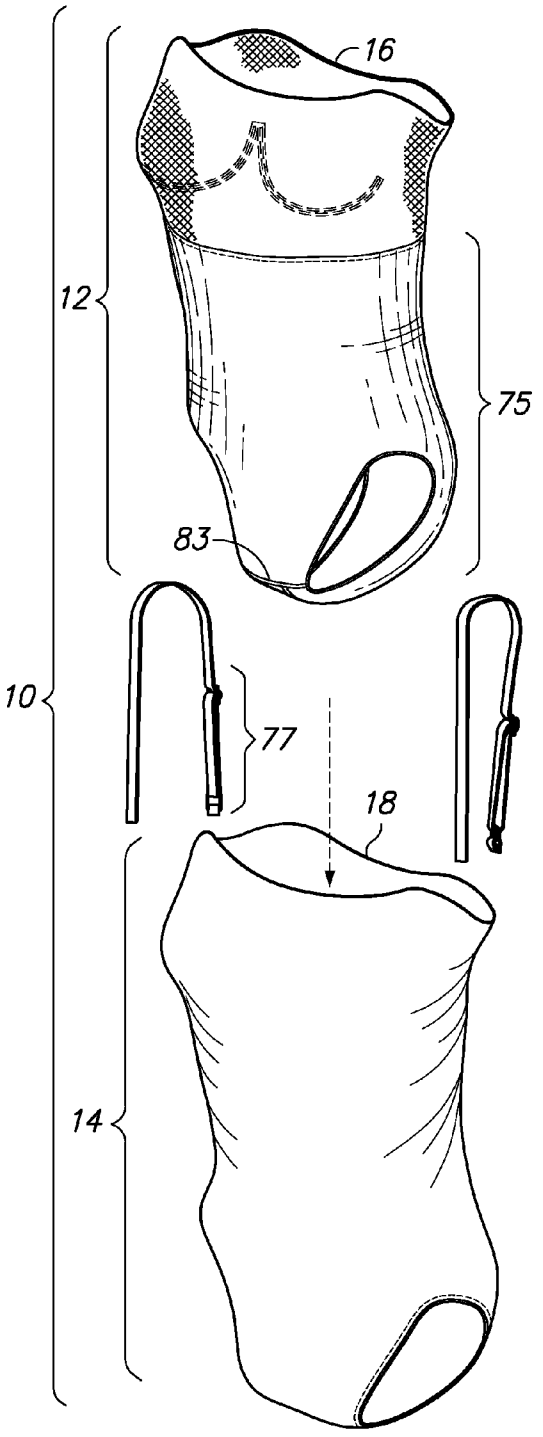
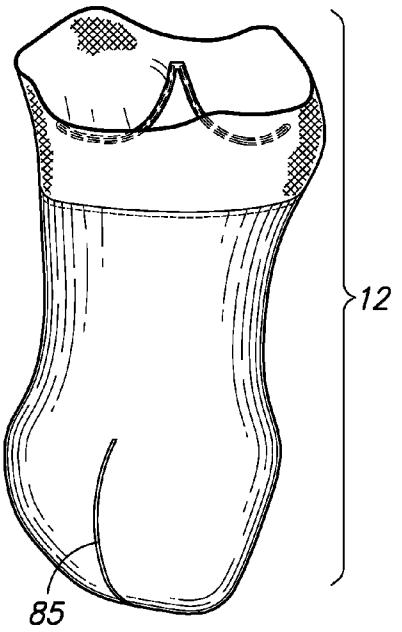


FIG. 5



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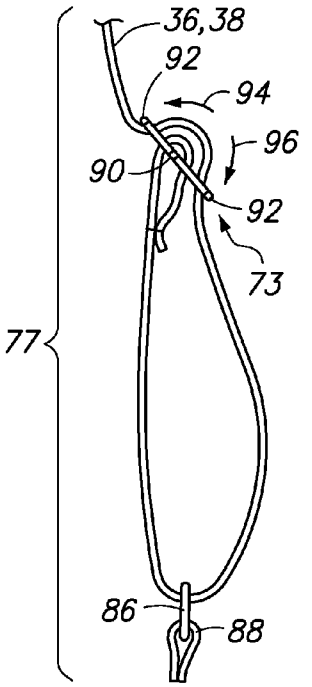
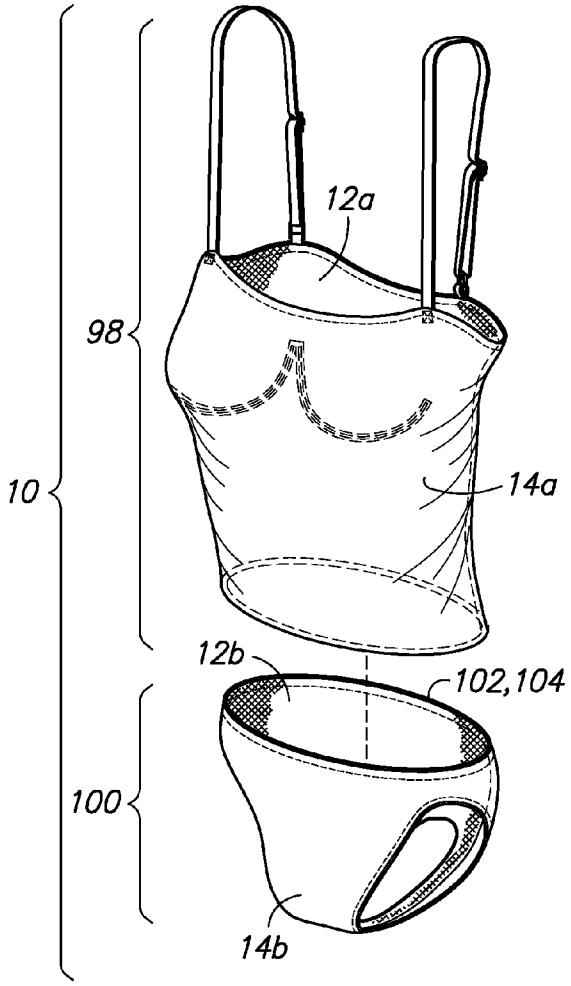


FIG. 7



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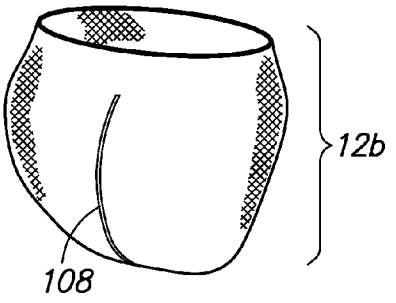
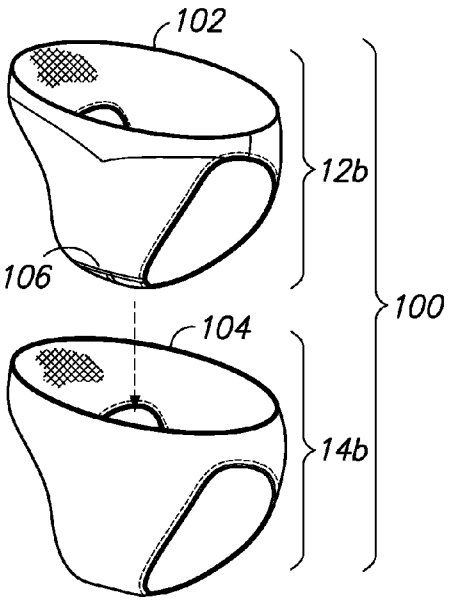


FIG. 10



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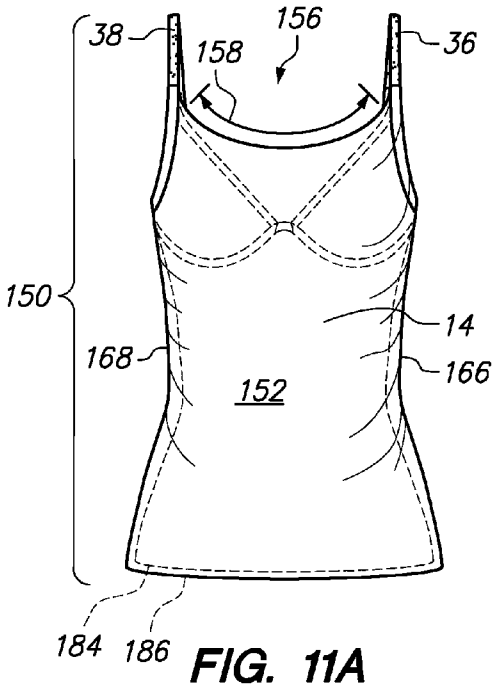


FIG. 11A

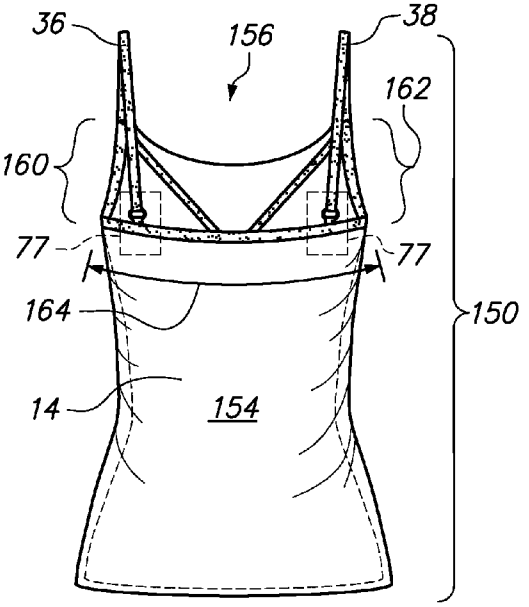
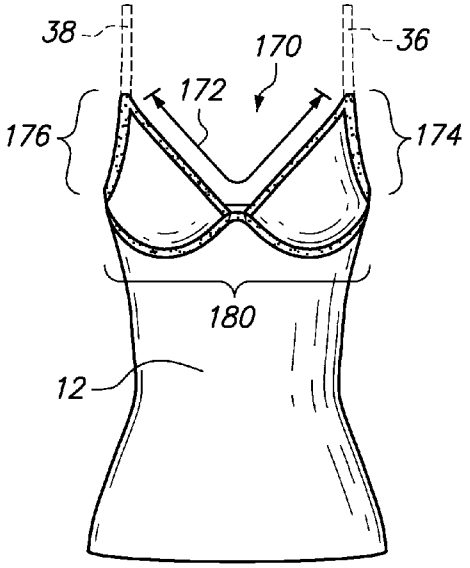


FIG. 11B



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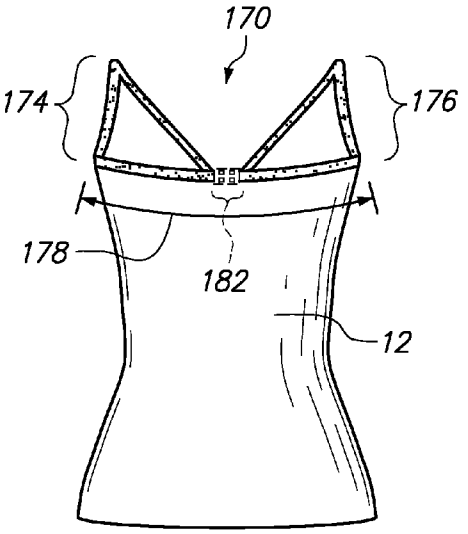


FIG. 12B

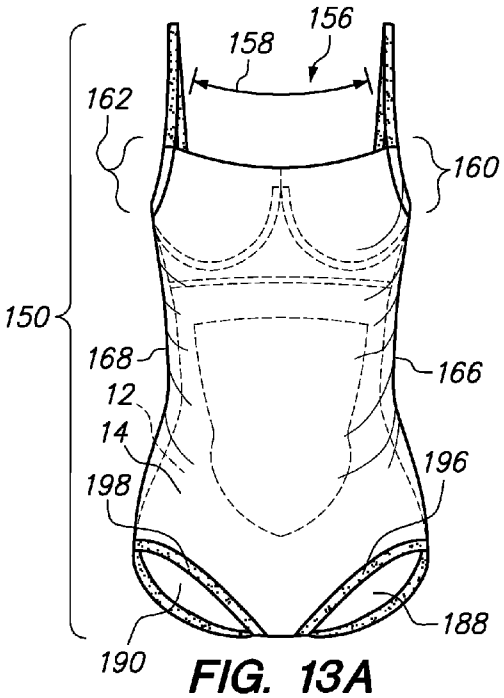


FIG. 13A

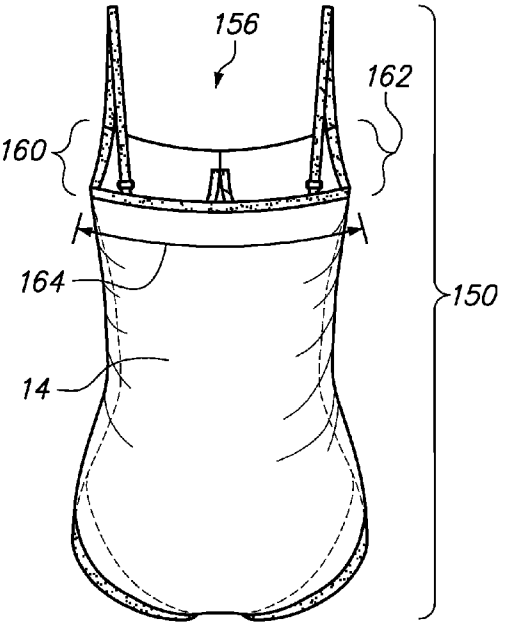
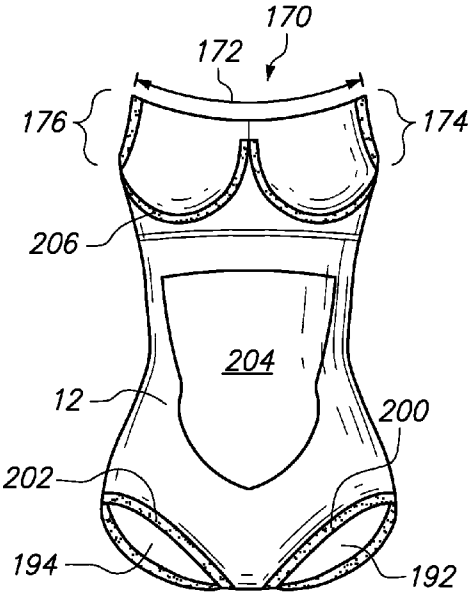


FIG. 13B



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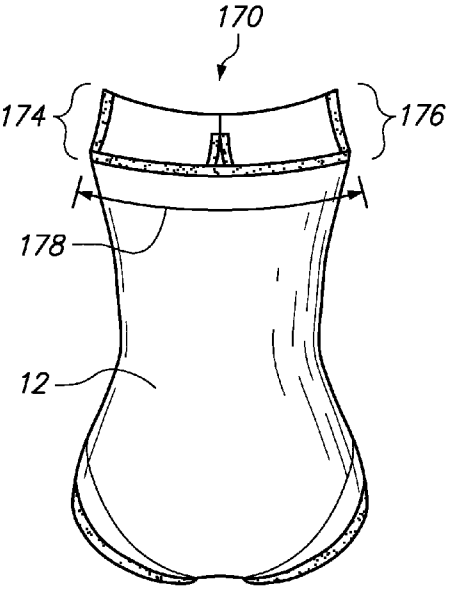


FIG. 14B

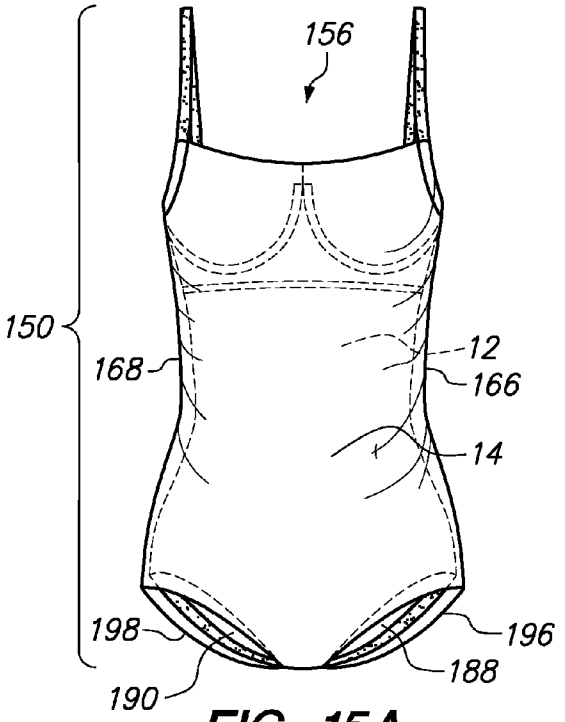
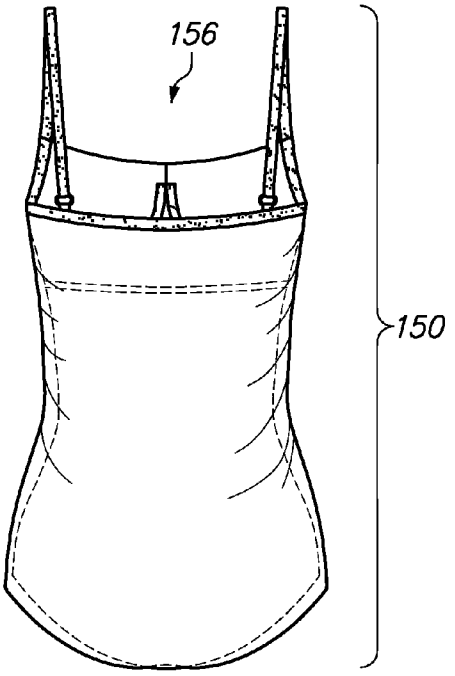


FIG. 15A



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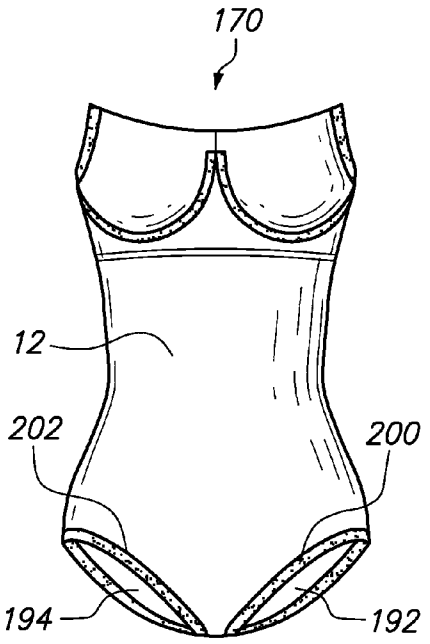


FIG. 16A

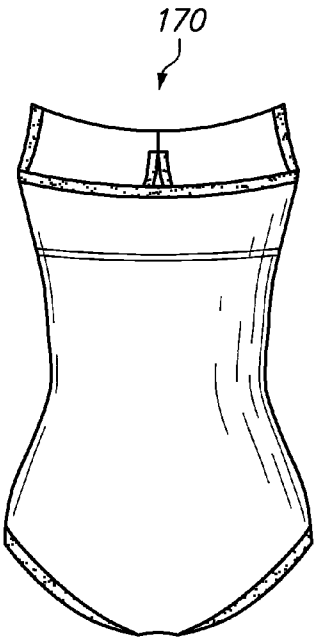


FIG. 16B

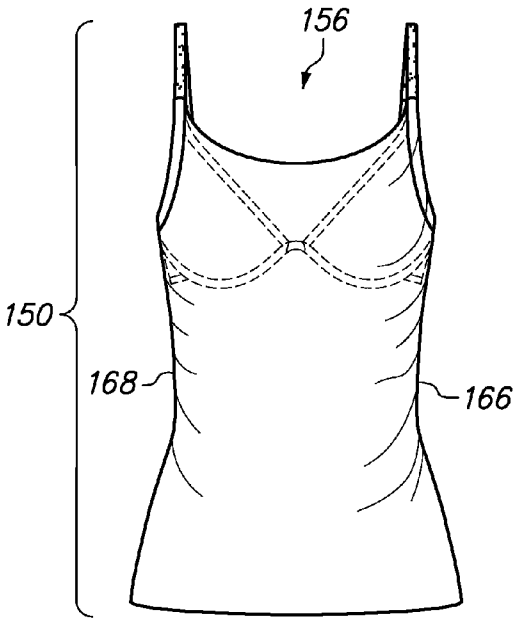


FIG. 17A

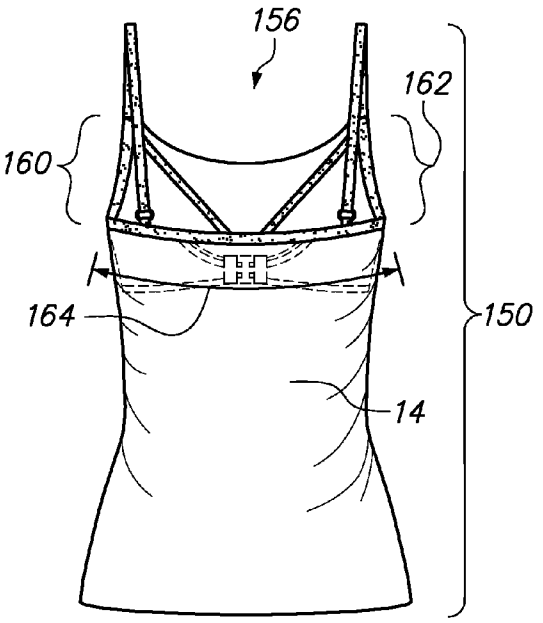
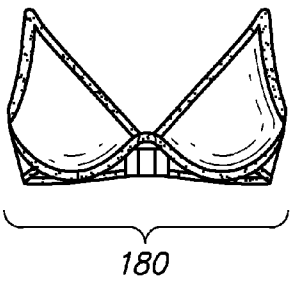


FIG. 17B



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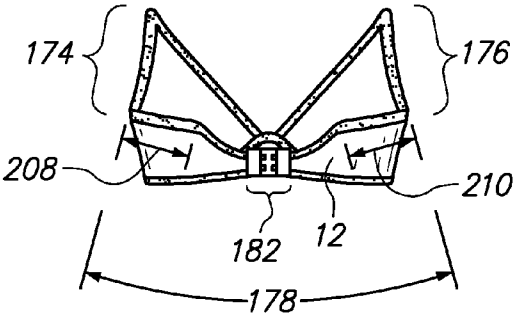


FIG. 18B

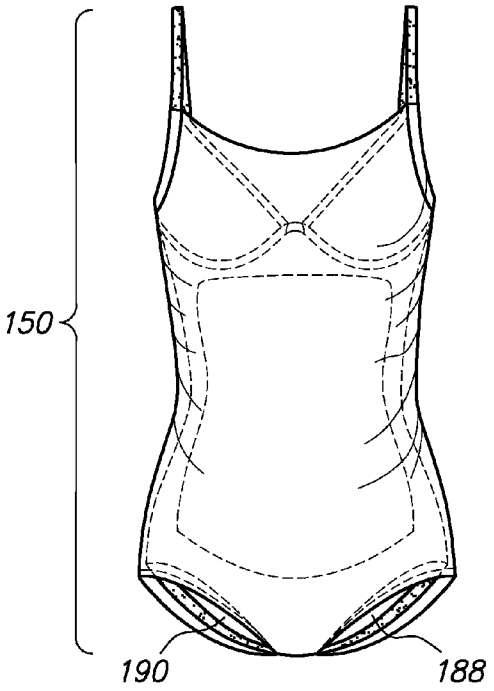


FIG. 19A

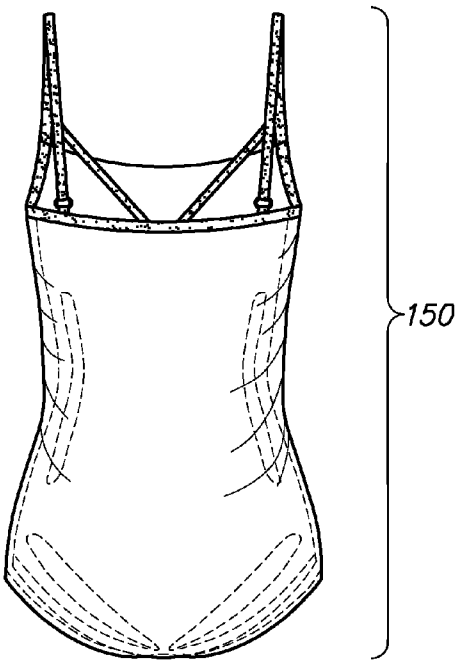


FIG. 19B

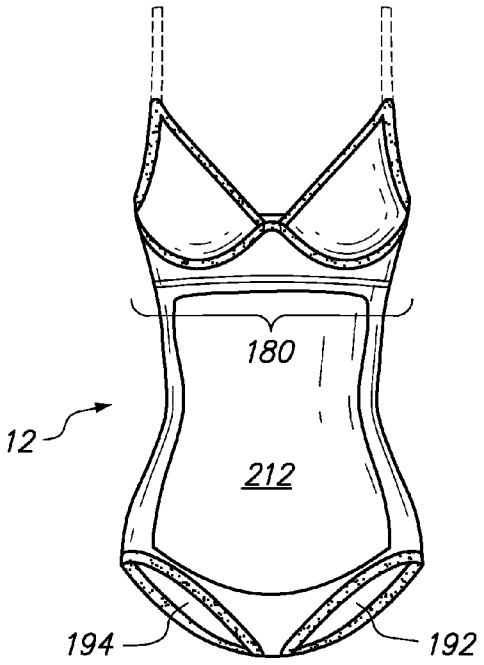


FIG. 20A

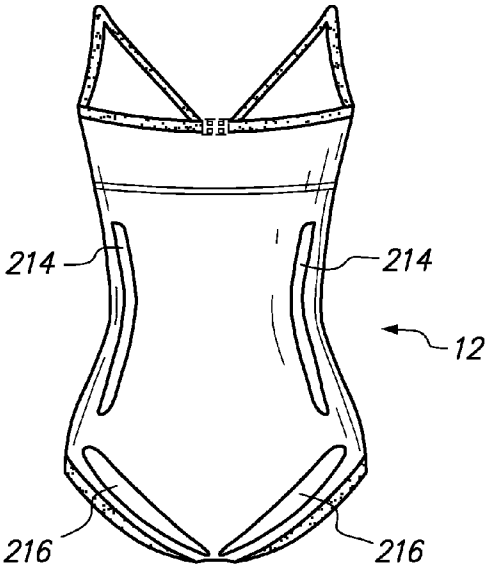


FIG. 20B

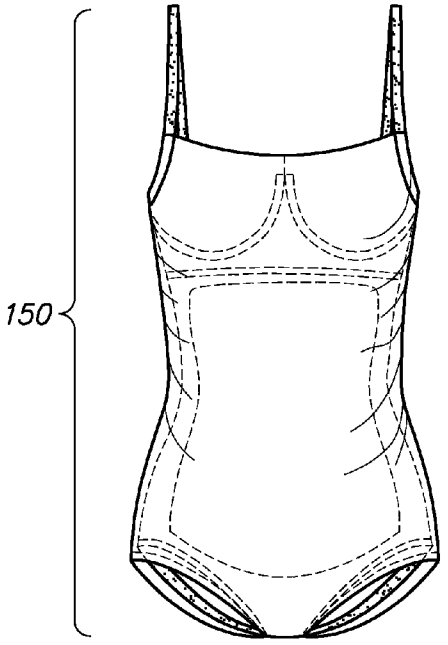


FIG. 21A

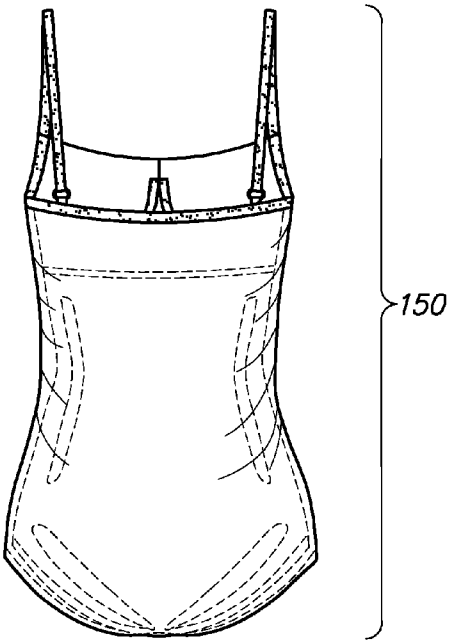


FIG. 21B

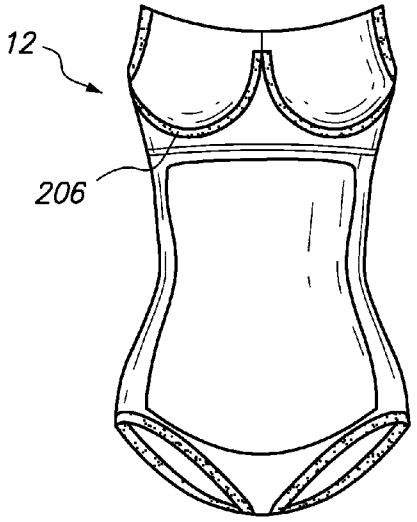


FIG. 22A

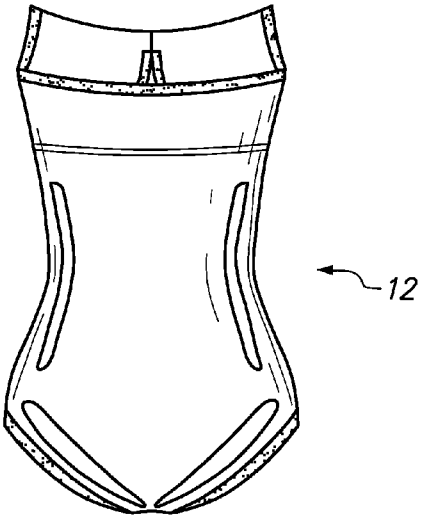


FIG. 22B

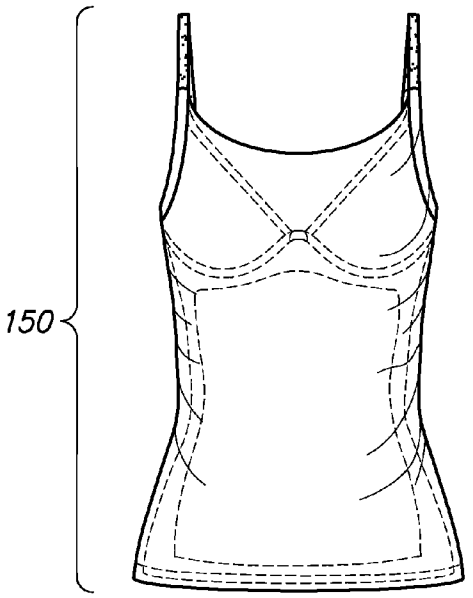
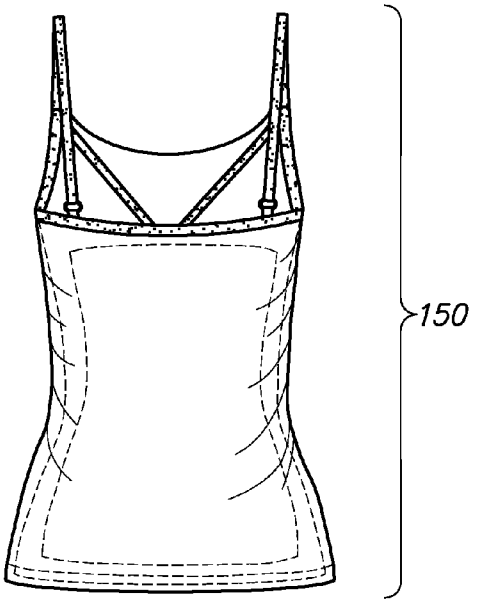


FIG. 23A



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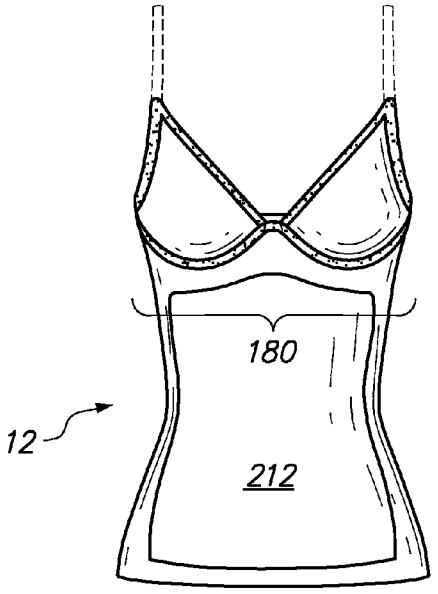

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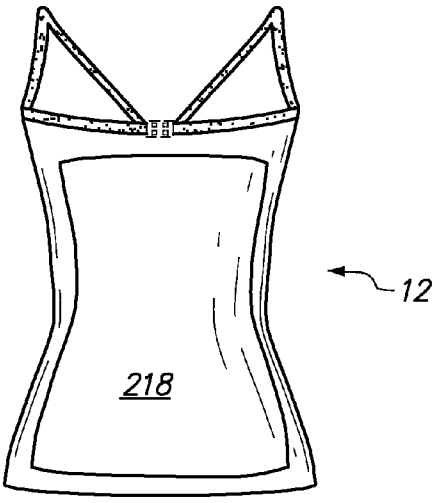

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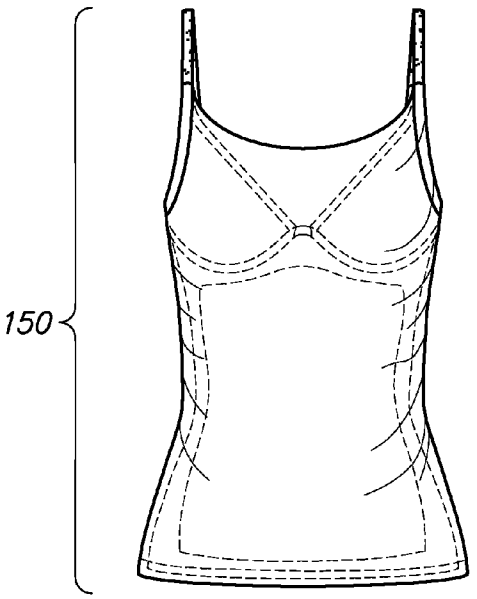
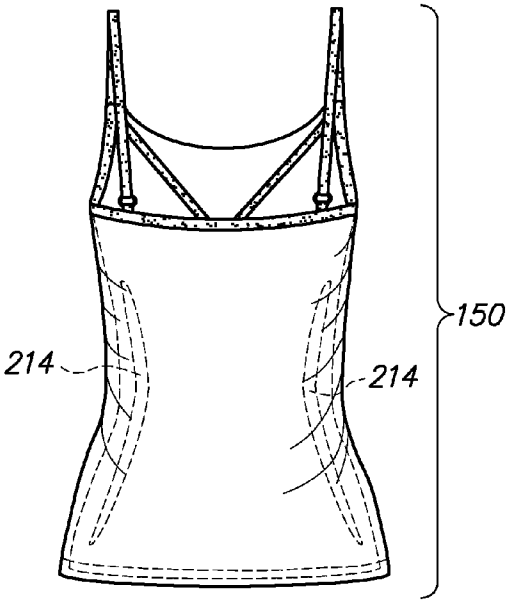


FIG. 25A



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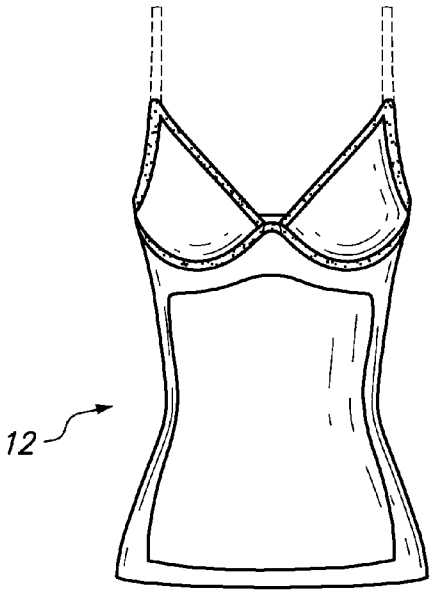

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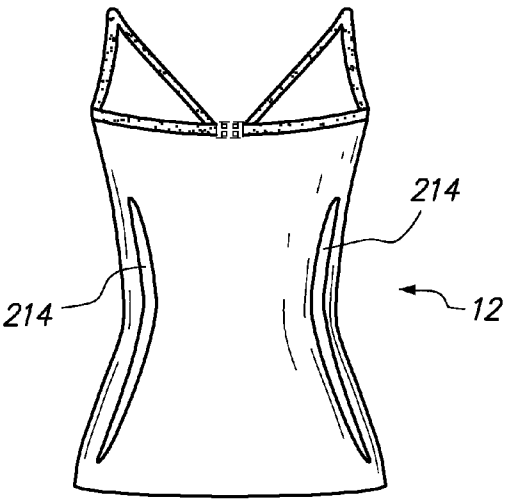


FIG. 26B

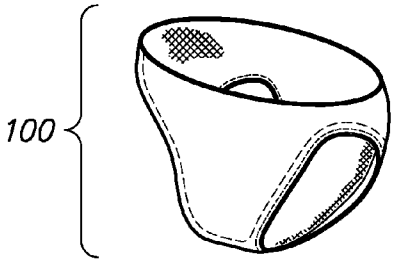
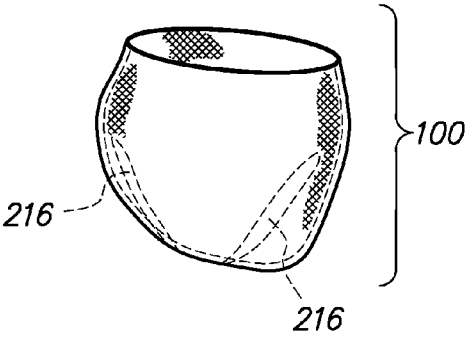


FIG. 27A



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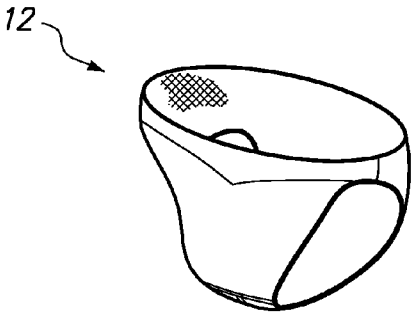

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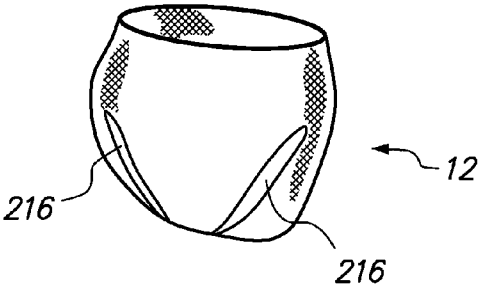

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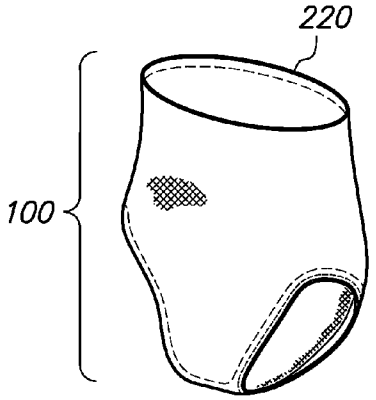

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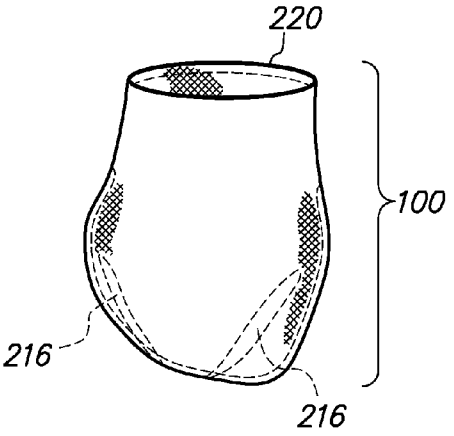

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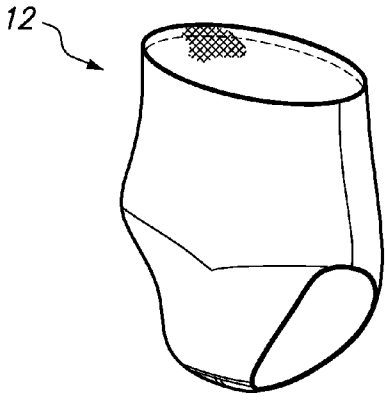

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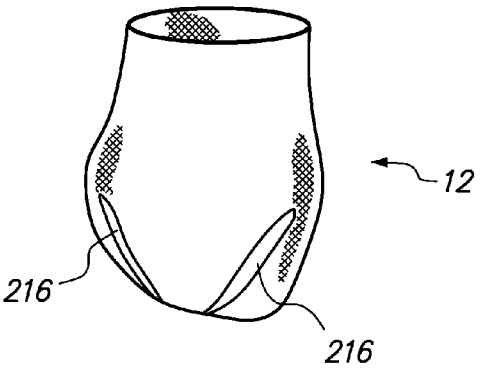


FIG. 30B

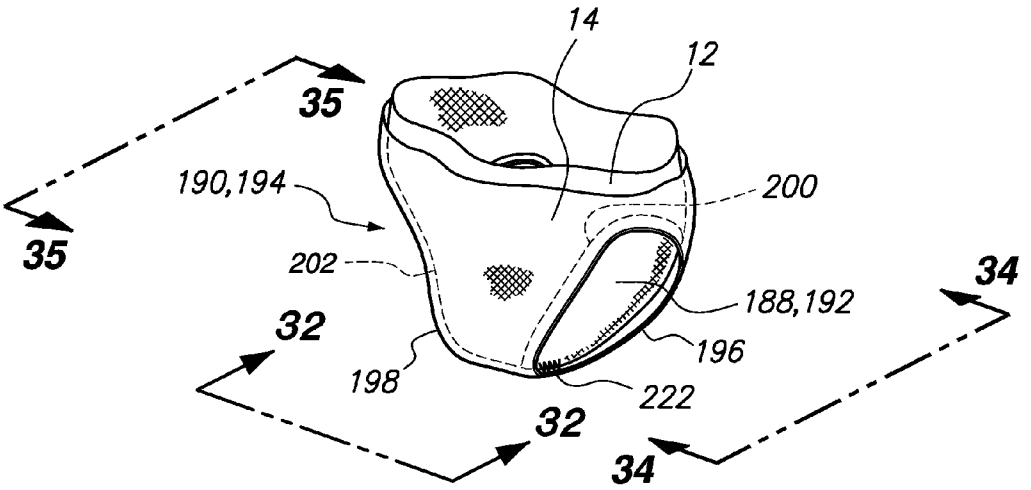


FIG. 31

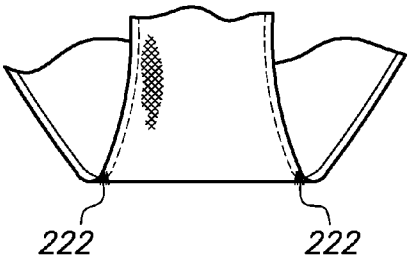


FIG. 32

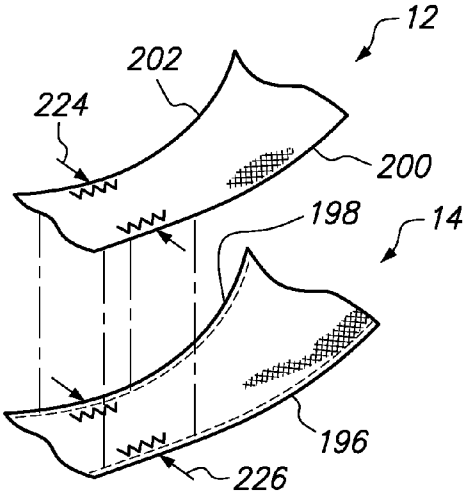


FIG. 33

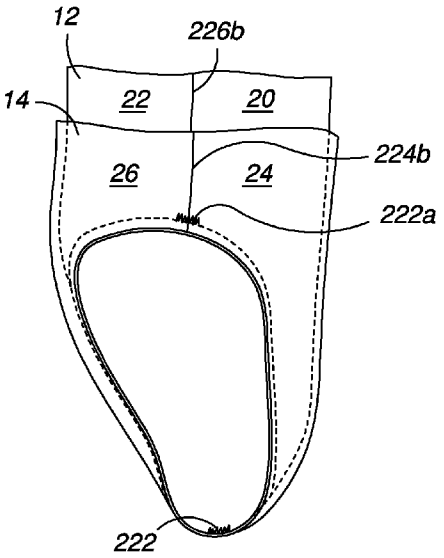
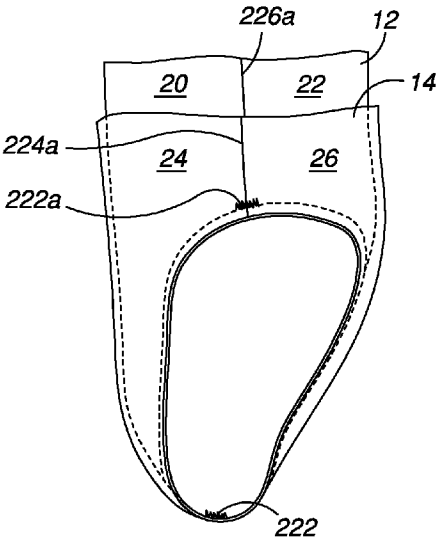


FIG. 34



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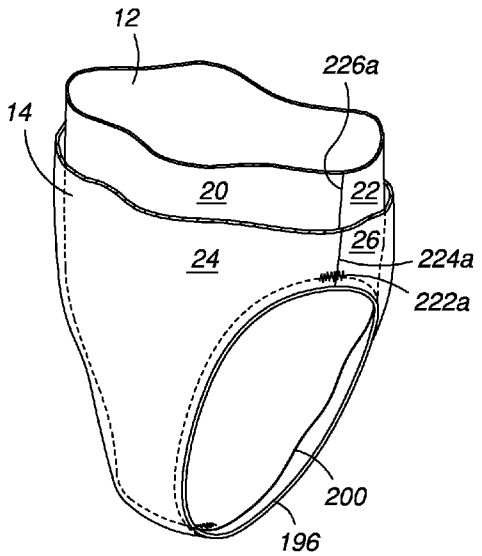

FIG. 36

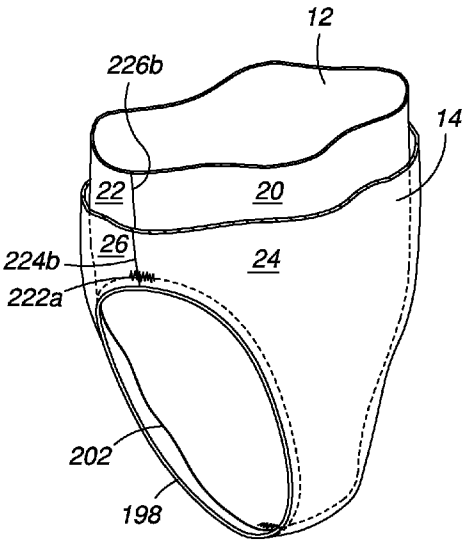

FIG. 37

FREE-FLOATING DUAL LAYER SWIMSUIT

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This is a continuation in part application of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 12/886,442, filed Sep. 20, 2010, which is a continuation in part application of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 11/825,047, filed Jul. 3, 2007 which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 11/787,636, filed Apr. 17, 2007, the entire contents of which are expressly incorporated herein by reference.

STATEMENT RE: FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH/DEVELOPMENT

[0002] Not Applicable

BACKGROUND

[0003] The present invention relates to a multi-layered swimsuit for contouring a wearer's body and providing an aesthetically pleasing exterior layer.

[0004] Multi-layered swimsuits are old in the art. In particular, the multi-layered swimsuit may have an inner garment and an outer garment. The outer garment provides a visually pleasing appearance, whereas the inner garment may aid in hiding various private portions of the wearer's body and may also be used to shape the wearer's body.

[0005] Unfortunately, the prior art swimsuits having multiple layers are manufactured in a way that optimal placement of the inner garment on the wearer's body may shift placement of the outer garment on the wearer's body so as to be sub-optimal, and vice versa. As such, the wearer must choose either to optimally place the inner garment on the wearer's body or optimally place the outer garment on the wearer's body. Either the exterior layer is not optimally placed or the inner layer is not optimally placed.

[0006] Accordingly, there is a need in the art for an improved multi layered swimsuit.

BRIEF SUMMARY

[0007] The swimsuit described herein addresses the problems identified above, identified below and those that are known in the art.

[0008] The swimsuit may comprise an inner compression layer which is attached to an outer layer in a free floating manner. By way of example and not limitation, an upper periphery of the inner compression layer may be permanently or temporarily attached (e.g., stitched, button, snaps, etc.) to an upper periphery of the outer layer. Alternatively, a portion of the upper periphery of the inner compression layer may be permanently or temporarily attached to a portion of the upper periphery of the outer layer. In either case, the inner compression layer may be optimally placed on the wearer's body substantially independent from the placement of the outer layer on the wearer's body, and vice versa. As such, the inner compression layer may be optimally placed on the wearer's body to contour the wearer's body as well as the outer layer may be optimally placed on the wearer's body for a visually appealing effect and hiding seams of the inner layer, if any.

[0009] In an aspect of the swimsuit, the outer layer may be strapped over the shoulders of the wearer to hold the outer layer up on the wearer's body. As discussed herein, the outer layer and the inner layer are attached to each other at their respective upper peripheries or portions thereof. The attachment between the outer and inner layers causes the straps of the outer layer to also hold the inner layer up on the wearer's body. Fortunately, the inner and outer layers are disposed under the crotch area of the wearer such that the inner and outer layers do not creep upward. Hence, the straps attached to the outer layer prevent the outer layer from falling down on the wearer's body. Also, the attachment between the outer and inner layers prevents the inner layer from falling down on the wearer's body. Conversely, the inner and outer layers are separately disposed under the crotch area so as to prevent the inner and outer layers from creeping upward on the wearer's body. In this manner, the inner layer and outer layer are securely held on the wearer's body.

[0010] In an aspect of the swimsuit, the inner layer and the upper layer are attached to each other at their respective upper peripheries. Also, the outer layer may completely cover the inner layer such that the inner layer is not externally visible when the swimsuit is worn. One of the benefits of attaching the outer and inner layers at their respective upper peripheries is that shifting of the inner and outer layers with respect to each other does not externally expose the inner layer.

[0011] The swimsuit may be a one piece swimsuit which extends from the crotch area to the shoulders of the wearer's body. The inner and outer layers may have substantially identical configurations. Alternatively, the swimsuit may be a two piece swimsuit.

[0012] Optionally, the straps of the swimsuit may incorporate an adjustable strap system.

[0013] More particularly, a swim suit is disclosed which comprises a one piece inner compression layer and a one piece outer layer. The one piece inner compression layer covers the genitalia, breasts, and a portion of a wearer's body therebetween. The inner compression layer may be sized and configured to snugly fit against the wearer's body for shaping the wearer's body. The inner compression layer may define an upper periphery.

[0014] The one piece outer layer covers the inner compression layer and may have a matching configuration with respect to the inner compression layer. The outer layer may define an upper periphery. The outer layer may be attached to the inner compression layer at their respective upper peripheries such that the inner compression layer floats freely with respect to the outer layer for optimally orienting the inner layer on the wearer's body for shaping and optimally orienting the outer layer on the wearer's body for aesthetic appeal.

[0015] The outer layer may compress the wearer's body for further shaping the wearer's body. The inner layer may float freely with respect to the outer layer such that the inner compression layer may be oriented on the wearer's body substantially independent from the orientation of the outer layer.

[0016] A majority of the upper peripheries of the inner compression layer and the outer layer may be substantially attached to each other. Alternatively, less than half of the upper peripheries of the inner compression layer and the outer layer are minimally attached to each other. The inner compression layer may be attached to an inside surface of the outer layer. The inner compression layer may be attached to the outer layer solely at their respective upper peripheries.

[0017] A strap may be attached to the upper periphery of the outer layer to hold the swim suit up when worn by the wearer. The strap may include an adjustable strap system for adjusting a length of the strap such that the swim suit may be customized to fit the wearer.

[0018] The outer layer may comprise a front panel defining an upper edge, a back panel defining an upper edge, and an elastic strap attached to the upper edges of the front and back panels to hold the swim suit up when worn by the wearer and for fitting various sized wearers.

[0019] The front and back panels may each define left and right strap attachment portions. A left elastic strap may be attached to the left strap attachment portions of the front and back panels. A right elastic strap may be attached to the right strap attachment portions of the front and back panels.

[0020] The inner and outer layers are disposed under a crotch area of the wearer to prevent the inner and outer layers from rising upward.

[0021] The outer layer may cover the entire inner compression layer.

[0022] A portion of or the entire inner compression layer may be seamless.

[0023] The inner compression layer may be cut and sewn.

[0024] In another embodiment, a swim suit for a wearer is disclosed. The swim suit may comprise an upper portion for covering a torso and breasts of a wearer. The upper portion may comprise an inner compression layer and an outer layer. The inner compression layer may cover breasts of a wearer. The inner compression layer may be sized and configured to snugly fit against the wearer's body for shaping the wearer's body. The inner compression layer may define an upper periphery. The outer layer may cover the inner compression layer and have a matching configuration with respect to the inner compression layer. The outer layer may define an upper periphery. The outer layer may be attached to the inner compression layer at their respective upper peripheries such that the inner compression layer floats freely with respect to the outer layer for optimally orienting the inner layer on the wearer's body for shaping and optimally orienting the outer layer on the wearer's body for aesthetic appeal.

[0025] The swimsuit may also have a lower portion for covering a pelvis area of a wearer. The lower portion may comprise an inner compression layer and an outer layer. The inner compression layer may cover genetalia of a wearer. The inner compression layer may be sized and configured to snugly fit against the wearer's body for shaping the wearer's body. The inner compression layer may define an upper periphery. The outer layer may cover the inner compression layer and have a matching configuration with respect to the inner compression layer. The outer layer may define an upper periphery. The outer layer may be attached to the inner compression layer at their respective upper peripheries such that the inner compression layer floats freely with respect to the outer layer for optimally orienting the inner layer on the wearer's body for shaping and optimally orienting the outer layer on the wearer's body for aesthetic appeal.

[0026] In another embodiment, a swim suit wearable by a wearer is disclosed. The swim suit may comprise a one piece inner compression layer and a one piece outer layer. The one piece inner compression layer may cover genitalia, breasts, and a portion of a wearer's body therebetween. The inner compression layer may be sized and configured to snugly fit against the wearer's body for shaping the wearer's body. The inner compression layer may define an upper periphery. The one piece outer layer may cover the inner compression layer. The outer layer may define an upper periphery. The outer layer may be attached to the inner compression layer only at the entire or majority of the upper peripheries of the inner and outer compression layers.

[0027] The swimsuit may also incorporate one or more of a flatter tummy panel, side panels, back panel and butt lifters attached to the inner layer.

[0028] In another embodiment, a swim suit wearable by a wearer is disclosed. The swim suit may comprise an upper portion for covering a torso and breasts of a wearer. The upper portion may comprise an inner compression layer and an outer layer. The inner compression layer may cover breasts of a wearer. The inner compression layer may be sized and configured to snugly fit against the wearer's body for shaping the wearer's body. The inner compression layer may define an upper periphery. The outer layer may cover the inner compression layer. The outer layer may define an upper periphery. The outer layer may be attached to the inner compression layer only at the entire or majority of the upper peripheries of the inner compression layer and outer layer. The swimsuit may also incorporate one or more of a flatter tummy panel, side panels, and back panel attached to the inner layer.

[0029] In another embodiment, a swim suit wearable by a wearer is disclosed. The swim suit may comprise a lower portion for covering a pelvis area of the wearer. The lower portion may comprise an inner compression layer and an outer layer. The inner compression layer may cover genetalia of wearer. The inner compression layer may be sized and configured to snugly fit against the wearer's body for shaping the wearer's body. The inner compression layer may define an upper periphery. The outer layer may cover the inner compression layer. The outer layer may define an upper periphery. The outer compression layer may be attached to the inner compression layer only at the entire or majority of the upper peripheries of the inner and outer compression layers. The swimsuit may also incorporate butt lifters attached to the inner layer.

[0030] In another embodiment, a garment wearable by a wearer is disclosed. The swim suit may comprise an inner contouring layer and an outer layer. The inner contouring layer may cover breasts of a wearer's body. The inner layer may be sized and configured to snugly fit against the wearer's body for shaping the wearer's body. The inner contouring layer may define an upper periphery. The inner layer may have an upper periphery defined by a front neckline, left and right arm holes and a back neckline. The outer layer may cover the inner layer. The outer layer may have an upper periphery defined by a front neckline, left and right arm holes and a back neckline. The outer layer may be attached only at an entire or majority of the lengths of the left and right arm holes of the outer layer and the left and right arm holes of the inner contouring layer. The inner and outer layers may be sewn together where attached.

[0031] The inner and outer layers may form a swimsuit.

[0032] The inner contouring layer may be a bra. The bra may be an underwire bra or a molded bra.

[0033] The inner layer may cover an abdomen of the wearer. The inner layer may incorporate a tummy flatter panel.

[0034] The inner and outer layers may define left and right leg openings. The left and right leg openings of the inner layer may be free floating from the left and right leg openings of the outer layer. Inner peripheries of the left and right leg openings of the inner layer may be attached to the inner peripheries of the left and right leg openings of the outer layer. The inner peripheries of the left and right leg openings of the inner layer may be stitched to the inner peripheries of the left and right leg openings of the outer layer.

[0035] In another embodiment, a garment is disclosed. The garment may include an inner compression layer and an outer aesthetic layer. The inner compression layer may cover genitalia of a wearer. The inner compression layer may be sized and configured to snugly fit against the wearer's body for shaping the wearer's body. The inner compression layer may define an upper periphery and left and right leg openings which define left and right inner peripheries. The outer aesthetic layer may cover the inner compression layer and have a matching configuration with respect to the inner compression layer. The outer layer may define an upper periphery and left and right leg openings which define left and right inner peripheries. The outer layer may be attached to the inner compression layer at their respective upper peripheries such that the inner compression layer floats freely with respect to the outer layer for optimally orienting the inner layer on the wearer's body for shaping and optimally orienting the outer layer on the wearer's body for aesthetic appeal. The inner periphery of the left leg opening of the inner compression layer may be spot attached to the inner periphery of the left leg opening of the outer layer. Also, the inner periphery of the right leg opening of the inner compression layer may be spot attached to the inner periphery of the right leg opening of the outer layer.

[0036] The inner and outer layers may form a swimsuit or a one piece swimsuit. The inner and outer layers may form a lower portion of a two piece swimsuit.

[0037] The inner and outer layers may be fabricated from a quick drying material.

[0038] In the garment, a width of the inner layer at a crotch area may be smaller than a width of the outer layer at the corresponding crotch area.

[0039] The spot attachment may be one of stitching, adhesive, welding, snaps, hooks and loops, micro hooks and loops and combinations thereof. The spot attachment may be a ¼ inch long threaded stitching. The spot attachment may be located only at the peripheries of the left and right leg openings of the inner and outer layers.

[0040] The attachment spot may be located at a lower side of the peripheries of the left and right leg openings of the inner and outer layers. In addition thereto or in the alternatively, the attachment spot may be located at an upper side of the peripheries of the left and right leg openings of the inner and outer layers.

[0041] The spot attachment may be located at seams where front and back panels of the inner and outer layers meet.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0042] These and other features and advantages of the various embodiments disclosed herein will be better understood with respect to the following description and drawings, in which like numbers refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

[0043] FIG. **1** is a front perspective view of a swimsuit;

[0044] FIG. **2** is a rear view of the swimsuit shown in FIG. **1**;

[0045] FIG. **3** is a front view of an inner layer of the swimsuit;

[0046] FIG. **4** is a rear exploded perspective view of the swimsuit shown in FIG. **1** illustrating the inner layer for contouring a wearer's body and an outer layer for providing an aesthetically pleasing appearance;

[0047] FIG. **5** is a front exploded perspective view of a second embodiment of the swimsuit;

[0048] FIG. **6** is a rear perspective view of the inner compression layer shown in FIG. **5**;

[0049] FIG. **7** is an enlarged side view of an adjustable strap system for adjusting a strap of the outer layer shown in FIG. **5**;

[0050] FIG. **8** illustrates a third embodiment of the swimsuit wherein a top portion comprises an inner compression layer free floating with respect to an outer layer and a bottom portion comprises an inner compression layer free floating with respect to an outer layer;

[0051] FIG. **9** is an exploded front perspective view of the bottom portion shown in FIG. **8**;

[0052] FIG. **10** is a rear perspective view of the inner compression layer shown in FIG. **9**;

[0053] FIG. **11**A is a front view of a fourth embodiment of the swimsuit;

[0054] FIG. **11**B is a rear view of the swimsuit shown in FIG. **11**A;

[0055] FIG. **12**A is a front view of an inner compression layer attached to an outer compression layer as shown in FIG. **11**A;

[0056] FIG. **12**B is a rear view of the inner compression layer shown in FIG. **12**A;

[0057] FIG. **13**A is a front view of a fifth embodiment of the swimsuit;

[0058] FIG. **13**B is a rear view of the swimsuit shown in FIG. **13**A;

[0059] FIG. **14**A is a front view of an inner compression layer attached to an outer compression layer as shown in FIG. **13**A;

[0060] FIG. **14**B is a rear view of the inner compression layer shown in FIG. **14**A;

[0061] FIG. **15**A is a front view of a sixth embodiment of the swimsuit;

[0062] FIG. **15**B is a rear view of the swimsuit shown in FIG. **15**A;

[0063] FIG. **16**A is a front view of an inner compression layer attached to an outer compression layer as shown in FIG. **15**A;

[0064] FIG. **16**B is a rear view of the inner compression layer shown in FIG. **16**A;

[0065] FIG. **17**A is a front view of a seventh embodiment of a garment;

[0066] FIG. **17**B is a rear view of the garment shown in FIG. **17**A;

[0067] FIG. **18**A is a front view of a bra attached to the outer garment as shown in FIG. **17**A;

[0068] FIG. **18**B is a rear view of the bra shown in FIG. **18**A

[0069] FIG. **19**A is a front view of an eighth embodiment of the swimsuit;

[0070] FIG. **19**B is a rear view of the swimsuit shown in FIG. **19**A;

[0071] FIG. **20**A is a front view of an inner compression layer attached to an outer layer as shown in FIG. **19**A;

[0072] FIG. **20**B is a rear view of the inner layer shown in FIG. **20**A;

[0073] FIG. **21**A is a front view of a ninth embodiment of the swimsuit;

[0074] FIG. **21**B is a rear view of the swimsuit shown in FIG. **21**A;

[0075] FIG. **22**A is a front view of an inner compression layer attached to an outer layer as shown in FIG. **21**A;

[0076] FIG. **22**B is a rear view of the inner compression layer shown in FIG. **22**A;

[0077] FIG. **23**A is a front view of a tenth embodiment of the swimsuit;

[0078] FIG. **23**B is a rear view of the swimsuit shown in FIG. **23**A;

[0079] FIG. **24**A is a front view of an inner compression layer attached to an outer layer as shown in FIG. **23**A;

[0080] FIG. **24**B is a rear view of the inner compression layer shown in FIG. **24**A;

[0081] FIG. **25**A is a front view of an eleventh embodiment of the swimsuit;

[0082] FIG. **25**B is a rear view of the swimsuit shown in FIG. **25**A;

[0083] FIG. **26**A is a front view of an inner compression layer attached to an outer layer as shown in FIG. **25**A;

[0084] FIG. **26**B is a rear view of the inner compression layer shown in FIG. **26**A

[0085] FIG. **27**A is a front view of a twelfth embodiment of the swimsuit;

[0086] FIG. **27**B is a rear view of the swimsuit shown in FIG. **27**A;

[0087] FIG. **28**A is a front view of an inner compression layer attached to an outer layer as shown in FIG. **27**A;

[0088] FIG. **28**B is a rear view of the inner compression layer shown in FIG. **28**A;

[0089] FIG. **29**A is a front view of a thirteenth embodiment of the swimsuit;

[0090] FIG. **29**B is a rear view of the swimsuit shown in FIG. **29**A;

[0091] FIG. **30**A is a front view of an inner compression layer attached to an outer layer as shown in FIG. **29**A;

[0092] FIG. **30**B is a rear view of the inner compression shown in FIG. **30**A;

[0093] FIG. **31** is a perspective view of a lower portion of a swimsuit;

[0094] FIG. **32** is a front view of the lower portion of the swimsuit shown in FIG. **31**;

[0095] FIG. **33** is an exploded perspective view of the lower portion of the swimsuit shown in FIG. **31**;

[0096] FIG. **34** is a left side view of the lower portion of the swimsuit shown in FIG. **31** with seams that attach the front and back panels of the inner and outer layers;

[0097] FIG. **35** is a right side view of the lower portion of the swimsuit shown in FIG. **31** with seams that attach the front and back panels of the inner and outer layers;

[0098] FIG. **36** is a right perspective view of the lower portion of the swimsuit shown in FIG. **31** with seams that attach the front and back panels of the inner and outer layers; and

[0099] FIG. **37** is a left perspective view of the lower portion of the swimsuit shown in FIG. **31** with seams that attach the front and back panels of the inner and outer layers.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0100] Referring now to the drawings, a swimsuit **10** is shown. The swimsuit **10** comprises an inner compression layer **12** and an outer layer **14** attached to each other in a free floating manner. The inner compression layer **12** shapes, contours and slims one or more areas of a wearer's body including but not limited to buttocks, stomachs, breasts, and hips. It is contemplated that the inner compression layer **12** may shape other areas of the wearer's body such as the thighs, arms, etc. The outer layer **14** may cover the entire inner compression layer **12** (see FIG. **1**) such that the inner compression layer **12** is not externally visible and may additionally provide an aesthetically pleasing visible appearance.

[0101] Referring now to FIGS. **1-4**, the inner compression layer **12** may be attached to the outer layer **14** in a free floating manner. In particular, the inner compression layer **12** may define an upper periphery **16**, as shown in FIGS. **1** and **2**. Also, the outer layer **14** may also define an upper periphery **18**, as shown in FIGS. **1** and **2**. The inner compression layer **12** and the outer layer **14** may be attached to each other at the upper peripheries **16**, **18** of the inner compression layer **12** and the outer layer **14**. By attaching the inner compression layer **12** and the outer layer **14** at the upper peripheries **16**, **18** (see FIGS. **1** and **2**) of the inner compression layer **12** and the outer layer **14**, the inner compression layer **12** may be positioned on the wearer's body to optimally shape, contour or slim the wearer's body. Additionally, the outer layer **14** may be optimally positioned on the wearer's body to provide an optimal visible and aesthetically pleasing appearance. The outer layer **14** does not substantially shift the position of the inner layer **12**, and vice versa such that the inner compression layer **12** may be optimally placed on the wearer's body for contouring and the outer layer **14** may be optimally placed on the wearer's body for aesthetic purposes and to hide the seam lines of the inner layer **12**. In this regard, the inner compression layer **12** may be characterized as free floating with respect to the outer layer **14**.

[0102] Referring now to FIG. **4**, the upper periphery **18** of the outer layer **14** defined by upper edges **30**, **34** and underarm edges **29**, **31** may be attached to the upper periphery **16** of the inner compression layer **12** defined by the upper edges **28**, **32** and underarm edges **33**, **35**. By way of example and not limitation, the upper edges **30**, **34** and underarm edges **29**, **31** may be attached to respective upper edges **28**, **32** and underarm edges **33**, **35**. Alternatively, a portion of one or more of the upper edges **30**, **34** and/or underarm edges **29**, **31** may be attached to a respective portion of one or more of the upper edges **28**, **32** and/or underarm edges **33**, **35**.

[0103] More particularly, the inner compression layer **12** may comprise a forward panel **20** (see FIG. **3**) as well as rearward panel **22** (see FIG. **4**). Also, the outer layer **14** may comprise a front panel **24** (see FIG. **1**) and a back panel **26** (see FIG. **4**). The upper edge **28** (see FIGS. **3** and **4**) of the forward panel **20**, the upper edge **32** (see FIG. **4**) of the rearward panel **22**, the left underarm edge **33**, and/or the right underarm edge **35** of the inner compression layer **12** may be attached to the upper edge **30** (see FIG. **4**) of the front panel **24**, the upper edge **34** (see FIG. **4**) of the back panel **26**, the left underarm edge **29**, and/or the right underarm edge **31** of the outer layer **14** such that the wearer may step into the swimsuit **10** without getting tangled in the inner and outer layers **12**, **14**. It is also contemplated that the upper peripheries **16**, **18** of the inner and outer layers **12**, **14** may be characterized as being attached to each other in a free floating manner when one or more of the corresponding edges are at least partially or entirely attached to each other.

[0104] The swimsuit **10** may have left and right straps **36**, **38** attached to the front and back panels **24**, **26** of the outer layer **14** to hold the swimsuit **10** up on the wearer's body. In particular, the front panel **24** of the outer layer **14** may define left and right terminating portions **40**, **42** (see FIG. **1**). Similarly, the back panel **26** may also define left and right terminating portions **44**, **46** (see FIGS. **2** and **4**). The left strap **36** may be attached to the left terminating portion **40** of the front panel **24** and the left terminating portion **44** of the back panel

26. Also, the right strap **38** may be attached to the right terminating portion **42** of the front panel **24** and the right terminating portion **46** of the back panel **26**. The left and right straps **36**, **38** may be fabricated from an elastic material to accommodate various body lengths of wearers. When the swimsuit **10** is worn, the straps **36**, **38** are stretched over the shoulders of the wearer. The straps **36**, **38** being fabricated from an elastic material pulls the outer layer **14** upward. Since the outer layer **14** is also attached to the inner layer **12**, the inner layer **12** is also urged upward. However, as discussed herein, the inner and outer layers **12**, **14** are separately disposed under the crotch area of the wearer to prevent the inner and outer layers **12**, **14** from rising upward on the wearer's body. In this manner, the inner and outer layers **12**, **13** are held snugly against the wearer's body.

[0105] More particularly, the outer layer **14** has left and right elastic straps **36**, **38** that are strapped over the shoulders of the wearer. These straps **36**, **38** help to hold the swimsuit **10** up on the wearer's body such that the swimsuit **10** does not slip down. However, the inner compression layer **12** may not have straps that are disposed over the wearer's shoulders. Rather, the inner compression layer **12** may be formed without straps. The inner compression layer **12** may be attached solely to the upper periphery of the outer layer **14**. In this regard, the outer layer **14** pulls the upper periphery of the outer layer upward, and thus the upper periphery of the inner compression layer **12** being attached to the upper of the outer layer may also be pulled upward. To prevent the inner layer **12** from rising upward, the inner compression layer **12** may be sewn together at the crotch area forming left and right leg openings **78**, **80**, as shown in FIG. **3**. More particularly, the forward and rearward panels **20**, **22** may be attached to each other at the lower edges **82**, **84** (see FIG. **3**) thereof similar to the outer layer **14**. The attachment of the lower edges **82**, **84** of the inner layer's forward and rearward panels **20**, **22** holds the inner layer **12** down. The straps **36**, **38** of the outer layer **14** pull the inner layer **12** up through the attachment between the inner and outer layers **12**, **14** at the upper peripheries **16**, **18** thereof. Also, the disposition of the inner layer **12** under the crotch area holds the inner layer **12** downward. These opposing forces maintain the inner compression layer tight against the wearer's body.

[0106] The left and right straps **36**, **38** may additionally incorporate an adjustable strap system **78** which is more fully described below in relation to FIG. **5**. The adjustable strap system **78** permits the wearer to adjust the length of the straps **36**, **38** to match the size of the wearer's body. In the event that the adjustable strap system **77** is incorporated into the left and right straps **36**, **38**, the left and right straps may be fabricated from a non-elastic material or an elastic material.

[0107] The outer layer **14** may have various structures and/or designs to provide an aesthetically pleasing appearance. For example, the outer layer **14** may be fabricated from a black colored material. Additionally, the left edge **48** of the front panel **24** may be attached to the left edge **50** of the back panel **26** to form a pleated configuration, as shown in FIGS. **1** and **2**. Similarly, the right edge **52** of the front panel **24** may be attached to the right edge **54** of the back panel **26** to form a pleated configuration, as shown in FIG. **2**. As shown in FIG. **1**, a lower edge **56** of the front panel **24** may be attached to a lower edge **58** of the back panel **26** adjacent the crotch area of the wearer (see FIG. **1**) such that the front and back panels **24**, **26** may define left and right leg openings **60**, **62**. The attachment of the lower edges **56**, **58** prevent the outer layer **14** from rising upward on the wearer's body.

[0108] The left and right leg openings **60**, **62** may be formed with a trim. In particular, the fabric itself may be folded inward and sewn to hem the left and right leg openings **60**, **62**. Similarly, the upper peripheries **16**, **18** (see FIGS. **1** and **2**) may be formed with a trim by folding the fabric inward and stitching or sewing the folded fabric together. Additionally, when the upper peripheries **16**, **18** of the inner and outer layers **12**, **14** are formed with a trim, the inner compression layer **12** may be attached to the outer layer **14**.

[0109] The inner compression layer **12** may be manufactured to shape, contour and slim the wearer's body. In particular, as shown in FIG. **3**, the forward panel **20** of the inner compression layer **12** may comprise a breast panel **64** and a stomach panel **66**. The breast panel **64** may be sized and configured to substantially cover the wearer's breast. The stomach panel **66** may be sized and configured to substantially cover the wearer's stomach as well as at least a portion of the wearer's crotch area. A lower edge **68** of the breast panel **64** may be attached to an upper edge **70** of the stomach panel **66**. The lower edge **68** and the upper edge **70** may be attached to a midriff band **81**. The midriff band **81** may be elastic to compress the wearer's body below the wearer's breast. Left and right guide wires **72**, **74** (see FIG. **2**), each having a U-shaped configuration may be attached to a left portion and a right portion of the breast panel **64**, as shown in FIG. **2** to shape the breast of the wearer. It is contemplated that various elastic strips may be attached to the forward and rearward panels **20**, **22** of the inner compression layer **12** to achieve various shaping, contouring and slimming objectives. It is also contemplated that the inner compression layer **12** may provide general and/or specific compression to the wearer's body to smoothen any folded fat of the wearer. The inner compression panel **12** may be fabricated to be tight on the wearer's body to compress, shape and form the wearer's body into a desired shapely form.

[0110] In an aspect of the swimsuit **10** shown in FIGS. **1-4**, the inner compression layer **12** may be cut and sewn to provide better fit and/or compression. Alternatively, the inner compression layer **12** may be seamless.

[0111] Referring now to FIG. **5**, a second embodiment of the swimsuit **10** is shown. The swimsuit **10** may incorporate one or more of the various features discussed above in relation to the swimsuit shown in FIGS. **1-4**. Moreover, the lower portion **75** of the inner compression layer **12** may be seamless. In particular, the lower portion **75** may be fabricated similar to a tube. Unlike the inner compression layer **12** shown in FIGS. **3** and **4**, the inner compression layer **12** shown in FIG. **6** does not have separate forward and rearward panels **20**, **22** which are sewn together at their lateral peripheries. Rather, the lower portion **75** of the inner compression layer **12** may be fabricated as a tube so as to be seamless about its outer periphery. Alternatively, the lower portion **75** of the inner compression layer may be cut and sewn to provide better fit and/or compression.

[0112] The lower portion **75** of the inner compression layer **12**, as shown in FIG. **6** may have a seam **83** (see FIG. **5**) at the crotch area and a seam **85** (see FIG. **6**) which may join seam **83** at the rear medial section thereof. Nonetheless, the lower portion **82** of the inner compression layer **12** may still be characterized as being seamless as long as a portion of an outer periphery of the lower portion **82** is seamless.

[0113] In an aspect of the swimsuit shown in FIG. **5**, the adjustable strap system **77** (see FIG. **7**) may be incorporated into the left and right straps **36**, **38**. The adjustable strap system **77** discussed herein may also be incorporated into the swimsuit shown in FIG. **1** as well as the swimsuit **10** shown in FIG. **8**. In particular, the adjustable strap system **78** may comprise a sliding adjuster **73**, a ring element **86** and a fabric connector **88**. The adjustable strap system **77** is operative to lengthen or shorten the length of the straps **36**, **38** to accommodate various sized swimmers. The adjustable strap system **77** operates in the following manner. In particular, the strap **36**, **38** is looped through the sliding adjuster **73** over a middle bar **90** and under opposed bars **92**. Opposed bars **92** hold the strap **36**, **38** down. The strap is then looped through the ring element **86** and attached to the middle bar **90** of the sliding adjuster **73**. The ring element **86** is attached to the fabric connector **88** which is also attached to a rear upper periphery of the outer layer **14**. To lengthen the strap **36**, **38**, the strap **36**, **38** is fed through the sliding adjuster **73** in the direction of arrow **94** shown in FIG. **7**. Once the appropriate length of the strap **36**, **38** is reached, the straps **36**, **38** are placed in tension when the swimsuit **10** is worn by the swimmer. When the straps **36**, **38** are placed in tension, the opposed bars **92** of the sliding adjuster **73** presses down on the straps **36**, **38** while the middle bar **90** simultaneously pushes upward on the straps **36**, **38**. Friction is created on the straps **36**, **38** over the middle bar **90**. This friction locks the position of the sliding adjuster **73** such that when the swimsuit **10** is worn by the swimmer, the straps **36**, **38** are not loosened and enlarged. Conversely, to shorten the strap **36**, **38** the strap **36**, **38** is fed through the sliding adjuster **73** in the direction of arrow **96**.

[0114] The inner compression layer **12** may be attached to the outer layer **14** in the manner discussed in relation to the swimsuit **10** discussed in relation to FIGS. **1-4**. In particular, at least a portion of the upper periphery **16** of the inner compression layer **12** may be attached to the upper periphery **18** of the outer layer **14**. This permits the inner compression layer to be optimally placed on the wearer's body substantially independent from the placement of the outer layer **14** on the wearer's body.

[0115] Referring now to FIGS. **8-10**, a third embodiment of the swimsuit **10** is shown. The swimsuit **10** comprises an upper portion **98** separate from a lower portion **100**. The upper portion **98** may have an identical configuration as compared to the swimsuits **10** described and shown in FIGS. **1** and **5**. By way of example and not limitation, in an aspect, the inner compression layer may be configured to tightly fit against the wearer's body to shape and contour the wearer's body. Also, at least a portion of an upper periphery of the inner layer **12***a* may be attached to at least a portion of an upper periphery of the outer layer. In this manner, the upper portion **98** may have an inner compression layer **12***a* and an outer layer **14***a* which are free floating with respect to each other. Moreover, the lower portion of the inner compression layer **12***a* may be seamless. Alternatively, the lower portion of the inner compression layer **12***a* may be cut and sewn to provide better fit and/or compression.

[0116] The lower portion **100** may also comprise an inner compression layer **12***b* and an outer layer **14***b*. The inner and outer layers **12**, **14** may be attached to each other at upper peripheries **102**, **104** of the inner and outer layers **12**, **14**. Also, the leg openings of the inner and outer layers may be detached from each other so that the inner layer **12** is free floating with respect to the outer layer **14**. Similar to the swimsuit **10** shown in FIG. **5**, the inner compression layer **12***b* of the swimsuit **10** shown in FIG. **8** of the lower portion **100** may be seamless. The inner compression layer **12***b* may be characterized as seamless as long as a portion of an outer periphery of the inner compression layer **12***b* of the lower portion **100** is seamless. For example, the inner compression layer **12***b* of the lower portion **100** may have a seam **106** about the crotch area of the inner compression layer **12***b*. Also, the inner compression layer **12***b* of the lower portion **100** may have a seam **108** which may join the seam **106** at the rear of the inner compression layer **12***b*. Alternatively, the inner compression layer **12***b* may be cut and sewn to provide a better fit and/or compression.

[0117] Optionally, in relation to all embodiments of the swimsuit **10**, it is contemplated that the outer layer **14** may also provide additional shaping, contouring and slimming forces in addition to the inner compression layer **12**. In this regard, various elastic strips (not shown) may be attached to the outer layer **14** to achieve the shaping, contouring and slimming objectives of the swimsuit **10**. Moreover, the elasticity of the elastic strips attached to the outer layer **14** may be different compared to the elasticity of the elastic strips attached to the inner compression layer **12**. Moreover, instead of elastic strips, the inner compression layer **12** and the outer layer **14** may optionally be fabricated from various materials to achieve the various shaping, contouring and slimming objectives of the swimsuit **10**. By way of example and not limitation, the stomach panel **66** of the inner layer **12** may be fabricated from a highly elastic material to tightly compress the stomach area of the wearer. In contrast, the stomach portion of the front panel **24** of the outer layer **14** may be fabricated from a less elastic material to loosely fit over the stomach area of the wearer. Such combination provides a loose fit look of the swimsuit on the wearer. The outer layer **14** as discussed above may comprise a front panel **24** and a back panel **26**. It is also contemplated that the front and back panels **24**, **26** may be formed of a plurality of different shaped and sized panels such that the outer layer **14** may fit the wearer's body better and be more comfortable to wear. Likewise, the forward and rearward panels **20**, **22** of the inner compression layer **12** may be fabricated from a plurality of different sized and shaped panels such that the inner compression layer **12** may fit the wearer's body better and be more comfortable to wear.

[0118] In an aspect of all of the embodiments of the swimsuit **10**, the inner compression layer **12** may be permanently attached to the outer layer **14** at the upper peripheries of the inner and outer layers **12**, **14**. As discussed above, the inner and outer layers **12**, **14** may be permanently attached via stitching, sewing. However, any method known in the art for permanently attaching the inner and outer layers together are contemplated. It is also contemplated that the inner compression layer **12** be removeably attachable to the outer layer **14** via any method known in the art (e.g., Velcro, buttons, snaps, etc.).

[0119] In an aspect of the embodiments of the swimsuit **10**, the inner compression layer **12** may have the same general configuration as the outer layer **14**. By way of example and not limitation, the outer layer **14** may be a one piece swimsuit **10** that covers the genitalia, breasts and at least a portion of the front of the wearer's body therebetween, as shown in FIGS. **1** and **2**. Correspondingly, the inner layer **12** may have a one piece configuration that covers the genitalia, breasts and at least a portion of the front of the wearer's body therebetween.

In another example, the outer layer **14** may be a one piece swimsuit **10** that covers the genitalia, breast and at least a portion of the front of the wearer's body therebetween and that additionally has tubular members (not shown) attached to the outer layer **14** that tightly or loosely fit over the thighs of the wearer. In this instance, the inner layer **12** may correspondingly have a one piece configuration that covers the genitalia, breasts and at least a portion of the front of the wearer's body therebetween, and also tubular members attached to the inner layer **12** that tightly or loosely fit over the thighs of the wearer. The inner layer **12** may be characterized as having the same configuration as the outer layer **14**. However, it is further contemplated that the inner layer **12** may still be characterized as having the same configuration as the outer layer **14** even if the inner layer **12** is not formed with the tubular members disposable over the wearer's thighs. In the swimsuit shown in the drawings, although the inner layer **12** discussed above does not have straps that are disposed over the shoulders of the wearer and the outer layer **14** does have straps disposed over the shoulders of the wearer, the inner layer **12** may still be characterized as having the same configuration as the outer layer **14**. In a further alternative, the two piece swimsuit **10** shown in FIG. **8** may be characterized as having inner and outer layers **12***a, b* and **14***a, b* which have the same configuration.

[0120] In an aspect of the embodiments of the swimsuit **10**, the terms upper peripheries **16**, **18** of the inner and outer layers **12**, **14** include the upper peripheral ends of the inner and outer layers **12**, **14** as well as upper peripheral portions of the inner and outer layers **12**, **14**. As such, an upper portion of the upper periphery **18** of the outer layer **14** attached to an upper portion of the upper periphery **16** of the inner layer **12** may still be characterized as the upper periphery **18** of the outer layer as being attached to the upper periphery **16** of the inner layer **12**.

[0121] Referring now to FIGS. **11**A-**30**B, fourth through thirteenth embodiments of an improved swimsuit **150** are shown. FIG. **11**A is a front view of the fourth embodiment of the swimsuit **150**. The improved swimsuit **150** includes an aesthetically pleasing outer layer **14**. The front **152** of the outer layer **14** is shown in FIG. **11**A and the back **154** is shown in FIG. **11**B. The swimsuit **150** may include left and right straps **36**, **38** including an adjustable strap system **77** described above and shown in FIG. **11**B. The outer layer **14** defines an upper periphery **156** which is collectively defined by a front neckline **158** which extends between the left and right straps **36**, **38** shown in FIG. **11**A, arm holes **160**, **162** shown in FIG. **11**B and back neckline **164** also shown in FIG. **11**B. The outer layer **14** may have left and right sides **166**, **168** that may either have seams that are stitched or bonded or may be fabricated so as to be seamless. The other embodiments shown in FIGS. **13**A-**30**B may also have left and right sides **166**, **168** that may either have seams that are stitched or bonded or may be fabricated so as to be seamless.

[0122] FIGS. **12**A and **12**B illustrate the front and back sides of the inner layer **12**, respectively. The inner layer **12** also defines an upper periphery **170**. The upper periphery **170** of the inner layer **12** is defined by a front neckline **172** which also extends between the left and right straps **36**, **38** when the inner layer **12** is attached to the outer layer **14**, arm holes **174**, **176** and a back neckline **178**.

[0123] The upper periphery **170** of the inner layer **12** may be attached to the upper periphery **156** of the outer layer **14**. More particularly, the left and right arm holes **174**, **176** of the upper periphery **170** of the inner layer **12** may be attached (e.g., sewn, stitched, hooks and loops, buttoned, etc.) to the arm holes **160**, **162** of the upper periphery **156** of the outer layer **14**. Preferably, they **170**,**156** are sewn. Preferably, at least the entire or a majority of the length of the upper periphery **170** at the arm holes **174**, **176** may be attached to the entire or majority of the length of the upper periphery **156** at the left and right arm holes **160**, **162**. The continuous connection therebetween provides for easier handling of the inner and outer garments **12**, **14** such that the swimsuit **150** is easier to put on. The inner layer **12** does not become tangled with the outer layer **14**. Also, the inner layer **12** is more easily aligned to the outer layer **14** so that the user's legs do not become entangled between the inner and outer layers **12**, **14**. Optionally, the upper periphery **170** of the inner layer **12** at the back neckline **178** may be attached to the upper periphery **156** of the outer layer **14** at the back neckline **164**. The entire length or majority of the back neckline **164** of the outer layer **14** may be attached to the entire length or majority of the back neckline **178** of the inner layer **12**. When the inner layer **12** includes a bra **180**, the back neckline **178** of the inner layer **12** may further comprise removeably attachable hooks **182**. In this instance, the back neckline **178** of the inner layer **12** may be attached to the back neckline **164** of the outer layer **14** except for the hook area **182**. The front necklines **156**, **172** are not attached to each other. Also, the front neckline **158** of the outer layer is not attached to front neckone **172** of the inner layer **12**.

[0124] In the example above as well as one or more of the other embodiments shown in FIGS. **13**A-**30**B, the inner layer **12** including the bra **180** is free floating from the outer layer **14** so that the inner layer **12** and bra **180** may be positioned independently from the outer layer **14**. The inner layer **12** may be positioned for the purposes of providing body contour, whereas, the outer layer **14** is positioned for the purpose of exterior aesthetics.

[0125] The inner layer **12** may be tightly fitted over the wearer's body and may also include control panels (e.g., tummy flatter panel, front and/or rear body control panel(s), side control panel(s), butt lifter(s)) for providing body contour.

[0126] The inner layer **12** may have a lower periphery **184** which is disposed slightly above the lower periphery **186** of the outer layer **14** as shown in FIG. **11**A.

[0127] Referring now to FIGS. **13**A-**14**B, the fifth embodiment of the swimsuit **150** is shown. The swimsuit **150** also may include inner and outer layers **12**, **14**. The upper peripheries **156**, **170** of the outer and inner layers **14**, **12** may be attached to each other. The entire or majority of the upper periphery **156** including the front neckline **158**, left and right arm holes **160**, **162** and the back neckline **164** may be attached to the entire or majority of the upper periphery **170** of the inner layer **12** respectively including the front neckline **172**, left and right arm holes **174**, **176** and the back neckline **178**. The inner layer **12** is disposed inside of the outer layer **14** in this as well as in the other embodiments.

[0128] Also, the leg openings **188**, **190** of the outer layer **14** may be attached to the leg openings **192**, **194** of the inner layer **12**. The left and right inner peripheries **196**, **198** may be attached to the left and right inner peripheries **200**, **202** of the leg openings **192**, **194**. It is contemplated that the entire or majority of the peripheries **196**, **198** may be attached to the entire or majority of the peripheries **200**, **202**.

[0129] The inner layer **12** may have a flatter tummy panel **204** for providing a more aesthetic appeal to the wearer's body contour. Additionally, the inner layer **12** may comprise an underwire bra **206**.

[0130] Since the inner layer **12** is attached to the outer layer **14**, wearing the swimsuit **150** is easier. The user's legs do not get entangled between the inner and outer layers **12**, **14**. Additionally, the leg openings **188**, **190** are always aligned to the left openings **192**, **194**. The system above provides for a more convenient wearable item. The inner layer **12** is free floating from the outer layer **14** for optimal placement of the inner layer **12** for body contouring and allows the outer layer **14** to be placed at a different location independent from the inner layer **12** for the purposes of exterior aesthetic appeal.

[0131] Referring now to FIGS. **15**A-**16**B, the swimsuit **150** may be fabricated in the same manner as that discussed in relation to FIGS. **13**A-**14**B except that the inner peripheries **196**, **198** of the leg openings **188**, **190** are not attached to the inner peripheries **200**, **202** of the leg openings **192**, **194**. The upper peripheries **156**, **170** of the outer and inner layers **14**, **12** may be attached to each other to (1) make handling the garment **150** easier, (2) to provide an ease of wearing the garment **150** in that the user's legs do not get tangled between the inner and outer layers **12**, **14** and (3) also independent positioning of the inner layer **12** and the outer layer **14** on the user's body.

[0132] Referring now to FIGS. **17**A-**18**B, the swimsuit **150** may be fabricated in the same manner as that described in relation to the swimsuit shown in FIGS. **11**A-**12**B. The difference is that the inner layer **12** comprises only the bra **180**. The upper periphery **156** at the arm holes **160**, **162** may be attached to the arm holes **174**, **176**. Additionally, the back neckline **164** may be attached to the back neckline **178** of the inner layer **12**. In FIG. **18**B, the inner layer **12** has hooks **182** for removably securing the inner layer **12** to the wearer's body. The hooks **182** are not in line with the back neckline **164** of the outer layer **14**. In this instance, the back neckline **178** of the inner layer **12** comprises left and right portions **208**, **210**. These portions **208**, **210** of the back neckline **178** of the inner layer **12** may be attached to the back neckline **164** of the outer layer **14**.

[0133] Referring now to FIGS. **19**A-**20**B, the swimsuit **150** may be fabricated in the same manner as discussed in relation to FIGS. **11**A-**12**B. The swimsuit **150** shown in FIGS. **19**A-**20**B may further have leg openings **188**, **190**, **192** and **194** which may be free floating with respect to each other as described in relation to FIGS. **15**A-**16**B. In other words, the leg openings **188**-**194** are not sewn or attached to each other. The inner compression layer **12** may also have a molded bra **180**, a front body control panel **212**, side control panel **214** and butt lifter **216**. The front control panel **212** may be located on the front side of the inner compression layer. The front control panels **212** may be elongated for contouring to the tummy section of the wearer. As can be seen by a comparison between the front control panels **212**, **204** shown in FIGS. **20**A and **14**A, the front control panels **212**, **204** may have different configurations, shapes and sizes. The side control panels **214** may be vertically oriented as shown in FIG. **20**B. The side control panels **214** may extend on the rear side of the wearer's body and provide contouring to the wearer's body for a more aesthetically pleasing exterior appearance. Additionally, the inner compression layer may have one or more butt lifters **216** that extend diagonally across the buttocks of the wearer.

[0134] Referring now to FIGS. **21**A-**22**B, the swimsuit **150** may be fabricated in the same manner as the swimsuit **150** described in relation to FIG. **19**A-**20**B except that the inner layer **12** shown in relation to FIGS. **22**A-**22**B has an underwire bra **206** instead of a molded bra **180** (see FIG. **20***a*).

[0135] Referring now to FIGS. **23**A-**24**B, the swimsuit **150** may be fabricated in the same manner as discussed in relation to swimsuit **150** shown in FIGS. **11**A-**12**B. In addition to the molded bra **180**, the swimsuit **150** shown in FIGS. **23**A-**24**B may additionally have front body control panel **212** and back body control panel **218** attached to the inner layer **12**. The back control panel **218** may contour the back side of the wearer to provide for a more aesthetically appealing contour of the wearer's body. FIGS. **25**A-**26**B may be fabricated in the same manner as the swimsuit shown in FIGS. **23**A-**24**B except that the back control panel **218** is replaced with side control panels **214** which provide contouring to the sides of the wearer.

[0136] Referring now to FIGS. **27**A-**28**B, the lower portion **100** fabricated in the same manner as discussed in relation to lower portion **100** shown in FIG. **9** except that the inner compression layer **12** additionally has butt lifters **216**. The lower portion **100** shown in FIGS. **29**A-**30**B may have the same configuration as that shown in relation to lower portion **100** in FIGS. **27**A-**28**B except that an inner waist **220** the inner and outer layers **12**, **14** extend higher up on the waist of the wearer such as to the level of the wearer's belly button or higher.

[0137] In the embodiments shown in FIGS. **11**A-**26**B, it is contemplated that only the arm holes **160**, **162** are attached to arm holes **174**, **176**. The entire length or majority of the length of the arm holes **160**, **162** may be attached to the entire length or majority of the length of the arm holes **174**, **176**.

[0138] The preferred method of attaching the inner and outer layers **12**, **14** is by way of sewing. In particular, the inner layer **12** may be caught and sewn into the outer layer **14**. The stitching extends along the edges for majority or the entire length of the particular sections such as the arm hole sections **160**, **162**, **174**, **176**, the back neckline section **164**, **178**, when indicated along the front neckline **168**, **172** and the inner peripheries **188**, **190**, **192**, **194**.

[0139] In the embodiments disclosed herein, certain swimsuits had lower portions that covered the crotch area of the wearer. These swimsuits are illustrated in FIGS. **1**-**9**, **13**A-**16**B, **19**A-**22**B and **27**A-**30**B. The lower portion of these swimsuits are shown in FIGS. **31**-**37** wherein the inner and outer layers **12**, **14** are spot attached **222** at or around the leg openings **188**, **190**, **192**, **194** of the inner and outer layers **12**, **14**. Various aspects discussed in relation to FIGS. **31**-**37** may be employed in these swimsuits. More particularly, the inner layer **12** may be spot attached **222** to the outer layer **14** to aid in maintaining alignment of the leg openings **188**, **192** and **190**, **194** to facilitate insertion of the wearer's legs through the corresponding openings **188**, **192** and **190**, **194** and/or to maintain orientation and arrangement during machine washing. The inner layer **12** remains on the inside of the outer layer **14** even though the swimsuit is washed, packed, stored, etc. Despite the spot attachment **222**, the inner layer **12** is still free floating with respect to the outer layer **14**. One of the reasons for the free floating feature between inner layer **12** and the outer layer **14** is for optimal placement of the inner layer **12** for body contouring and allows the outer layer **14** to be placed at a different location independent from the inner layer **12** for the purposes of exterior aesthetic appeal. Other reasons for

the free floating feature between the inner layer **12** and the outer layer **14** may include but is not limited to the purpose of allowing the free floating inner layer **12** to smooth the fat of the wearer to resemble skin. By way of example and not limitation, the lowest portion of the periphery **200** of the inner layer **12** may be spot attached **222** to the lowest portion of the periphery **196** of the outer layer **14**. Likewise, the lowest portion of the periphery **202** may be spot attached **222** to the lowest portion of the periphery **198**. For purposes of explanation and not limitation, the spot attachment **222** may be stitched with threads, adhesive, welding, snaps, hooks and loops, micro hooks and loops and other attachment methods currently known in the art or developed in the future. The spot attachment **222**, **222***a* shown in FIGS. **31-37** is the stitching embodiment. Preferably, the stitches are about ¼ inch long and are disposed only along the periphery as shown in FIGS. **32** and **36**. Referring now to FIG. **33**, an exploded perspective view of the inner and outer layers **12**, **14** is shown. A width **224** of the inner layer **12** at the crotch area may be slightly less (e.g., ¼ inch) than a width **226** of the outer layer at the crotch area. The peripheries **200**, **202** may be sewn to the peripheries **196**, **198** as a spot attachment **222** so that the peripheries **200**, **202** is slightly offset inward from the peripheries **196**, **198** so that the inner layer **12** is not visible when the swimsuit is worn.

[0140] The spot attachment **222** may be a permanent attachment such as stitching with threads. However, it is also contemplated that the spot attachment **222** may be removably attachable methods such as snaps and hooks and looks. In this event, the peripheries **200**, **202** of the inner layer **12** may be adjustable to the peripheries **196**, **198**. By way of example and not limitation, the peripheries **200**, **202** of the inner layer **12** may have two or more snaps along the peripheries **200**, **202**. The peripheries **196**, **198** of the outer layer **14** may have one or more corresponding mating snaps along the peripheries **196**, **198**. The user may attach any one of the snaps on the peripheries **200**, **202** to the corresponding snaps on the peripheries **196**, **198** as desired by the user.

[0141] In FIGS. **31-33**, two spot attachments **222** are located only at the lower side of the inner peripheries **196**, **200** and the **202**, **198**. However, it is also contemplated that multiple spot attachments **222** may be formed on the peripheries **196**, **200** and the **202**, **198**. Moreover, it is also contemplated that the spot attachment **222** may be made at the center of the inner and outer layers **12**, **14** medially and away from the peripheries **196**, **200** and the **202**, **198**. It is also contemplated that the spot attachments **222** may be located at other locations about the peripheries such as the top portions, front portions, or rear portions of the peripheries **196**, **198**, **200**, **202**.

[0142] Additional spot attachments **222***a* may be formed at other locations on the inner peripheries **196**, **200** and **202**, **198**. These additional spot attachments **222***a* may be formed anywhere about the inner peripheries **200**, **196** and **202**, **198**. By way of example and not limitation, referring now to FIGS. **34-37**, the additional spot attachments **222***a* may be located at the seams **224***a, b*, **226***a, b* at the inner peripheries **200**, **196** and **202**, **198** where the front and back panels **24**, **26** and **20**, **22** of the inner and outer layers **24**, **26** and **20**, **22** are sewn together. These additional spot attachments **222***a* are generally located at the upper portion of the inner peripheries **200**, **196** and **202**, **198**. These additional spot attachments **222***a* may be in addition to or in lieu of the spot attachments **222**. The additional spot attachments **222***a* shown in FIGS. **34-37** are shown as being a permanent attachment method as through stitching with threads. However, the additional spot attachments **222***a* may be removably attachable means such as hooks and loops, micro hooks and loops, adhesive, welding, snaps and other attachment means known in the art or developed in the future.

[0143] Referring now to FIGS. **34** and **35**, the left and right side views of the lower portion of the swimsuit shown in FIG. **31** is illustrated. As previously discussed, the spot attachments **222** may be formed on the lower portion of the inner peripheries **196**, **200**, **198**, **202**. The additional spot attachments **222***a* may be formed on the inner peripheries **196**, **200**, **198**, **202** at the seams **224***a, b*, **226***a, b* where the front and back panels **24**, **26** and **20**, **22** of the outer and inner layers **14**, **12** meet. The spot attachments **222**, **222***a* still permit the inner and outer layers **12**, **14** to freely float with respect to each other.

[0144] Referring now to FIG. **36**, a right perspective side view of the inner and outer layers **12**, **14** is shown. As shown, the additional spot attachments **222***a* may be formed on the inner periphery **200** of the inner layer **12** at the seam **224***a* and attached to the inner periphery **196** of the outer layer **14** at the seam **226***a*. Similarly, referring now to FIG. **37**, a left perspective side view of the inner and outer layers **12**, **14** is shown. The additional spot attachments **222***a* may be formed on the inner periphery **202** of the inner layer **12** at the seam **224***b* and attached to the inner periphery **198** of the outer layer **14** at the seam **226***b*.

[0145] The above description is given by way of example, and not limitation. Given the above disclosure, one skilled in the art could devise variations that are within the scope and spirit of the invention disclosed herein. Further, the various features of the embodiments disclosed herein can be used alone, or in varying combinations with each other and are not intended to be limited to the specific combination described herein. Thus, the scope of the claims is not to be limited by the illustrated embodiments.

What is claimed is:

1. A swim suit comprising:

a one piece inner compression layer covering genitalia, breasts, and a portion of a wearer's body therebetween, the inner compression layer being sized and configured to snugly fit against the wearer's body for shaping the wearer's body, the inner compression layer defining an upper periphery; and

a one piece outer layer covering the inner compression layer and having a matching configuration with respect to the inner compression layer, the outer layer defining an upper periphery, the outer layer being attached to the inner compression layer at their respective upper peripheries such that the inner compression layer floats freely with respect to the outer layer for optimally orienting the inner layer on the wearer's body for shaping and optimally orienting the outer layer on the wearer's body for aesthetic appeal.

2. The swim suit of claim **1** wherein the outer layer compresses the wearer's body for further shaping the wearer's body.

3. The swim suit of claim **1** wherein the inner layer floats freely with respect to the outer layer such that the inner compression layer may be oriented on the wearer's body substantially independent from the orientation of the outer layer.

4. The swim suit of claim 1 wherein a majority of the upper peripheries of the inner compression layer and the outer layer are substantially attached to each other.

5. The swim suit of claim 1 wherein less than half of the upper peripheries of the inner compression layer and the outer layer are minimally attached to each other.

6. The swim suit of claim 1 wherein the inner compression layer is attached to an inside surface of the outer layer.

7. The swim suit of claim 1 wherein the inner compression layer is attached to the outer layer solely at their respective upper peripheries.

8. The swim suit of claim 1 further comprising a strap attached to the upper periphery of the outer layer to hold the swim suit up when worn by the wearer, the strap further comprising an adjustable strap system for adjusting a length of the strap such that the swim suit may be customized to fit the wearer.

9. The swim suit of claim 1 wherein the outer layer comprises:

a front panel defining an upper edge;

a back panel defining an upper edge;

an elastic strap attached to the upper edges of the front and back panels to hold the swim suit up when worn by the wearer and for fitting various sized wearers.

10. The swim suit of claim 1 wherein the front and back panels each define left and right strap attachment portions, and a left elastic strap is attached to the left strap attachment portions of the front and back panels, and a right elastic strap is attached to the right strap attachment portions of the front and back panels.

11. The swim suit of claim 1 wherein the inner and outer layers are disposed under a crotch area of the wearer to prevent the inner and outer layers from rising upward.

12. The swim suit of claim 1 wherein the outer layer covers the entire inner compression layer.

13. The swim suit of claim 1 wherein at least a portion of the inner compression layer is seamless.

14. The swim suit of claim 1 wherein the inner compression layer is cut and sewn.

15. A swim suit for a wearer, the swim suit comprising:

an upper portion for covering a torso and breasts of a wearer, the upper portion comprising:

an inner compression layer covering breasts of a wearer, the inner compression layer being sized and configured to snugly fit against the wearer's body for shaping the wearer's body, the inner compression layer defining an upper periphery; and

an outer layer covering the inner compression layer and having a matching configuration with respect to the inner compression layer, the outer layer defining an upper periphery, the outer layer being attached to the inner compression layer at their respective upper peripheries such that the inner compression layer floats freely with respect to the outer layer for optimally orienting the inner layer on the wearer's body for shaping and optimally orienting the outer layer on the wearer's body for aesthetic appeal.

16. A swim suit for a wearer, the swim suit comprising:

a lower portion for covering a pelvis area of a wearer, the lower portion comprising:

an inner compression layer covering genetalia of a wearer, the inner compression layer being sized and configured to snugly fit against the wearer's body for shaping the wearer's body, the inner compression layer defining an upper periphery; and

an outer layer covering the inner compression layer and having a matching configuration with respect to the inner compression layer, the outer layer defining an upper periphery, the outer layer being attached to the inner compression layer at their respective upper peripheries such that the inner compression layer floats freely with respect to the outer layer for optimally orienting the inner layer on the wearer's body for shaping and optimally orienting the outer layer on the wearer's body for aesthetic appeal.

17. A swim suit wearable by a wearer, the swim suit comprising:

a one piece inner compression layer covering genitalia, breasts, and a portion of a wearer's body therebetween, the inner compression layer being sized and configured to snugly fit against the wearer's body for shaping the wearer's body, the inner compression layer defining an upper periphery; and

a one piece outer layer covering the inner compression layer, the outer layer defining an upper periphery, the outer layer being attached to the inner compression layer only at the entire or majority of the upper peripheries of the inner and outer compression layers.

18. The swimsuit of claim 17 further comprising one or more of a flatter tummy panel, side panels, back panel and butt lifters attached to the inner layer.

19. A swim suit wearable by a wearer, the swim suit comprising:

an upper portion for covering a torso and breasts of a wearer, the upper portion comprising:

an inner compression layer covering breasts of a wearer, the inner compression layer being sized and configured to snugly fit against the wearer's body for shaping the wearer's body, the inner compression layer defining an upper periphery; and

an outer layer covering the inner compression layer, the outer layer defining an upper periphery, the outer layer being attached to the inner compression layer only at the entire or majority of the upper peripheries of the inner compression layer and outer layer.

20. The swimsuit of claim 19 further comprising one or more of a flatter tummy panel, side panels, and back panel attached to the inner layer.

21. A swim suit wearable by a wearer, the swim suit comprising:

a lower portion for covering a pelvis area of the wearer, the lower portion comprising:

an inner compression layer covering genetalia of wearer, the inner compression layer being sized and configured to snugly fit against the wearer's body for shaping the wearer's body, the inner compression layer defining an upper periphery; and

an outer layer covering the inner compression layer, the outer layer defining an upper periphery, the outer compression layer being attached to the inner compression layer only at the entire or majority of the upper peripheries of the inner and outer compression layers.

22. The swimsuit of claim 21 further comprising butt lifters attached to the inner layer.

23. A garment wearable by a wearer, the swim suit comprising:

an inner contouring layer covering breasts of a wearer's body, the inner layer being sized and configured to snugly fit against the wearer's body for shaping the wearer's body, the inner contouring layer defining an upper periphery, the inner layer having an upper periphery defined by a front neckline, left and right arm holes and a back neckline; and

an outer layer covering the inner layer, the outer layer having an upper periphery defined by a front neckline, left and right arm holes and a back neckline, the outer layer being attached only at an entire or majority of the lengths of the left and right arm holes of the outer layer and the left and right arm holes of the inner contouring layer.

24. The garment of claim **23** wherein the inner and outer layers form a swimsuit.

25. The garment of claim **23** wherein the inner contouring layer comprises a bra.

26. The garment of claim **25** wherein the bra is an underwire bra or a molded bra.

27. The garment of claim **26** wherein the inner layer covers an abdomen of the wearer.

28. The garment of claim **27** wherein the inner layer further comprises a tummy flatter panel.

29. The garment of claim **23** wherein the inner and outer layers each further has left and right leg openings.

30. The garment of claim **29** wherein the left and right leg openings of the inner layer are free floating from the left and right leg openings of the outer layer.

31. The garment of claim **29** wherein inner peripheries of the left and right leg openings of the inner layer are attached to the inner peripheries of the left and right leg openings of the outer layer.

32. The garment of claim **31** wherein the inner peripheries of the left and right leg openings of the inner layer are stitched to the inner peripheries of the left and right leg openings of the outer layer.

33. The garment of claim **23** wherein the inner and outer layers are sewn together where attached.

34. A garment comprising:

an inner compression layer covering genitalia of a wearer, the inner compression layer being sized and configured to snugly fit against the wearer's body for shaping the wearer's body, the inner compression layer defining an upper periphery and left and right leg openings which define left and right inner peripheries;

an outer aesthetic layer covering the inner compression layer and having a matching configuration with respect to the inner compression layer, the outer layer defining an upper periphery and left and right leg openings which define left and right inner peripheries, the outer layer being attached to the inner compression layer at their respective upper peripheries such that the inner compression layer floats freely with respect to the outer layer for optimally orienting the inner layer on the wearer's body for shaping and optimally orienting the outer layer on the wearer's body for aesthetic appeal;

wherein the inner periphery of the left leg opening of the inner compression layer is spot attached to the inner periphery of the left leg opening of the outer layer and the inner periphery of the right leg opening of the inner compression layer is spot attached to the inner periphery of the right leg opening of the outer layer.

35. The garment of claim **34** wherein the inner and outer layers form a swimsuit.

36. The garment of claim **34** wherein the inner and outer layers are fabricated from a quick drying material.

37. The garment of claim **34** wherein a width of the inner layer at a crotch area is smaller than a width of the outer layer at the corresponding crotch area.

38. The garment of claim **34** wherein the spot attachment is one of stitching, adhesive, welding, snaps, hooks and loops, micro hooks and loops and combinations thereof.

39. The garment of claim **34** wherein the spot attachment is a ¼ inch long threaded stitching.

40. The garment of claim **39** wherein the spot attachment is located only at the peripheries of the left and right leg openings of the inner and outer layers.

41. The garment of claim **34** wherein the inner and outer layers form a one piece swimsuit.

42. The garment of claim **34** wherein the inner and outer layers form a lower portion of a two piece swimsuit.

43. The garment of claim **34** wherein the attachment spot is located at a lower side of the peripheries of the left and right leg openings of the inner and outer layers.

44. The garment of claim **43** wherein the attachment spot is located at an upper side of the peripheries of the left and right leg openings of the inner and outer layers.

45. The garment of claim **34** wherein the attachment spot is located at an upper side of the peripheries of the left and right leg openings of the inner and outer layers.

46. The garment of claim **44** wherein the spot attachment is located at seams where front and back panels of the inner and outer layers meet.

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