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(54) **HALF BRASSIERE**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

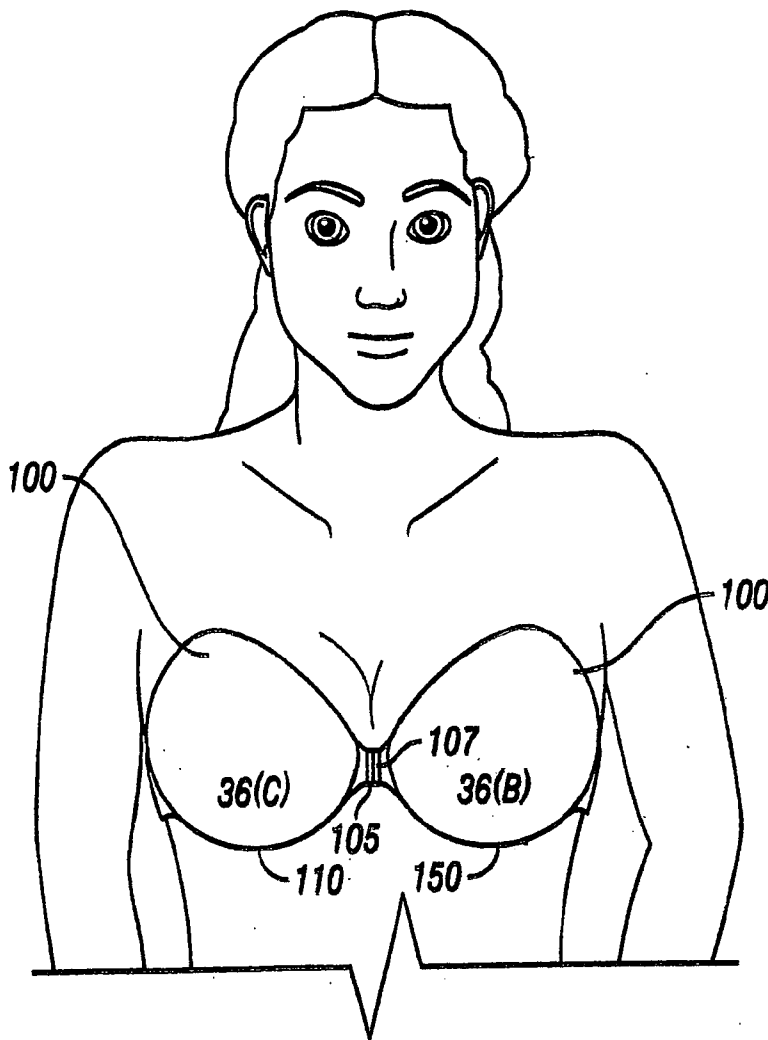
The present invention provides for a single piece half brassiere. The half brassiere further comprises a cup member dimensioned and configured to fit a wearer's breast. Each cup member is manufactured to individually support dissimilar shape breasts of various sizes and shapes. Each cup member is defined by a first side and an opposing second side. A torso portion is formed on the first side of the cup member and extends therefrom to an opposing third side. The torso portion is adapted to encircle one-half of the wearer's front chest region. A first fastener mechanism is connected to the opposing second side of the cup member. A second fastener mechanism is connected to the opposing third side of the torso portion.

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(22) Filed: **Jun. 28, 2006**

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation-in-part of application No. 10/933,561, filed on Sep. 4, 2004, now abandoned.



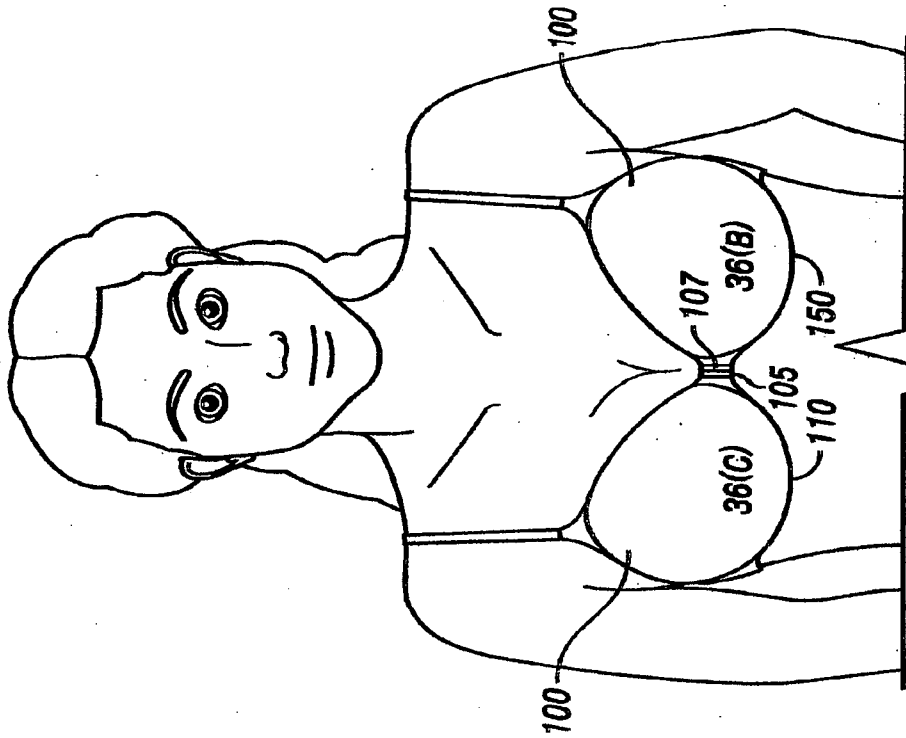


FIG. 1A

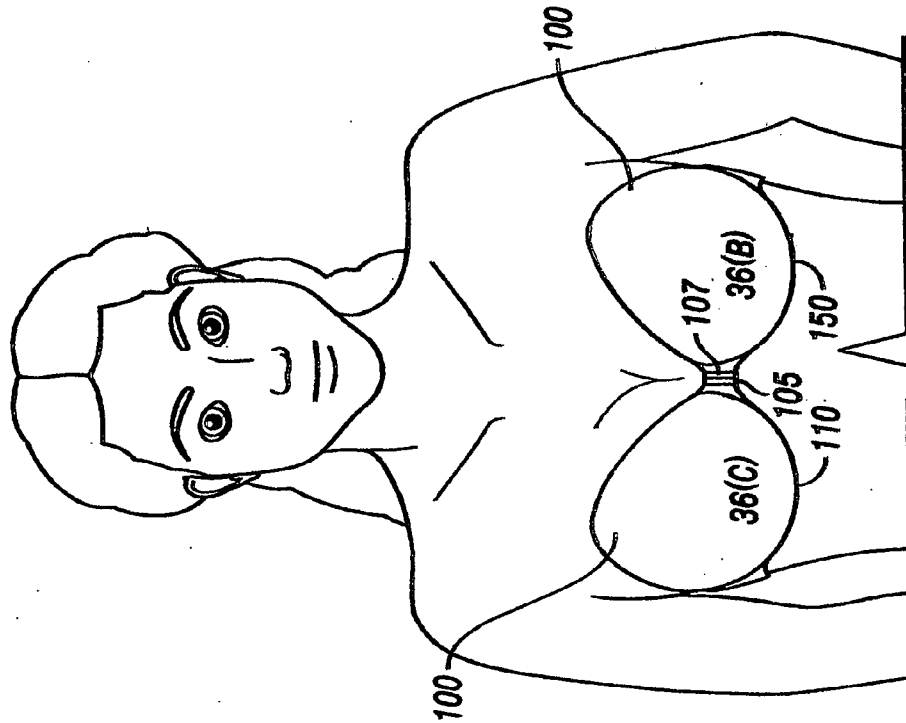


FIG. 1

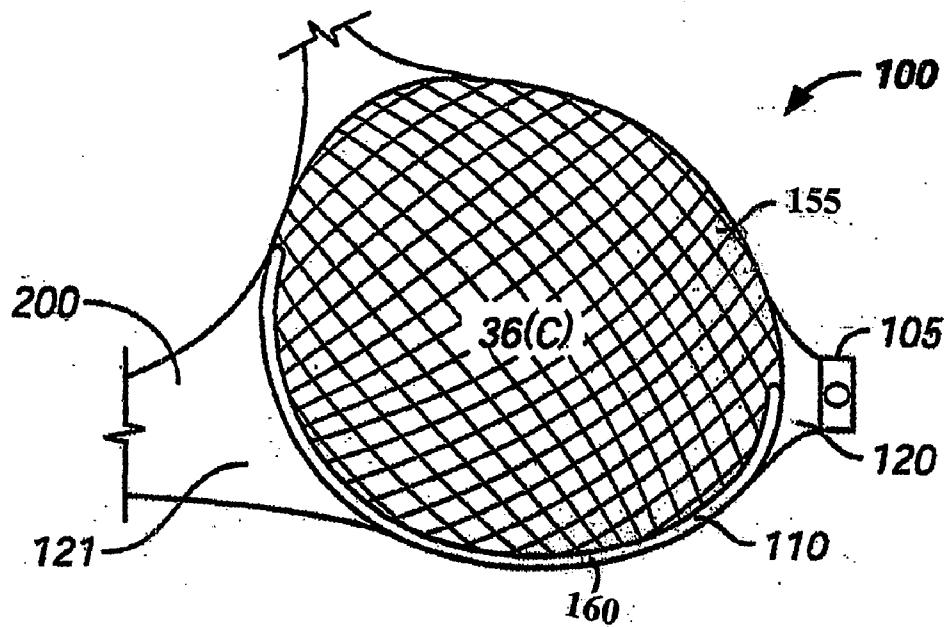


FIG. 2

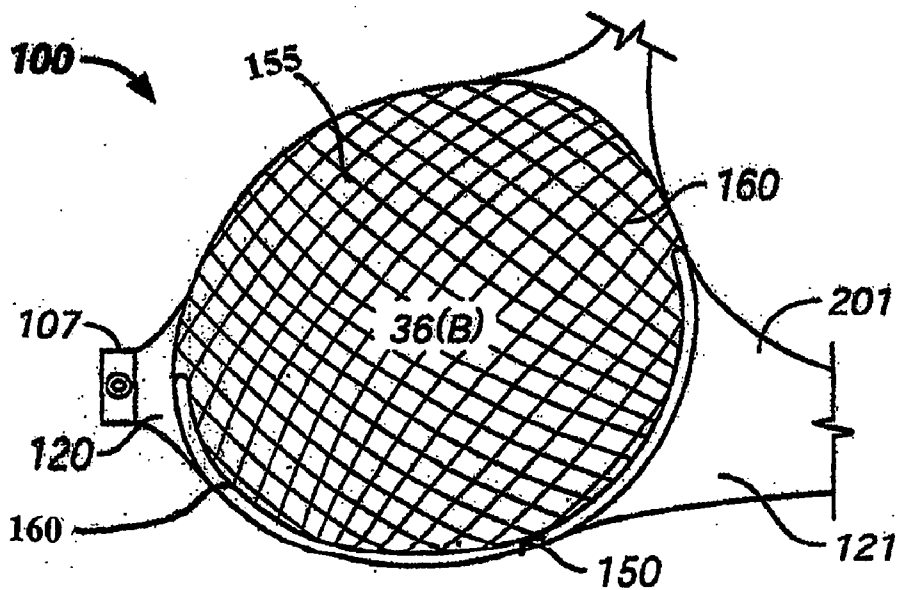


FIG. 3

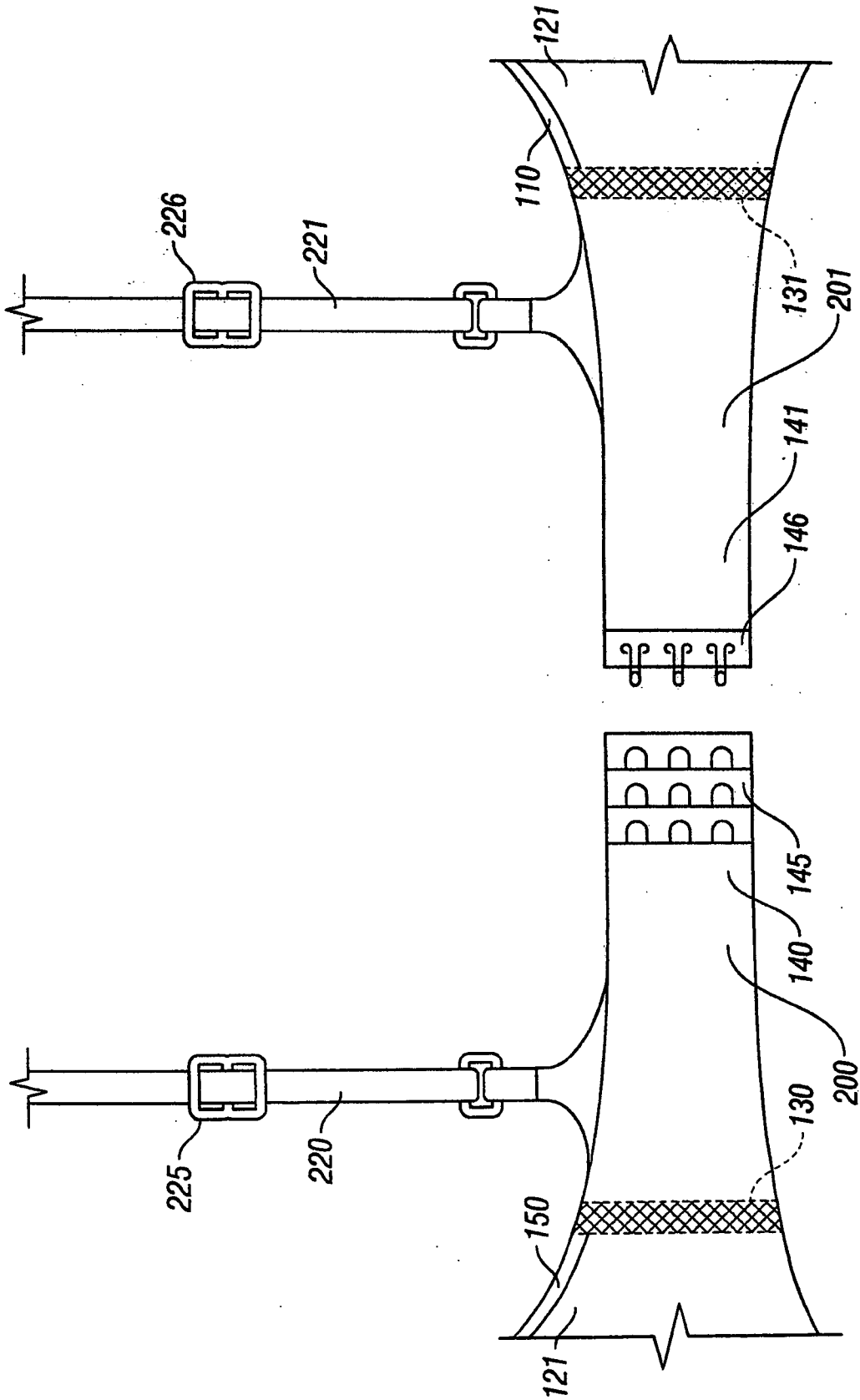


FIG. 4

FIG. 6

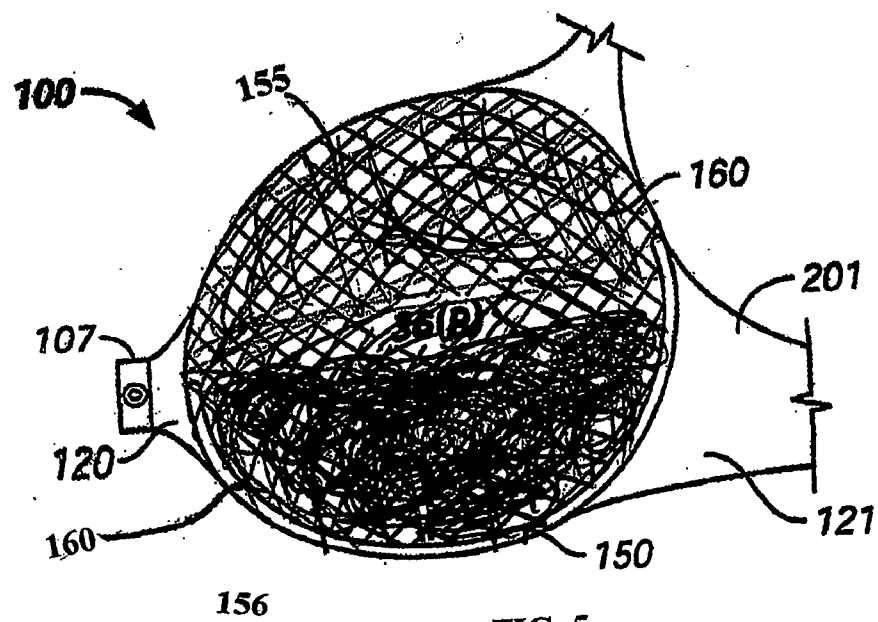
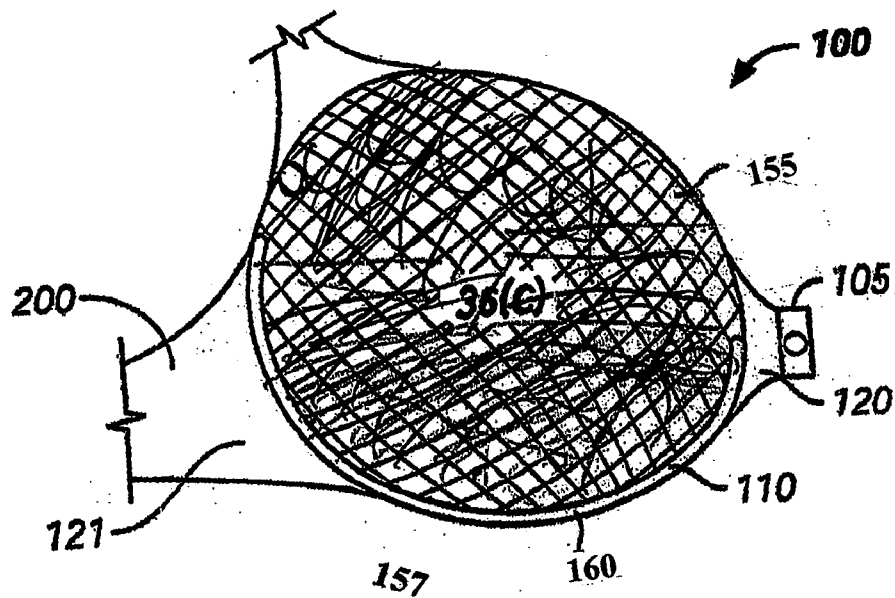


FIG. 5

FIG. 7A

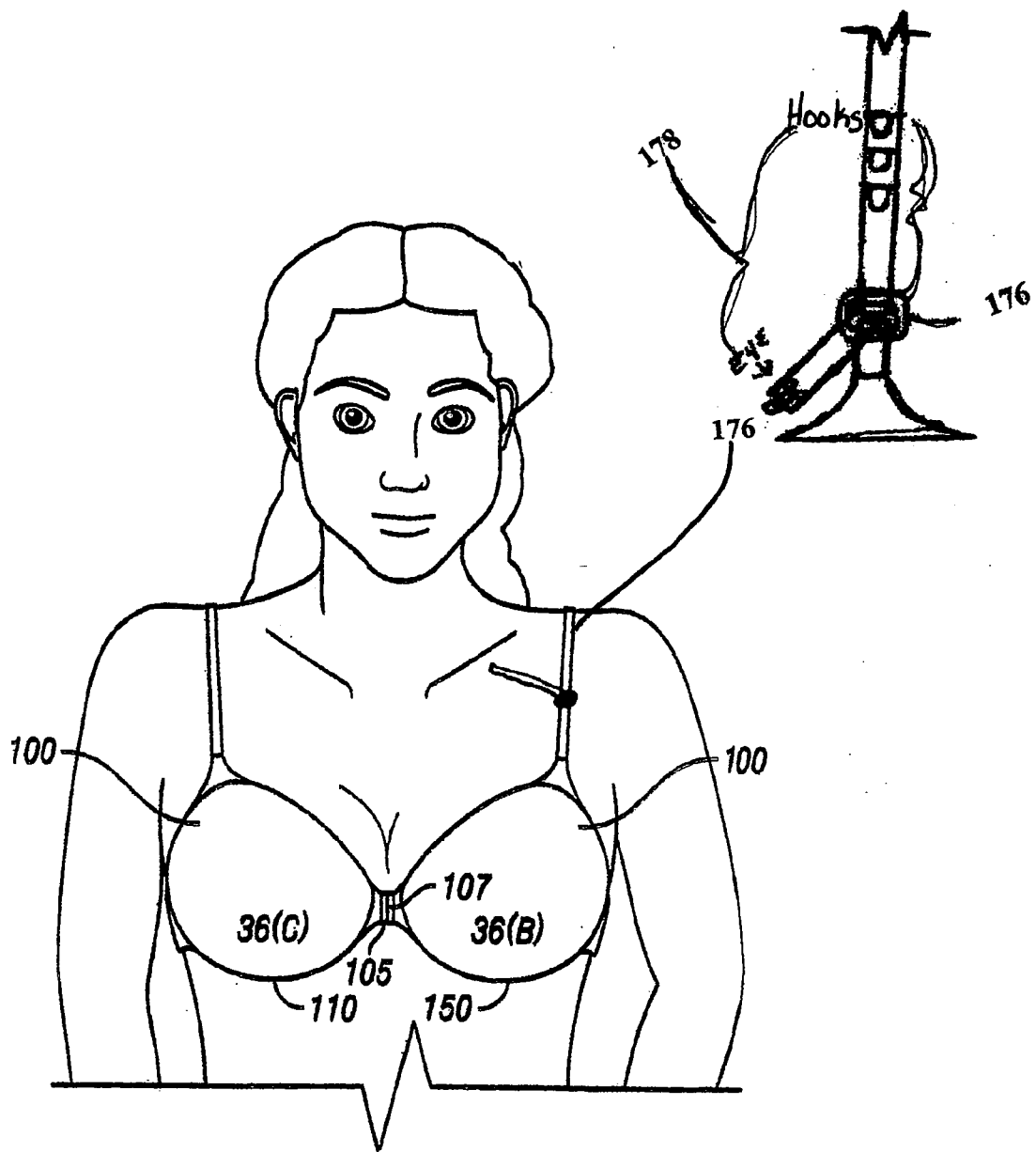
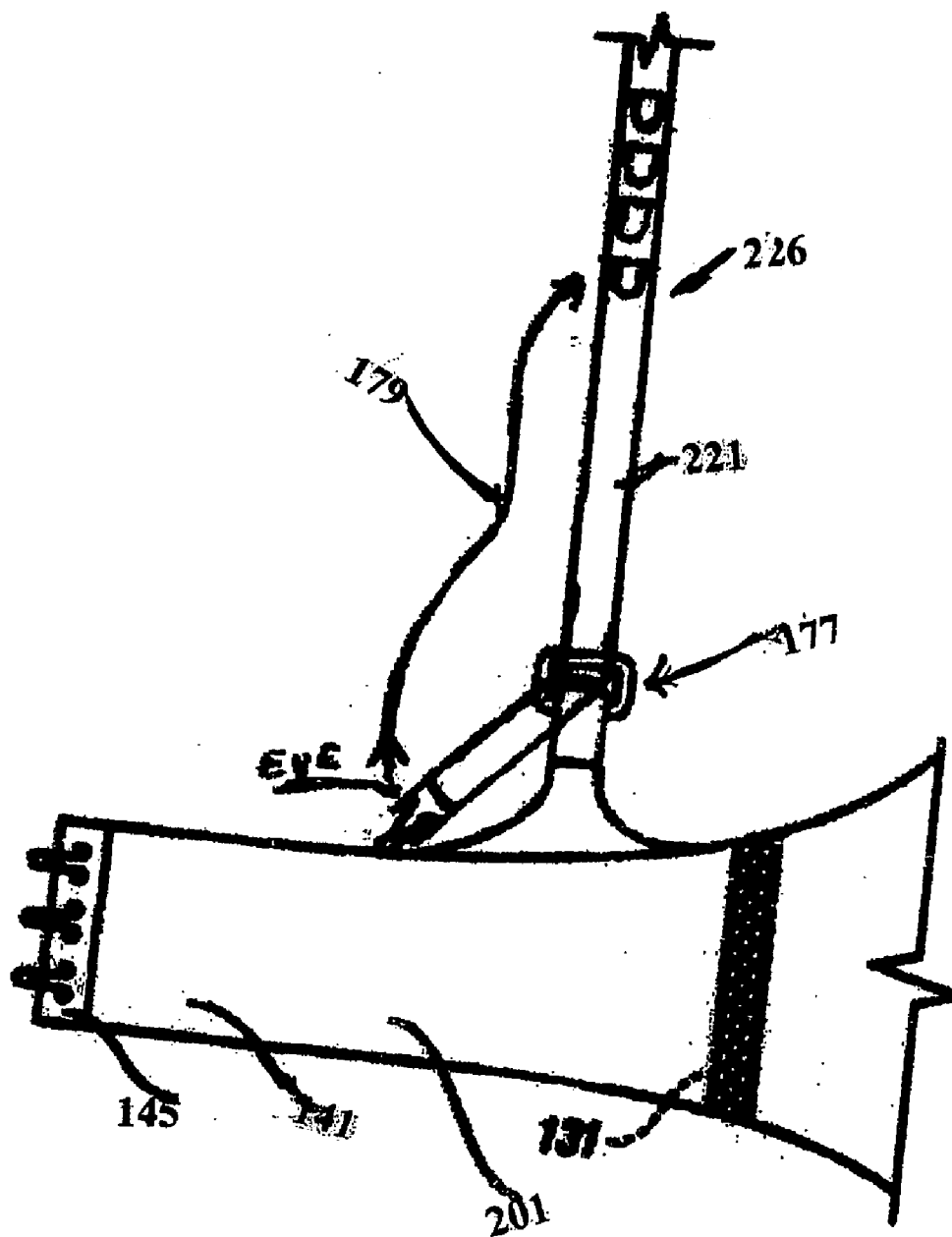


FIG. 7B



HALF BRASSIERE

[0001] This is a continuation of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 10/933,561

BACKGROUND

[0002] The present invention relates generally to women's brassieres and more particularly to a single piece half brassiere manufactured in various shapes and sizes to support the user's associated breast. The prior art teaches a two piece brassiere of various sizes and shapes as in U.S. Pat. No. 4,416,284, a mastectomy brassiere as in U.S. PAT. NO. 2002/0102913, and a multi-component assembled brassiere as in US PAT. NO. 2003/0236054. Generally, brassieres are fabricated as a single garment to support a pair of symmetrical shape breasts. However, some women are not born with a pair of symmetrical shape breasts. Thus, with the present invention, each asymmetrical shape breast can be independently supported.

SUMMARY

[0003] It is an object of the present invention to provide a single half piece brassiere manufactured to individually support each individual breast of the wearer of the brassiere. The wearer selects two separate half brassieres which support each individual breast size. The brassieres are then attached to support each breast. The half piece brassiere is manufactured in various sizes and shapes. The brassiere can be strapless or each cup can be manufactured with under wire support. Additionally, straps can be attached to the brassiere and the straps can be adjustable. The upper torso member of the half piece brassiere can also be adjustable.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[0004] FIG. 1 illustrates a perspective view of the present invention on the wearer's body without straps.

[0005] FIG. 1A illustrates a perspective view of the present invention on the wearer's body with straps.

[0006] FIG. 2 illustrates a single half bra piece manufactured in one size.

[0007] FIG. 3 illustrates another single half bra piece manufactured in another size.

[0008] FIG. 4 illustrates the back view of the present invention.

[0009] FIG. 5 illustrates additional support for cup size 36 (B)

[0010] FIG. 6 illustrates additional support for cup size 36 (C)

[0011] FIG. 7A illustrates removable interconnecting means for front of bra

[0012] FIG. 7B illustrates removable interconnecting means for back of bra

DETAILED SPECIFICATION

[0013] Referring to FIGS. 1-4, there is shown the present invention comprising a single piece half brassiere (100) which can be manufactured in various sizes and shapes individually fit each breast. FIG. 1 illustrates a frontal view of one embodiment of the present invention as worn by a

female. Each cup member (110, 150) is dimensioned and configured to fit a wearer's breast cup size of 36C and 36B respectively. Each cup member (110, 150) of the present invention can be manufactured to individually support dissimilar shape breasts of various sizes and shapes up to and including full figured women. This invention can be utilized in swimwear or other types of women wear in which brassiere are an integral part of the garment.

[0014] Referring to FIG. 2 and FIG. 3, there is shown an exploded view of each cup member (110, 150). Each cup member (110, 150) is further defined by a first side (121) and an opposing second side (120). The present invention further includes first fastener mechanism (105, 107) connected to the opposing second side (120) of each cup member (110, 150). First fastener mechanism (105, 107) is utilized to secure the two half brassiere in place as shown in FIG. 1.

[0015] Referring to FIG. 2 and FIG. 3, in some embodiments each cup member (110, 150) can further include casing (155) encompassing the entire inner surface area of the cup member (110, 150). Casing (155) is adapted to enclose conventional padding to provide additional support for the wearer's breast. As shown in FIG. 5 and FIG. 6 additional padding is added to support the wearer's breast of unequal size. Additional padding support 156 is added to cup 36(B) and additional support padding 157 is added to cup 36(C). Normally, the amount of additional padding support 156 required for supporting a smaller breast size is more than the amount of additional padding support 157 to support a larger breast size. As shown internal additional support padding 156 for Cup size 36 (B) is thicker than internal additional support padding 157 for Cup size C 157. Therefore, additional interior support is required to provide, an even contour perception on the outer side of cup size 36 (B) to cup size (C) as shown in FIG. 2 and FIG. 3.

[0016] In other embodiments, each cup member (110, 150) can further include a second casing (160) along the lower peripheral edge of each cup member (110, 150). Second casing (160) is adapted to receive conventional under wire which provide additional support for the wearer's breast.

[0017] Referring to FIG. 4 illustrates a back view of one embodiment of the present invention as worn by an individual. Each torso portion (200, 201) is formed on the first side (121) of each cup member (110, 150) and extends therefrom to an opposing third side (140, 141) as depicted in FIG. 4. Torso portion (200, 201) is adapted to encircle one-half of the wearer's front chest region.

[0018] As shown in FIG. 4, second fastener mechanism (145, 146) is connected to the opposing third side (140, 141) of the torso portion (200, 201). Second fastener mechanisms (145, 146) are utilized to secure torso portion (200, 201) in place. First fastener mechanism (105, 107) and second fastener mechanism (145, 146) can be conventional hooks.

[0019] As depicted in FIG. 4, alternative embodiments of the present invention can further include shoulder straps (220, 221) extending upwardly over the adjacent shoulder interconnecting the top of the torso portion (200, 201) to the top of cup member (110, 150) illustrated in FIG. 1A. Each shoulder strap (220, 221) can be adjustable in length utilizing conventional extension clamps (225, 226). Additionally, the torso portion (200,201) can be adjustable in length utilizing conventional extension means (130, 131). Exten-

sion means (130, 131) can be a short insert of stretchable fabric such as elastic. The upper torso member (200, 201) can be made of stretchable fabric such as nylon. Alternatively, each shoulder strap member (220, 221) can respectively removably interconnect, the top of torso portion (200, 201) to the top of cup member (110, 150). As shown in FIGS. 7A and 7B complementary fasteners (176, 177) are attached to the top of torso portion (200,201) and top of cup member (110,150). One end of strap member (220, 221) is releasably connected to fastener 177 connected to the top of torso portion (200, 210) and the opposing end of strap member 220, 221 is releasably connected to fastener 176 attached to cup member (110,150). Complementary fasteners (176, 177) can further comprise a catch mechanism (178, 179) at a strategic location on the strap thus allowing the hanging strap to be held in place. As shown the catch mechanism (178, 179) is a hook and eye.

What is claimed is:

1. A single piece half brassiere comprising:

a cup member dimensioned and configured to fit a wearer's breast, the cup member being manufactured to individually support dissimilar shape breasts of various sizes and shapes, the cup member being defined by a first side and an opposing second side;

a torso portion attached to the first side of the cup member and extending therefrom to an opposing third side, the torso portion adapted to encircle one-half of the wearer's front chest region,

a first fastener mechanism connected to the opposing second side of the cup member;

a second fastener mechanism connected to the opposing third side of the torso portion;

a first casing encompassing the entire interior surface area of the cup member; and

the casing adapted to enclose a padding to provide additional support for the wearer's breast.

2. The half brassiere of claim 1 further comprising a shoulder strap extending upwardly over the adjacent shoulder interconnecting the top of the cup member to the top of the torso portion.

3. (canceled)

4. The half brassiere of claim 1 wherein the cup member further comprises:

a second casing along the lower peripheral edge of the cup member; and

the casing adapted to encompass an under wire support member.

5. The half brassiere of claim 2 wherein the shoulder strap is adapted to be adjustable in length.

6. The half brassiere of claim 1 wherein the torso portion is adapted to be adjustable in length.

7. The half brassiere of claim 2 wherein the shoulder strap extends upwardly over the adjacent shoulder removably interconnecting the top of the cup member to the top of the torso portion.

8. The half brassiere of claim 6 further comprising:

an extension means including a band of material of a predetermined length and width, the band of material capable of extending in length such that the torso portion is adaptable in length; and

the band of material being attached to the torso portion near the first side of the cup member.

9. The half brassiere of claim 1 wherein the additional support further comprises:

the padding is dimensioned to the wearer's breast size to provide additional support such that the cup member have an even contour.

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