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(54) **GARMENT INCLUDING SHAPEWEAR**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A garment includes an exterior garment having a waist portion, a first leg portion, and a second leg portion. An inner lining is attached to the exterior garment at the waist portion, the inner lining including a first leg portion disposed within the first leg portion of the exterior garment, and a second leg portion disposed within the second leg portion of the exterior garment. The inner lining includes a shaping material.

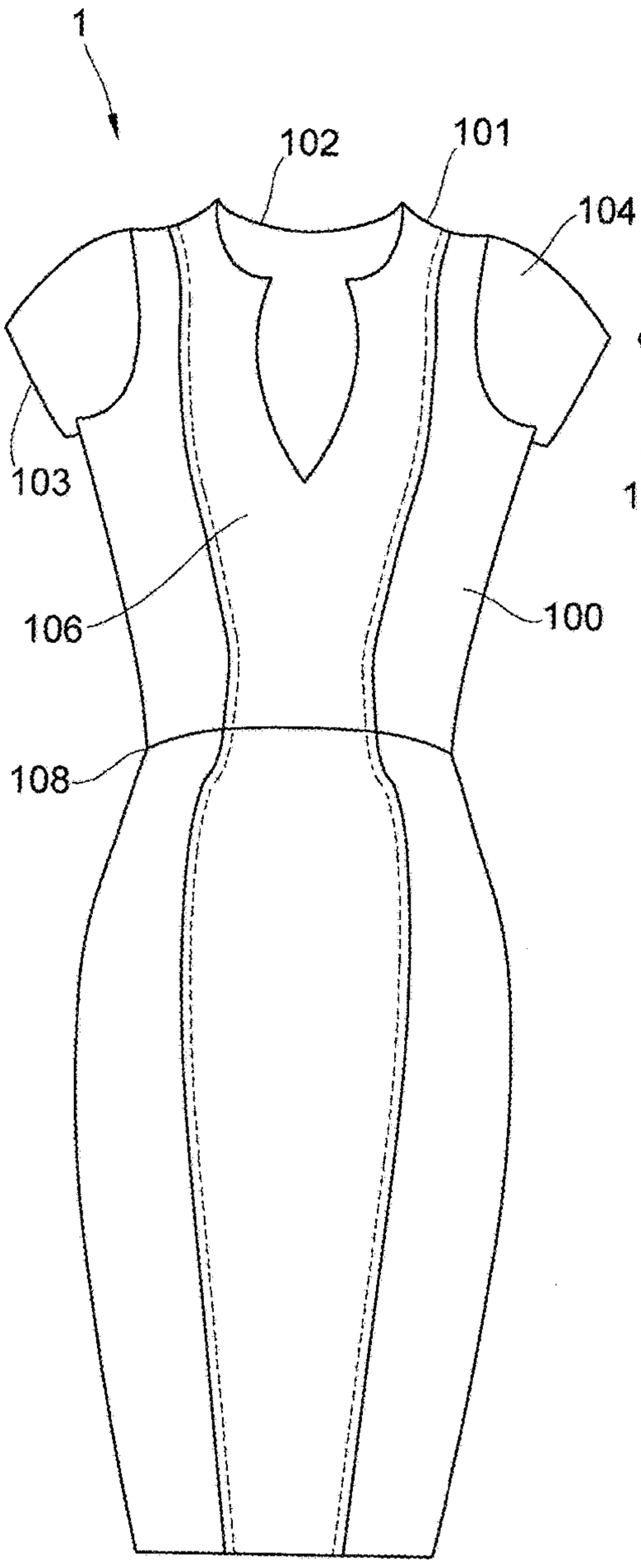


FIG. 1

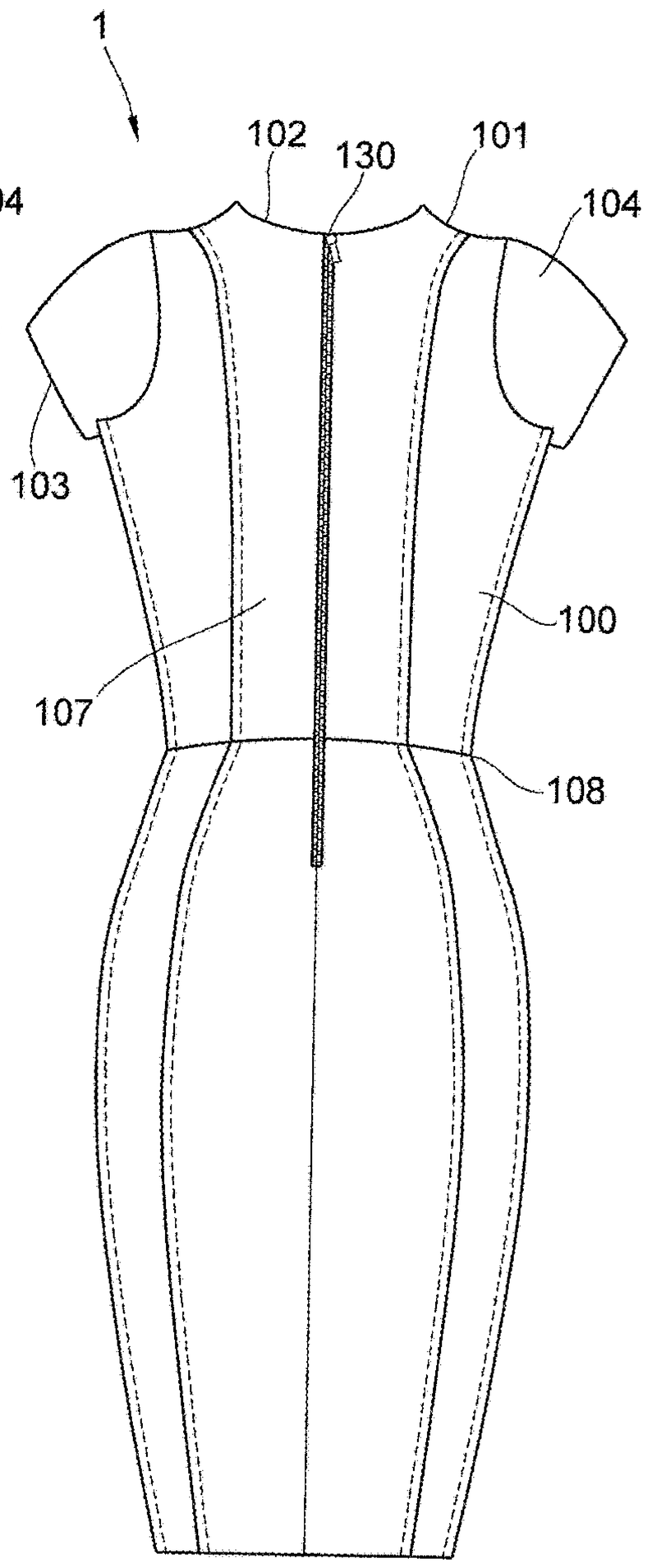


FIG. 2

FIG. 3

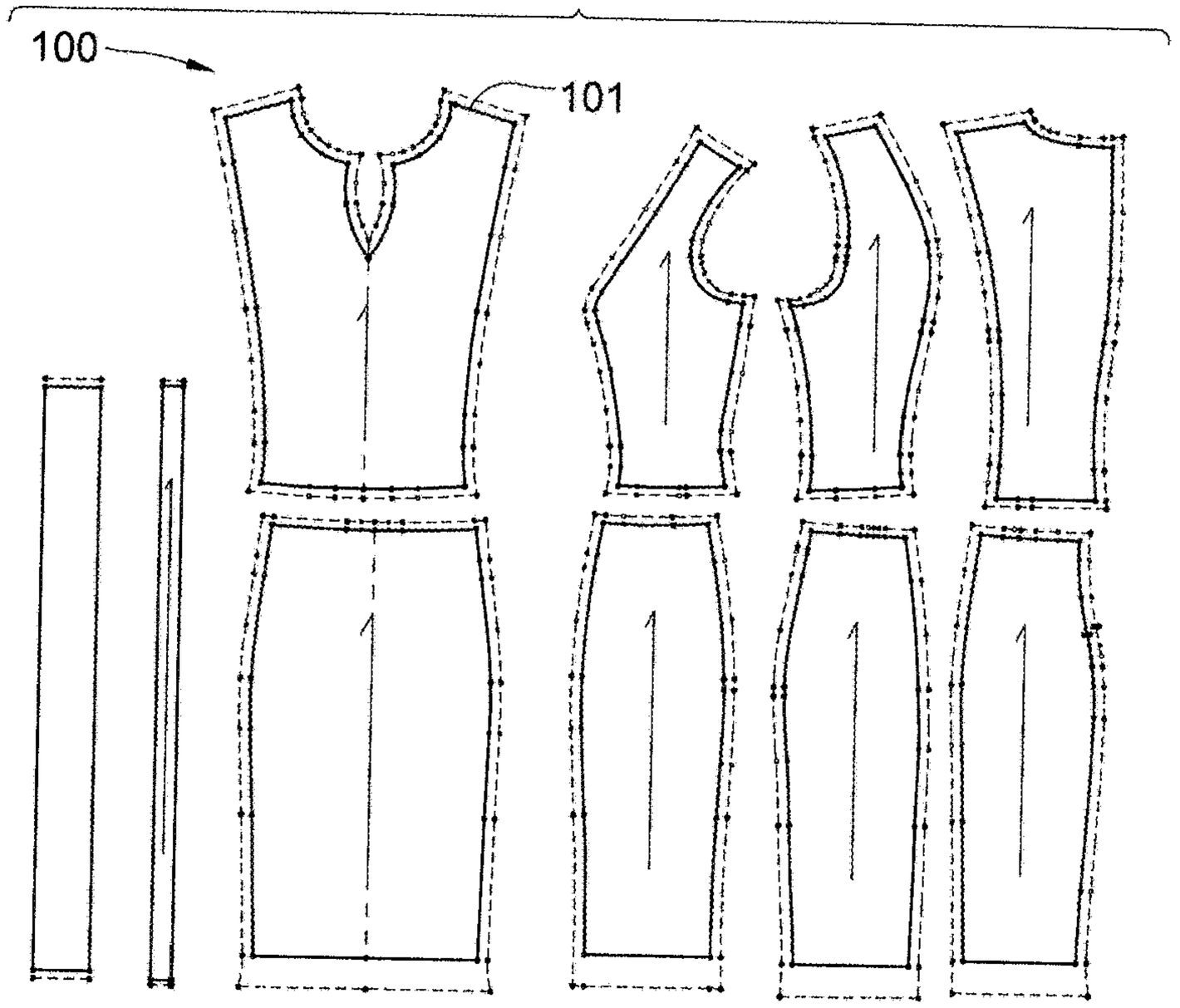


FIG. 4

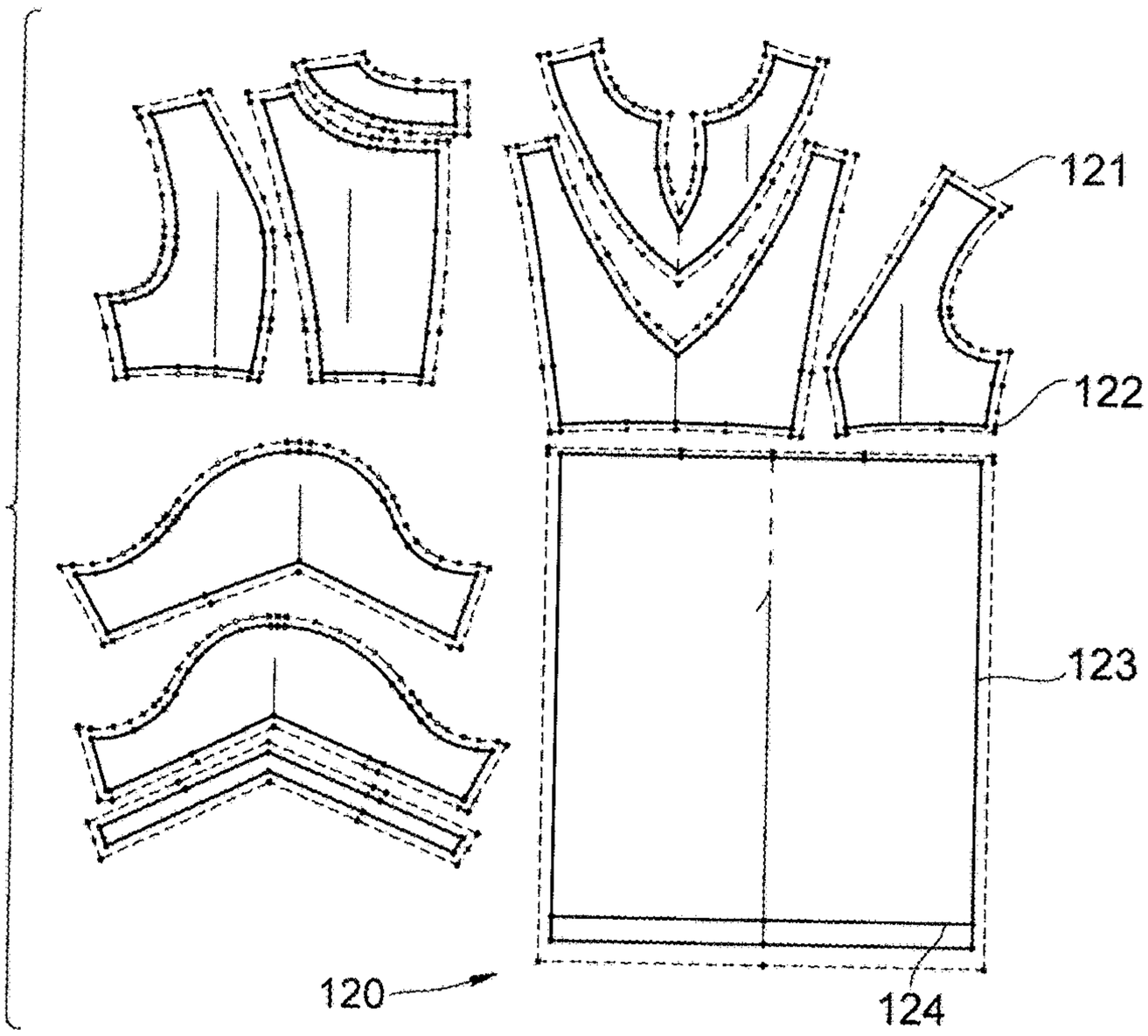




FIG. 5

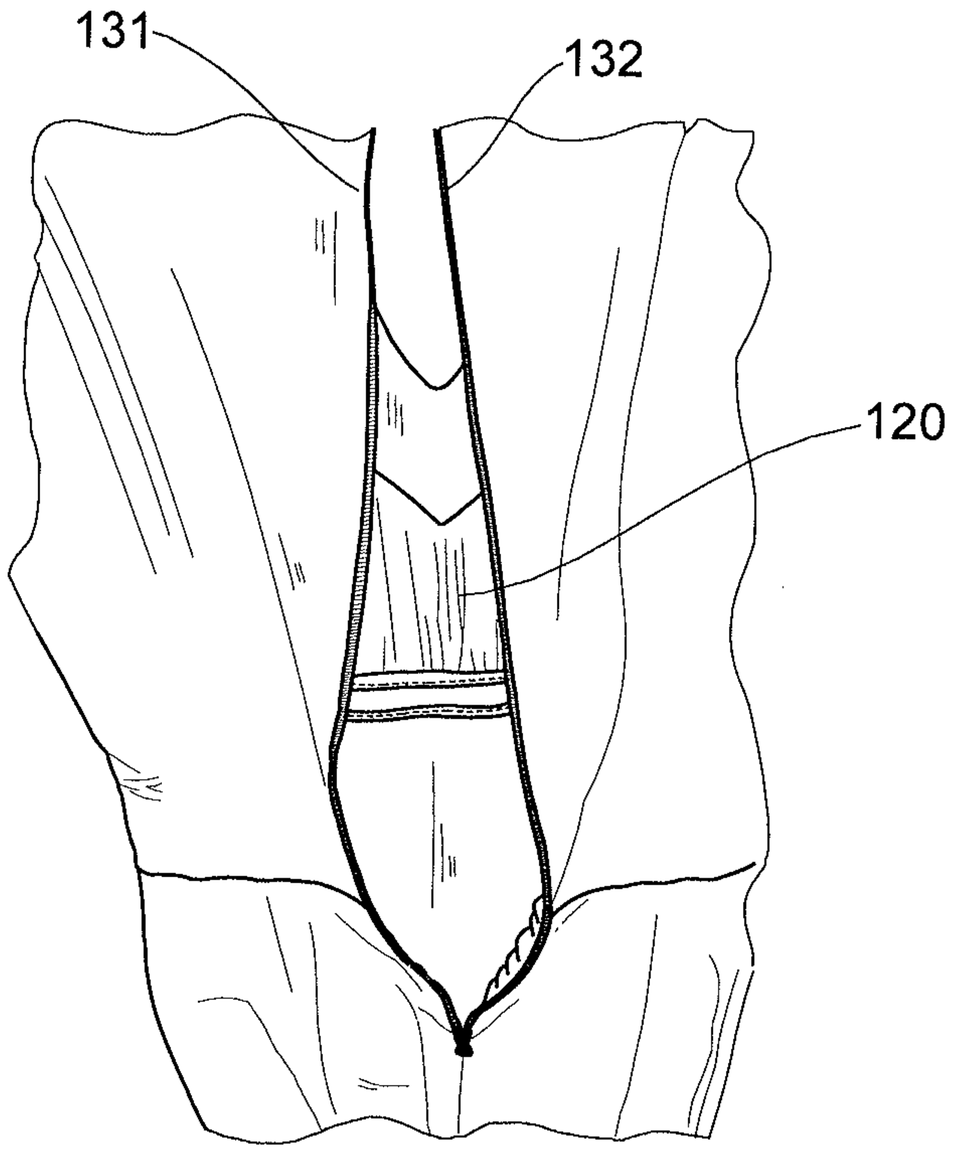


FIG. 6

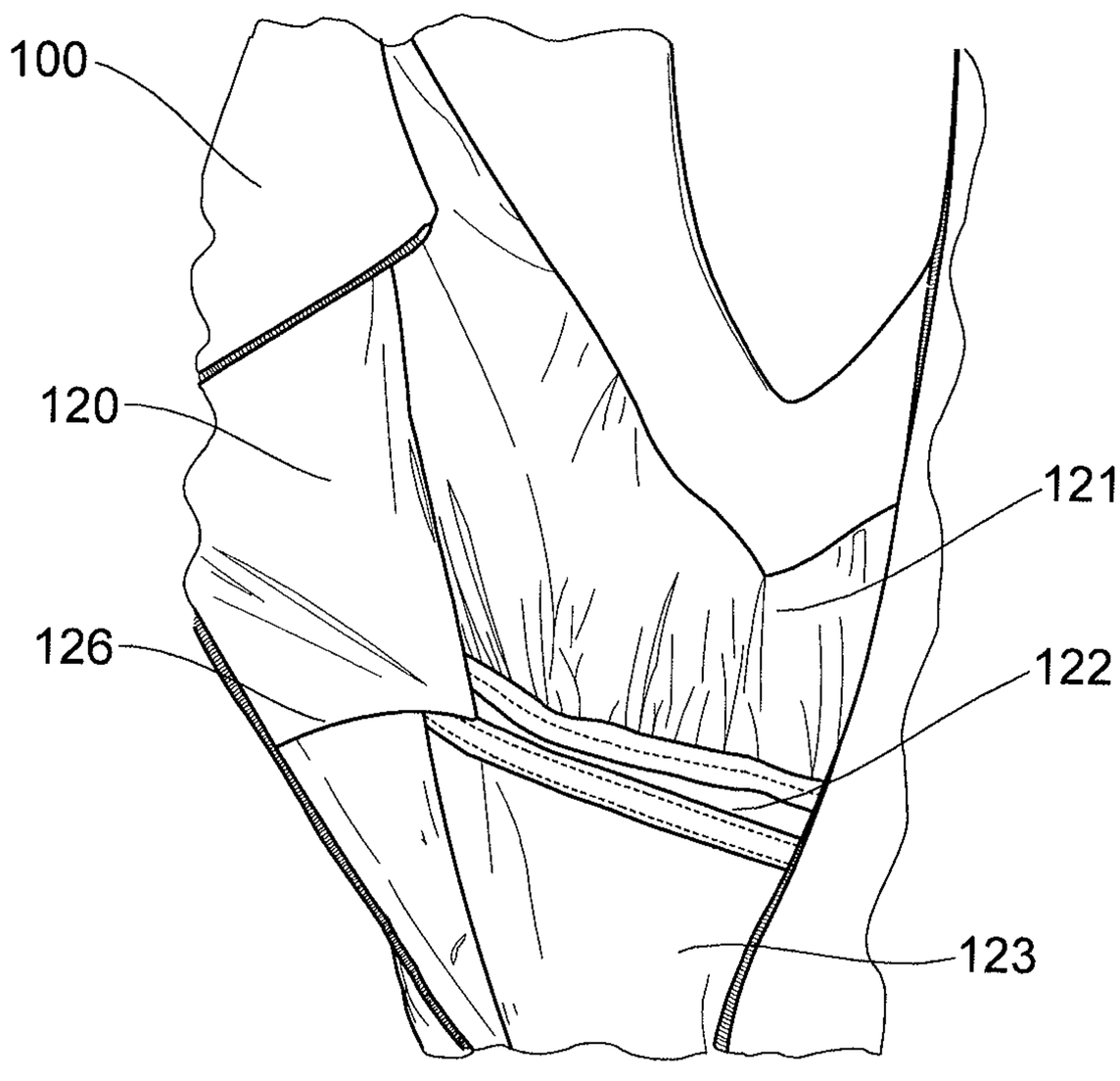


FIG. 7

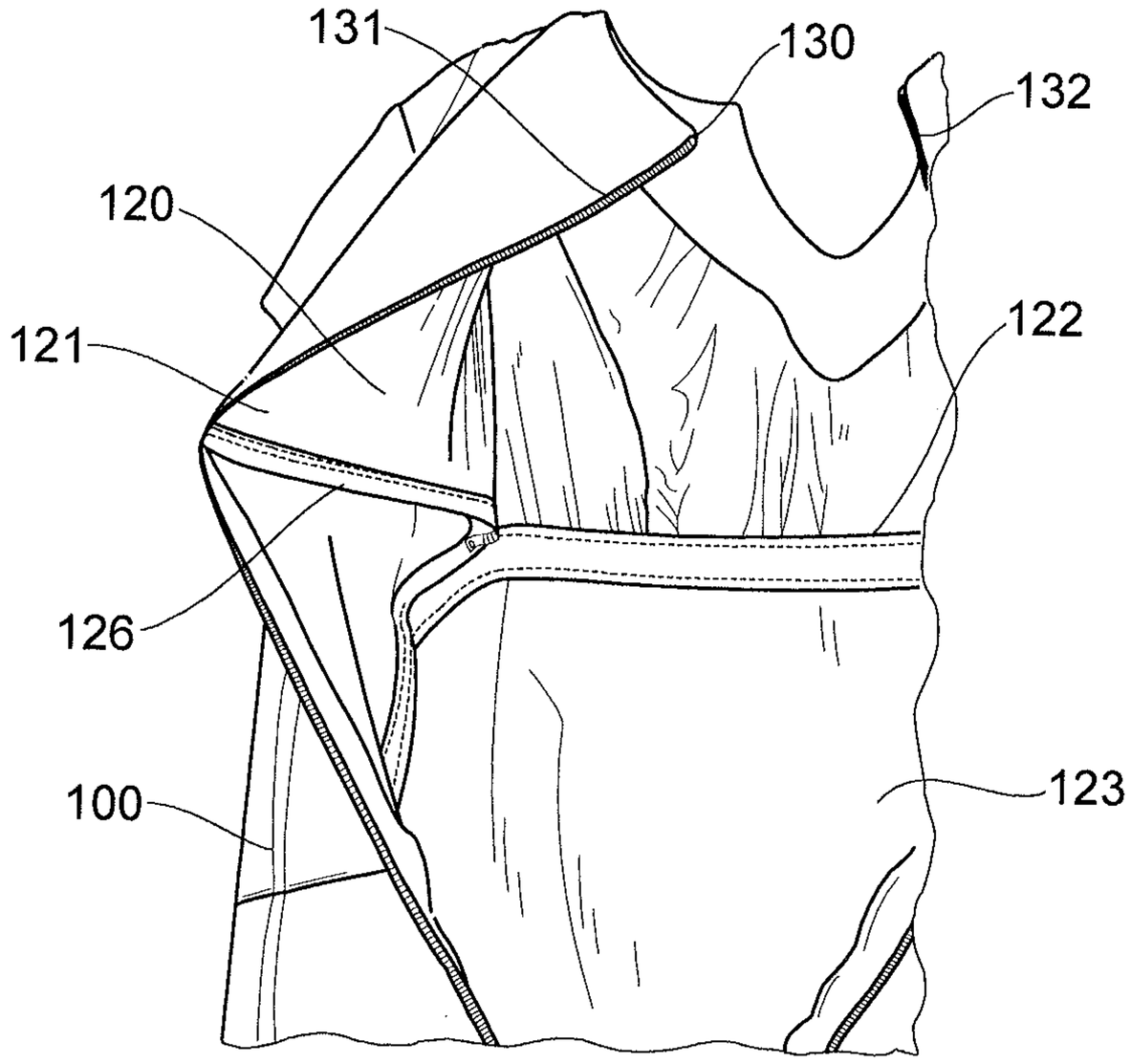


FIG. 8

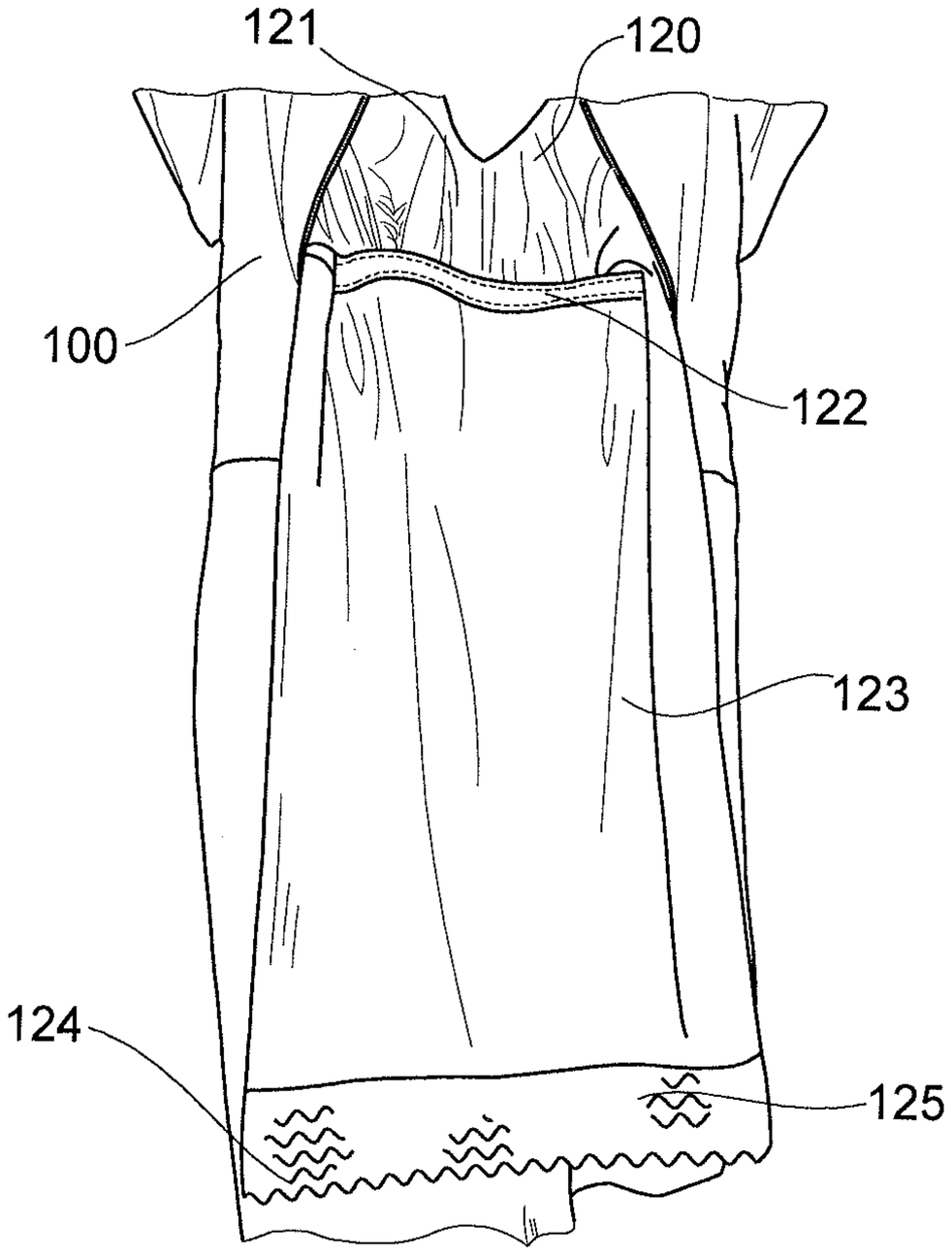


FIG. 9

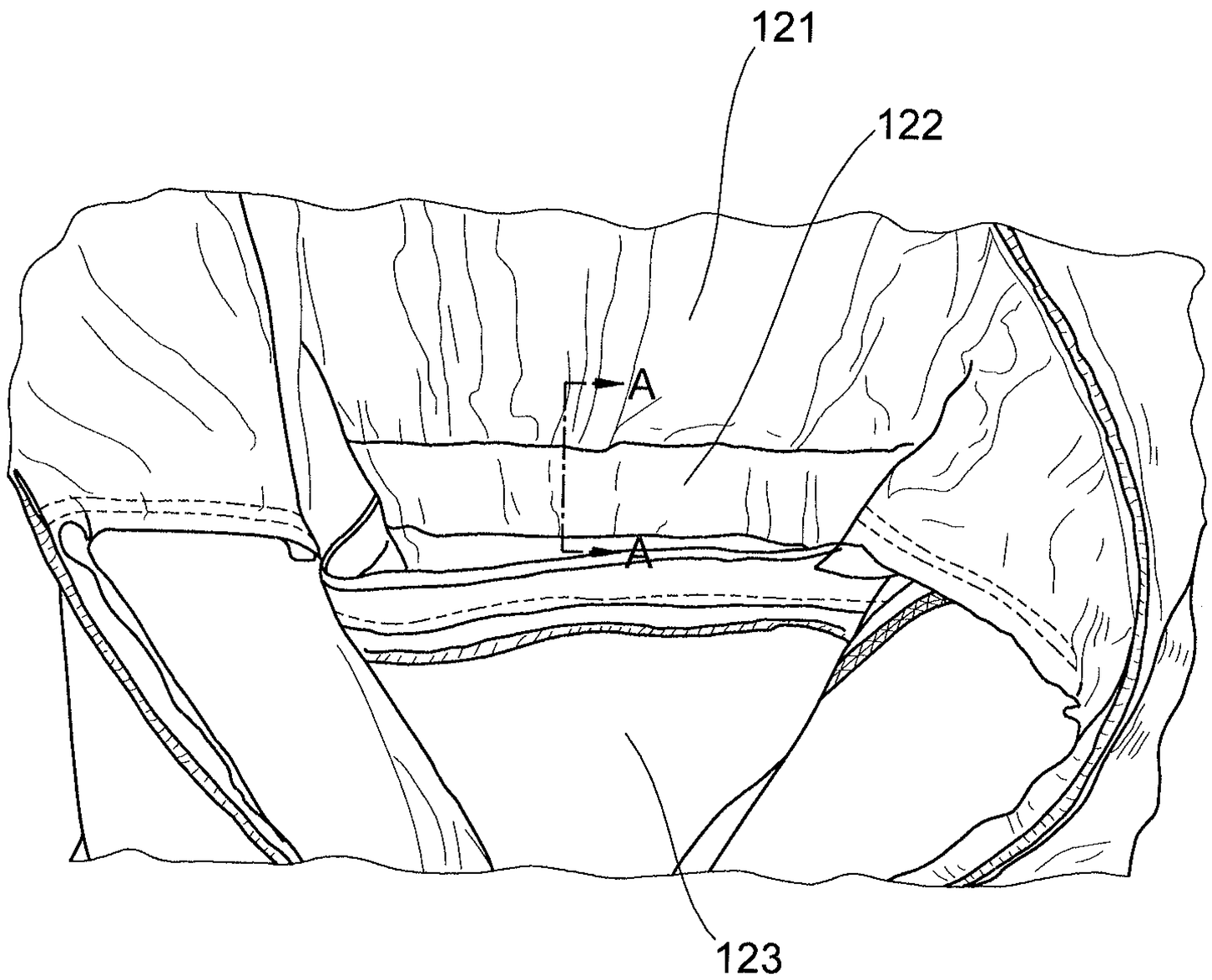


FIG. 10a

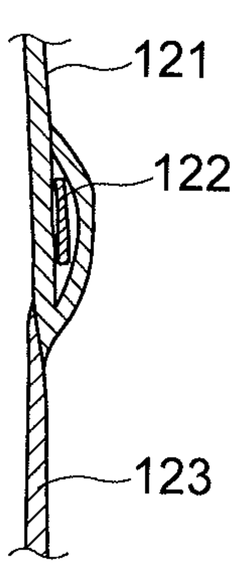


FIG. 10b

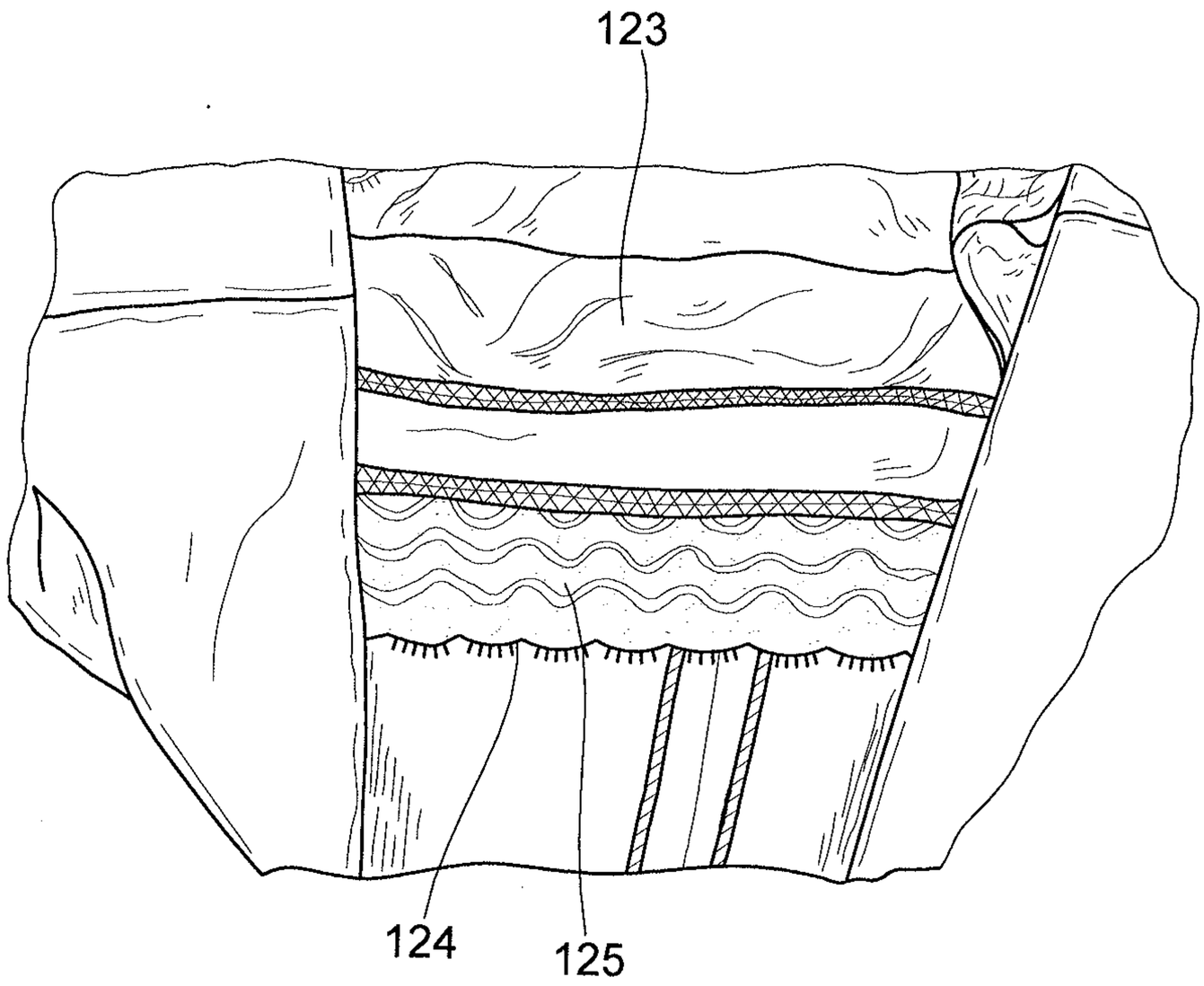


FIG. 11

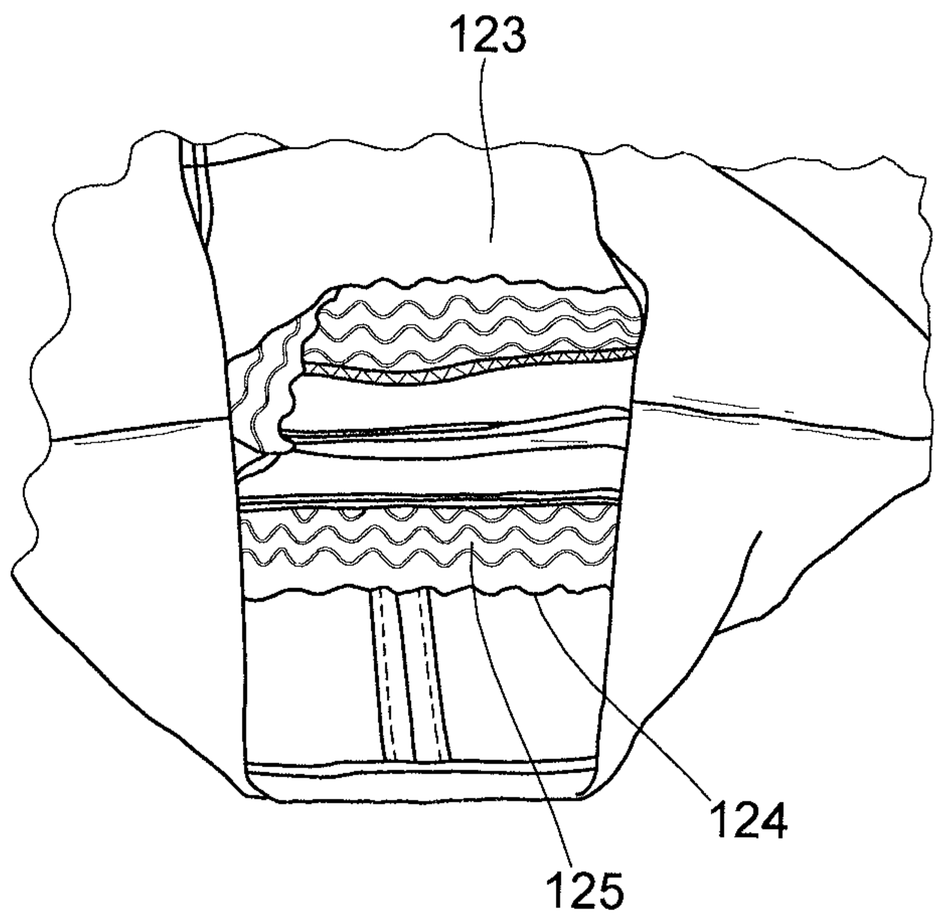


FIG. 12

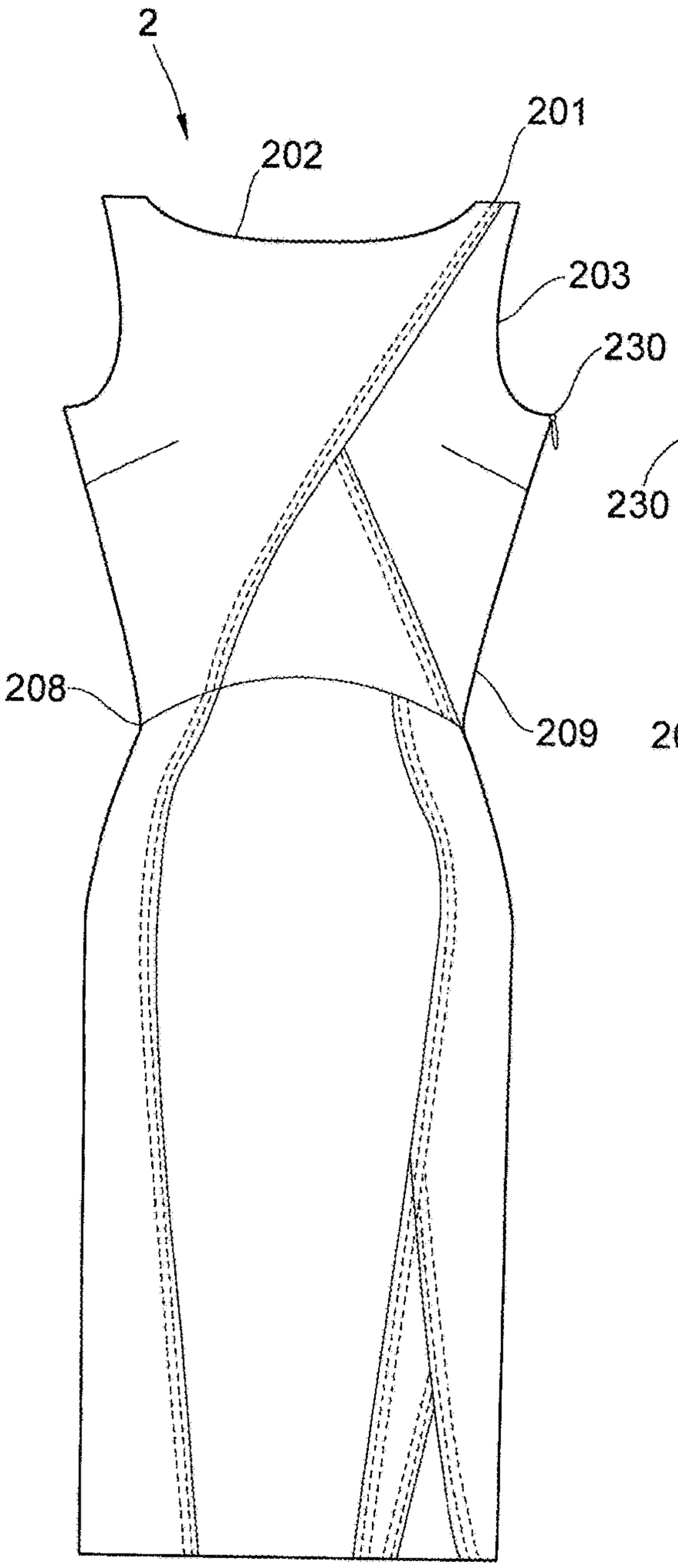


FIG. 13

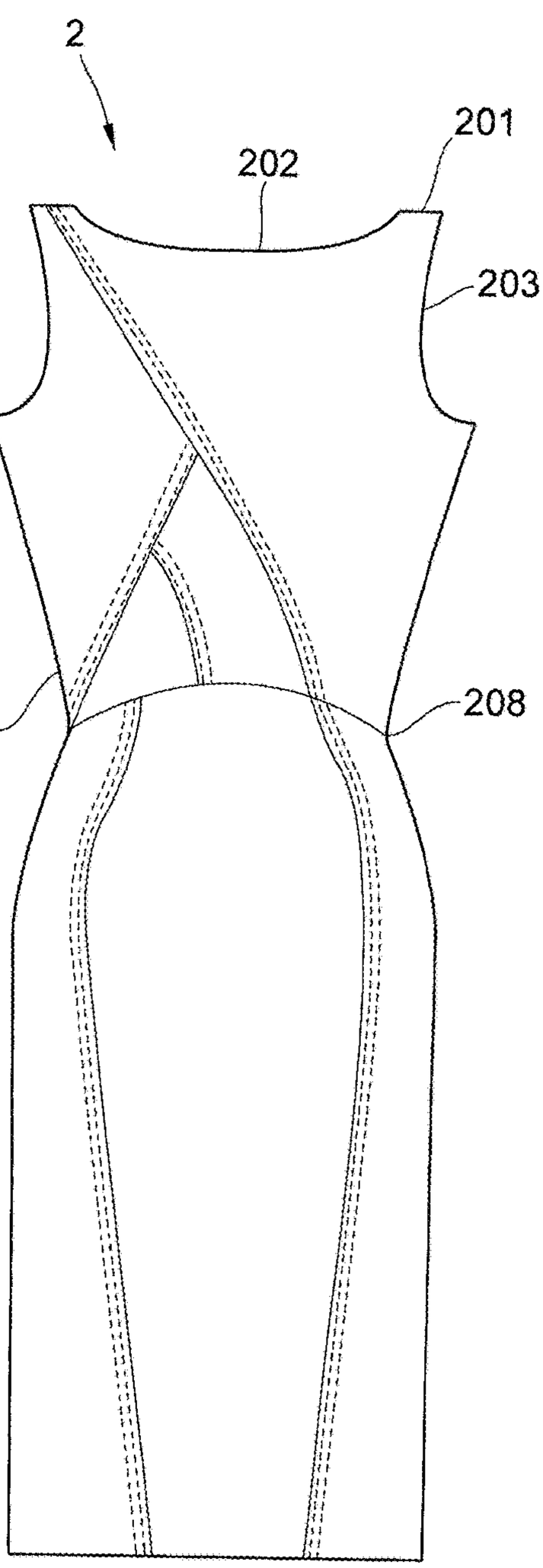


FIG. 14

FIG. 15

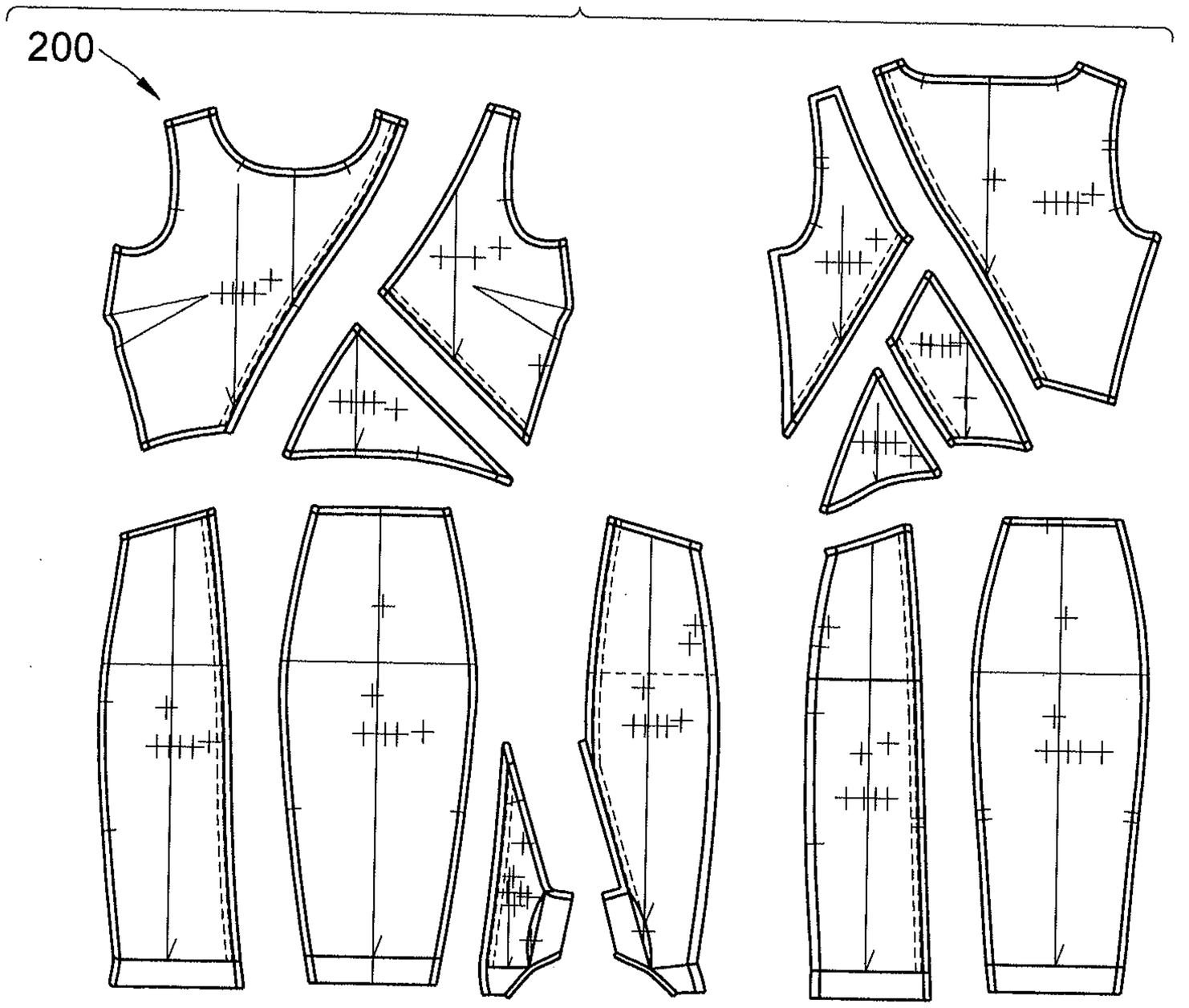
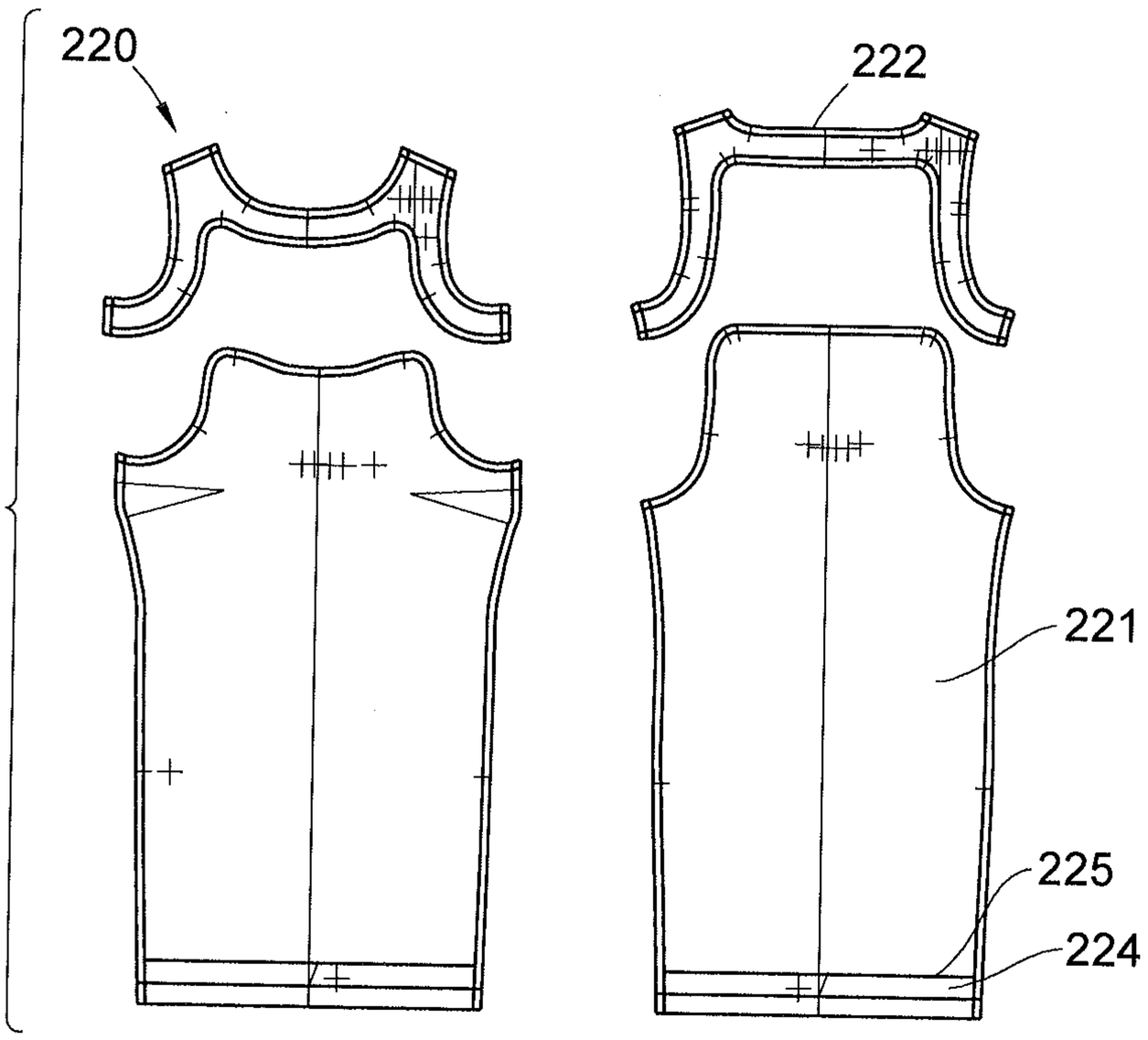


FIG. 16



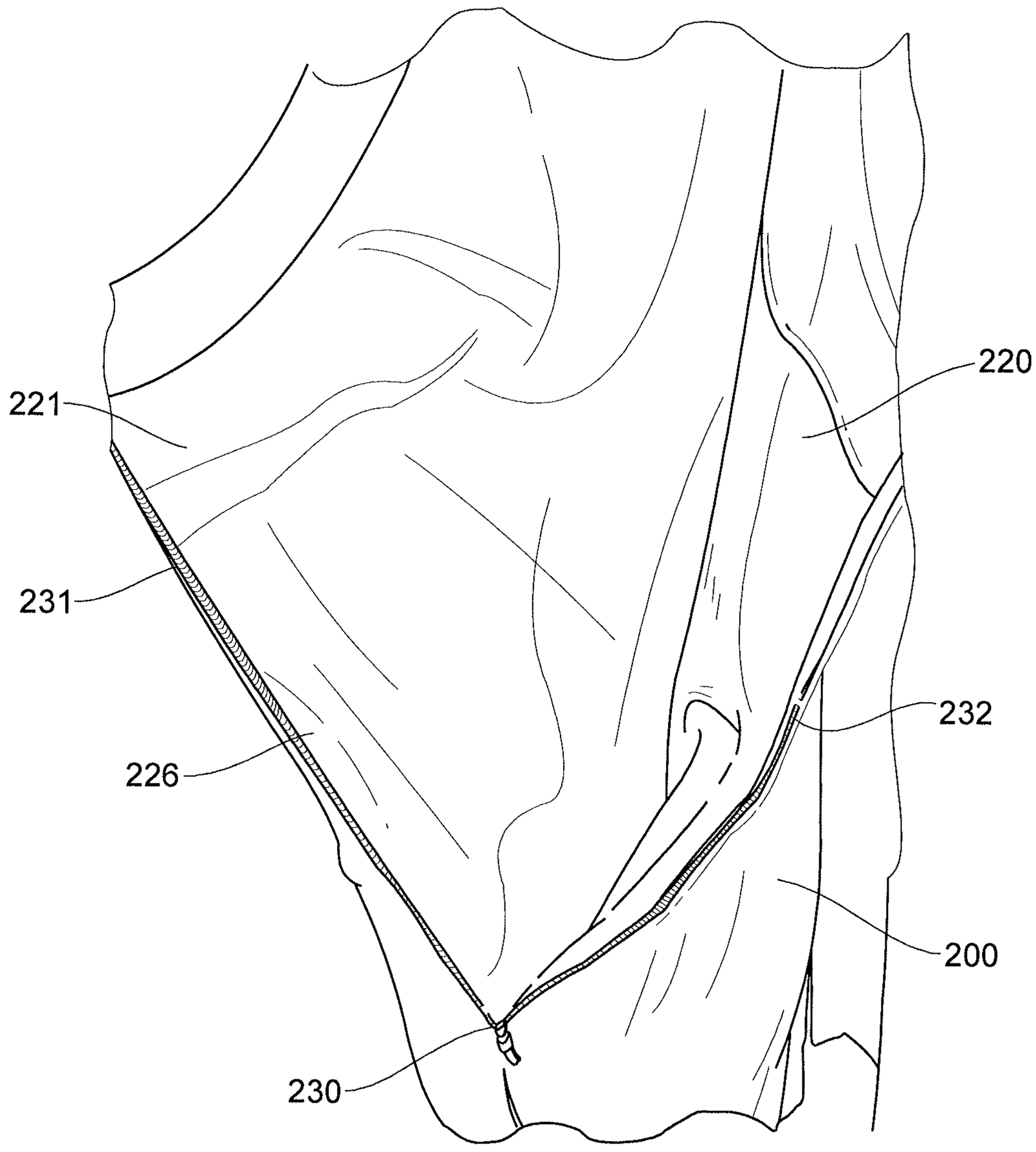


FIG. 17

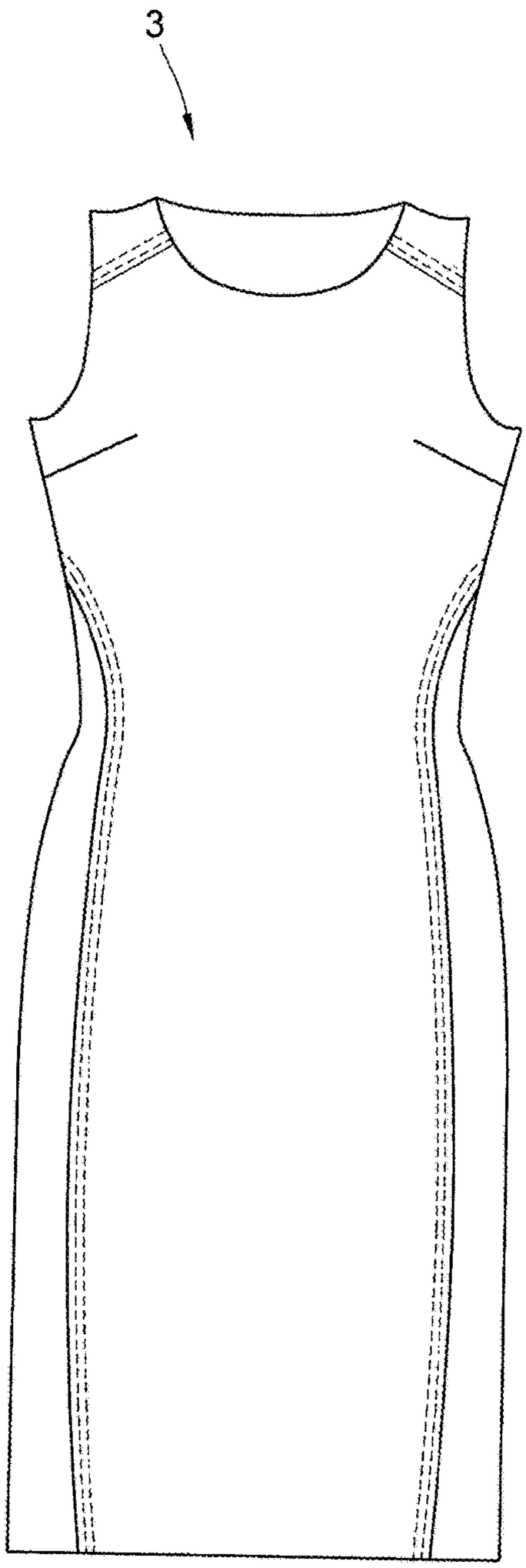


FIG. 18

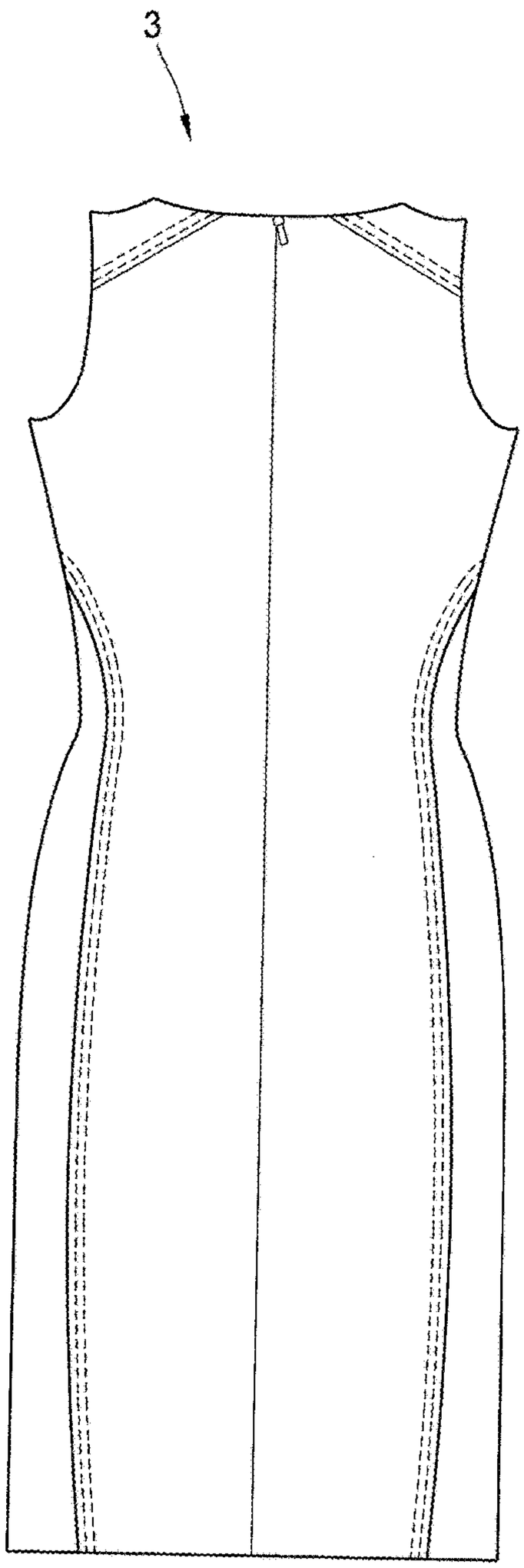


FIG. 19

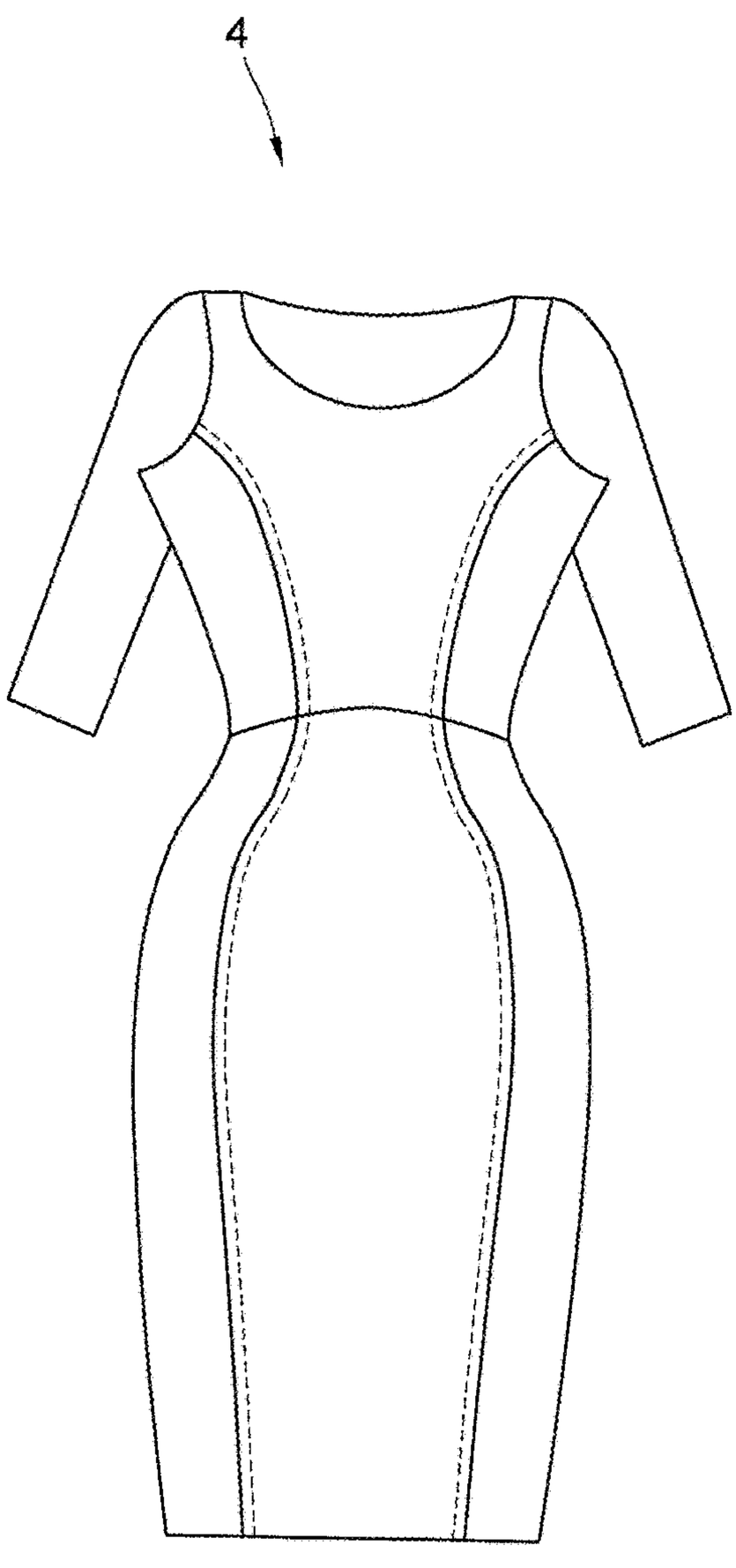


FIG. 20

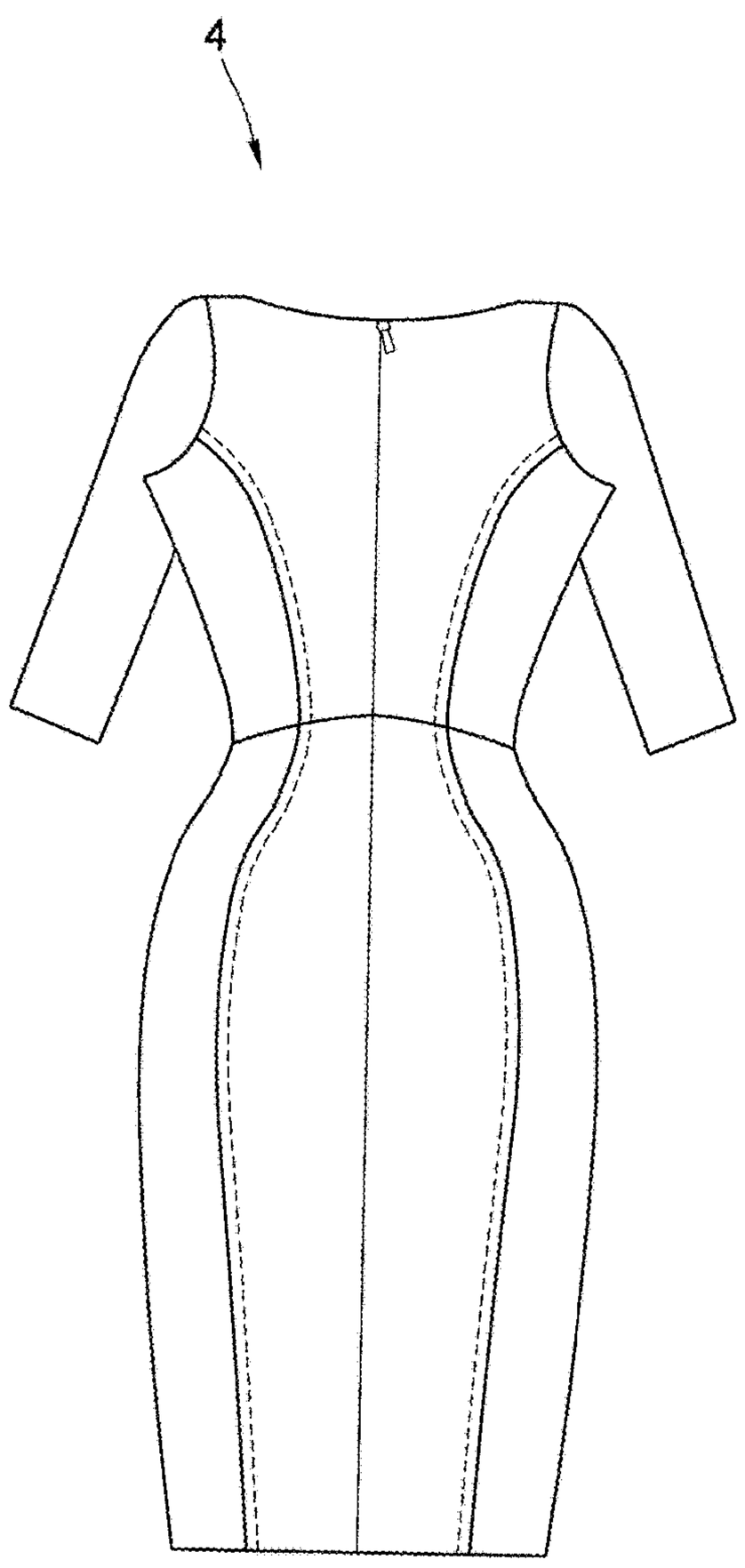


FIG. 21

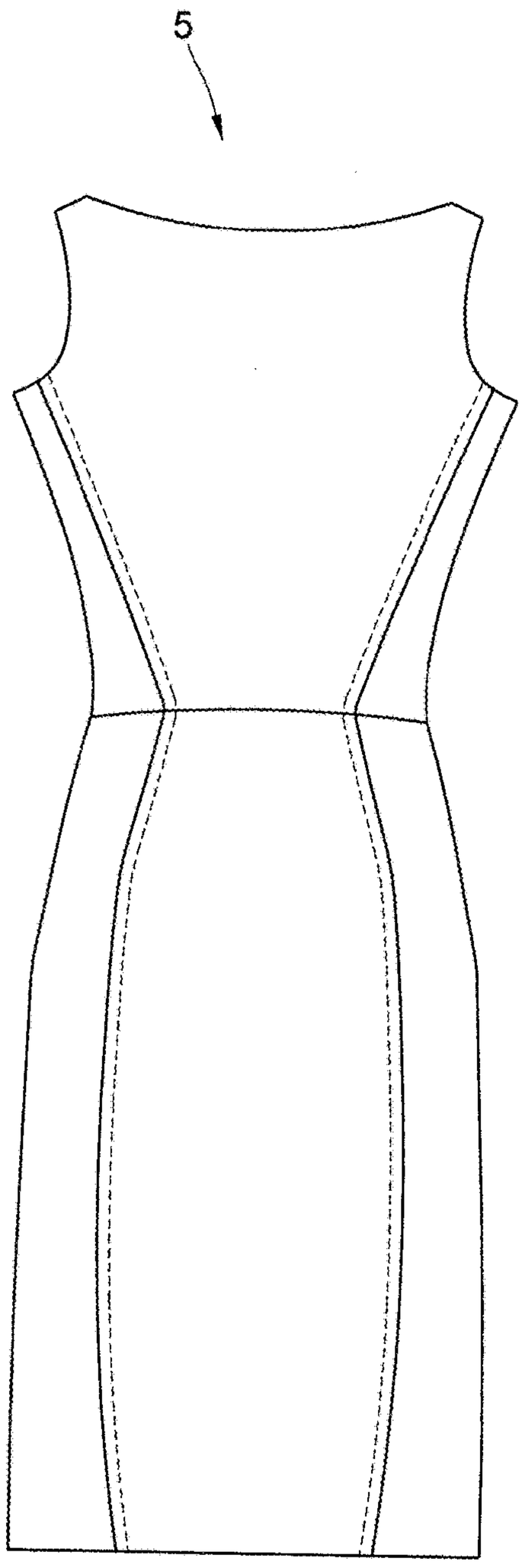


FIG. 22

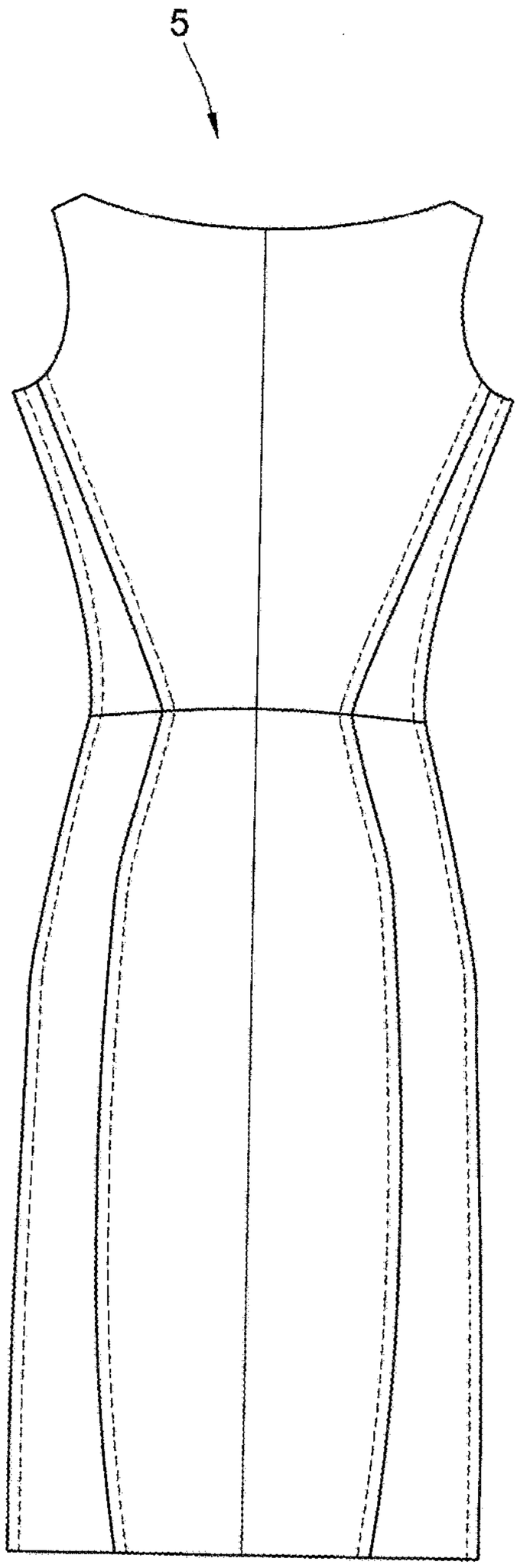


FIG. 23

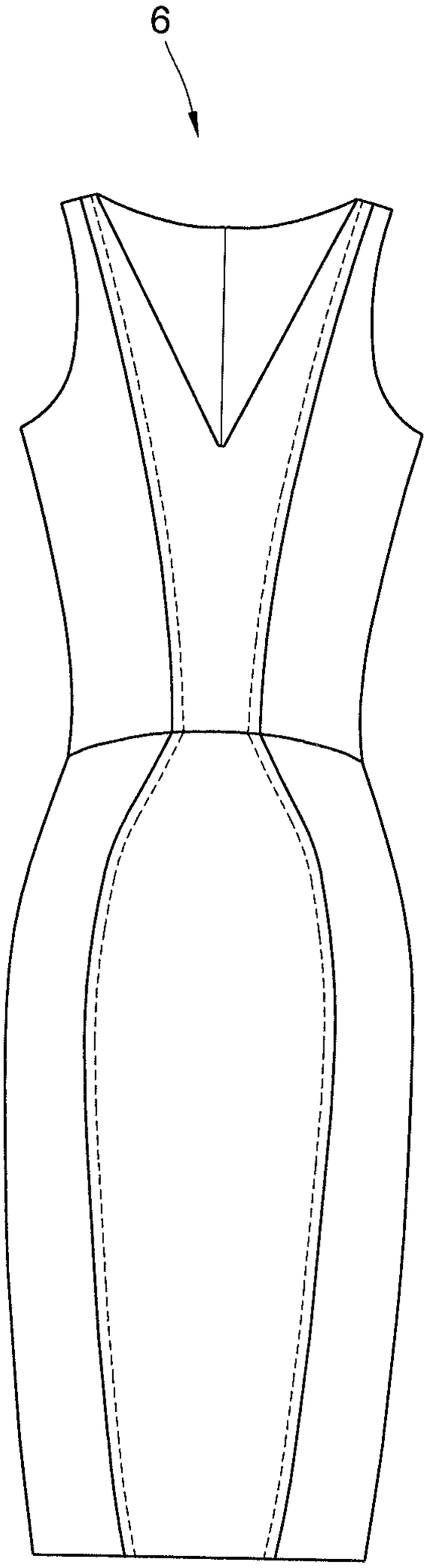


FIG. 24

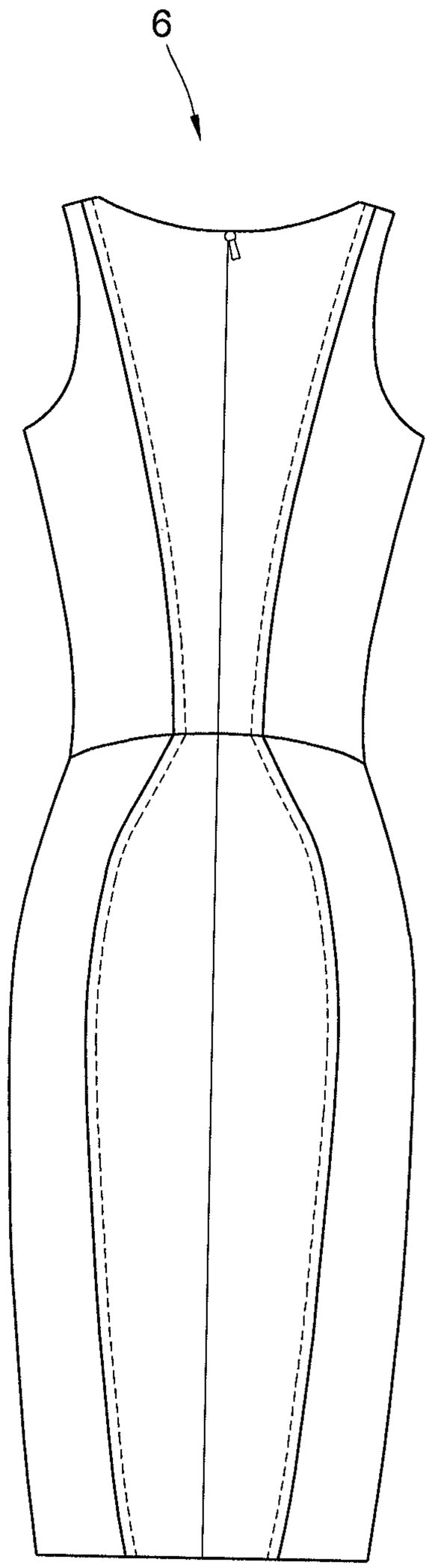


FIG. 25

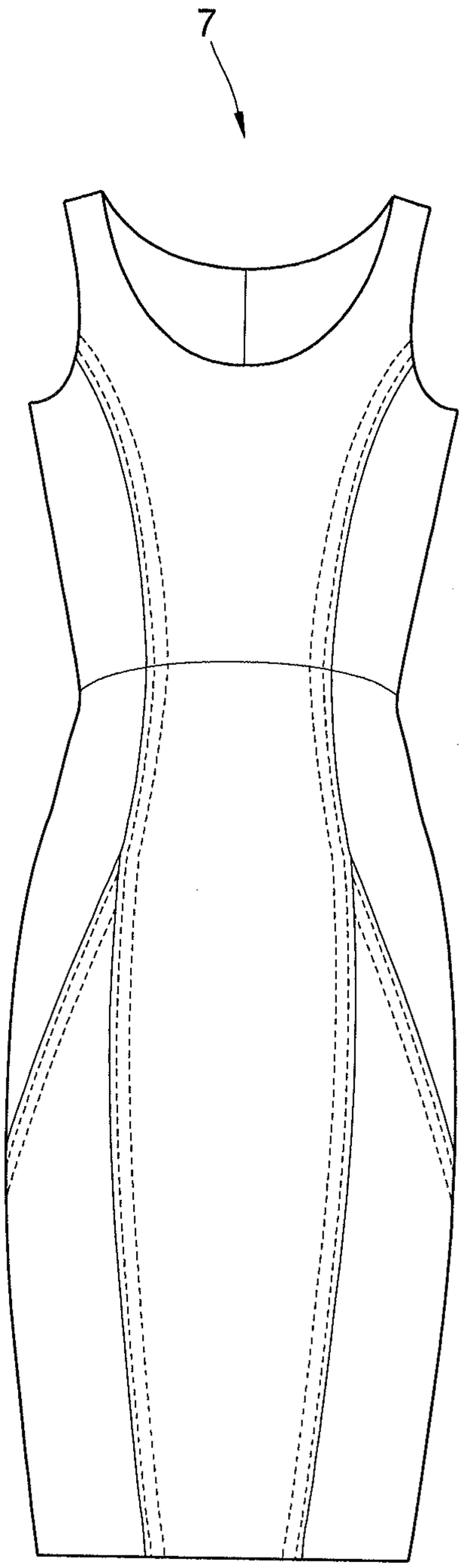


FIG. 26

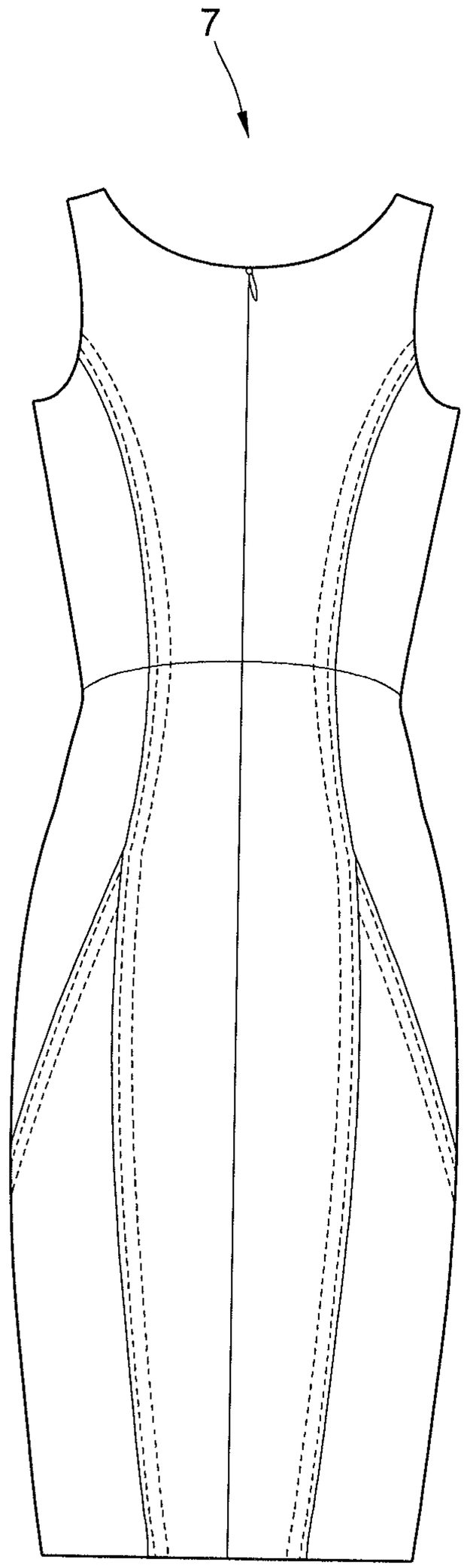


FIG. 27

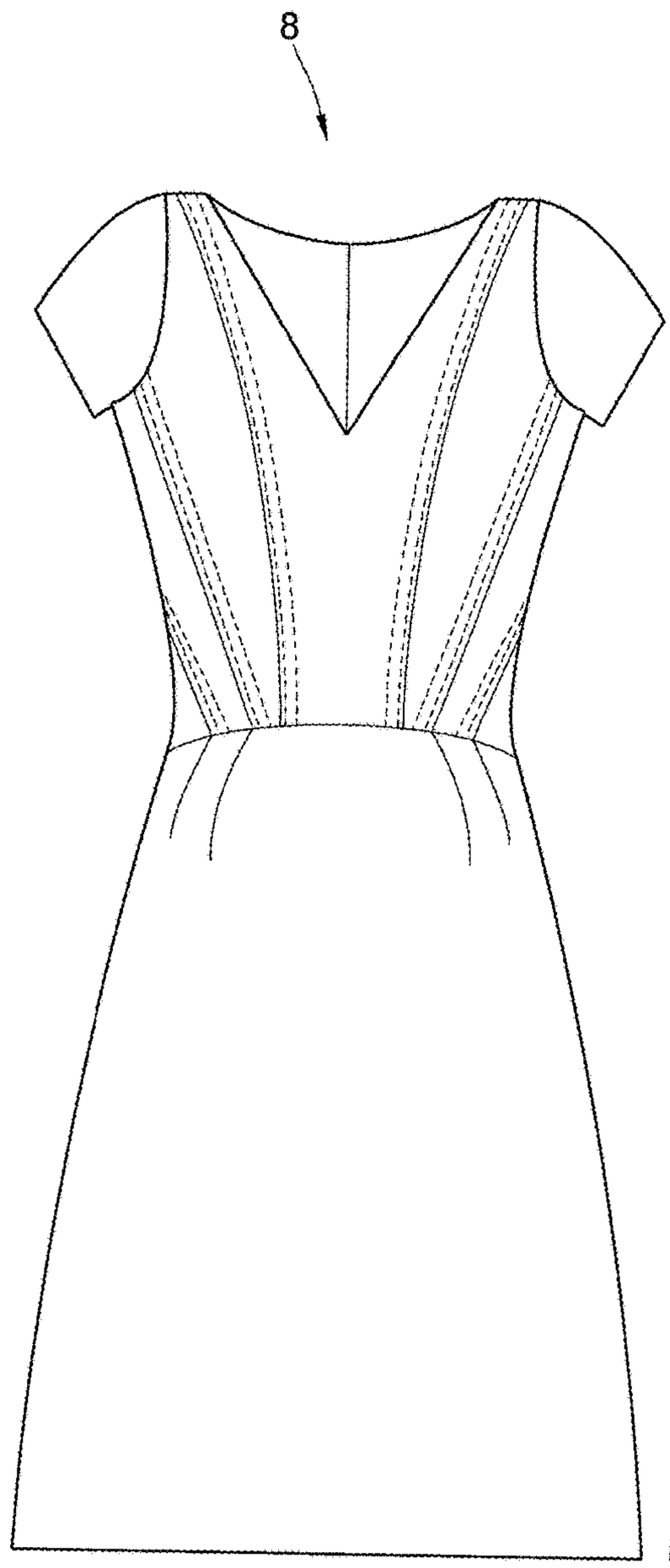


FIG. 28

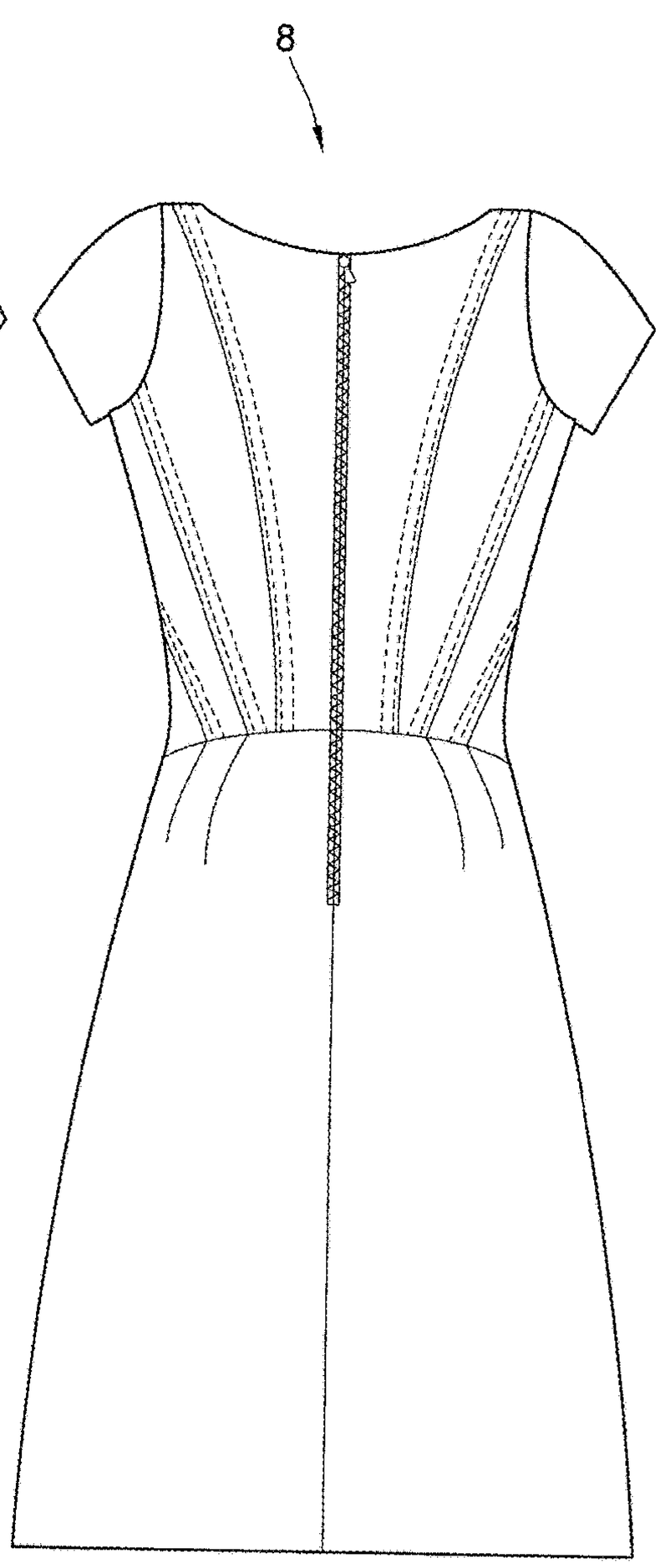


FIG. 29

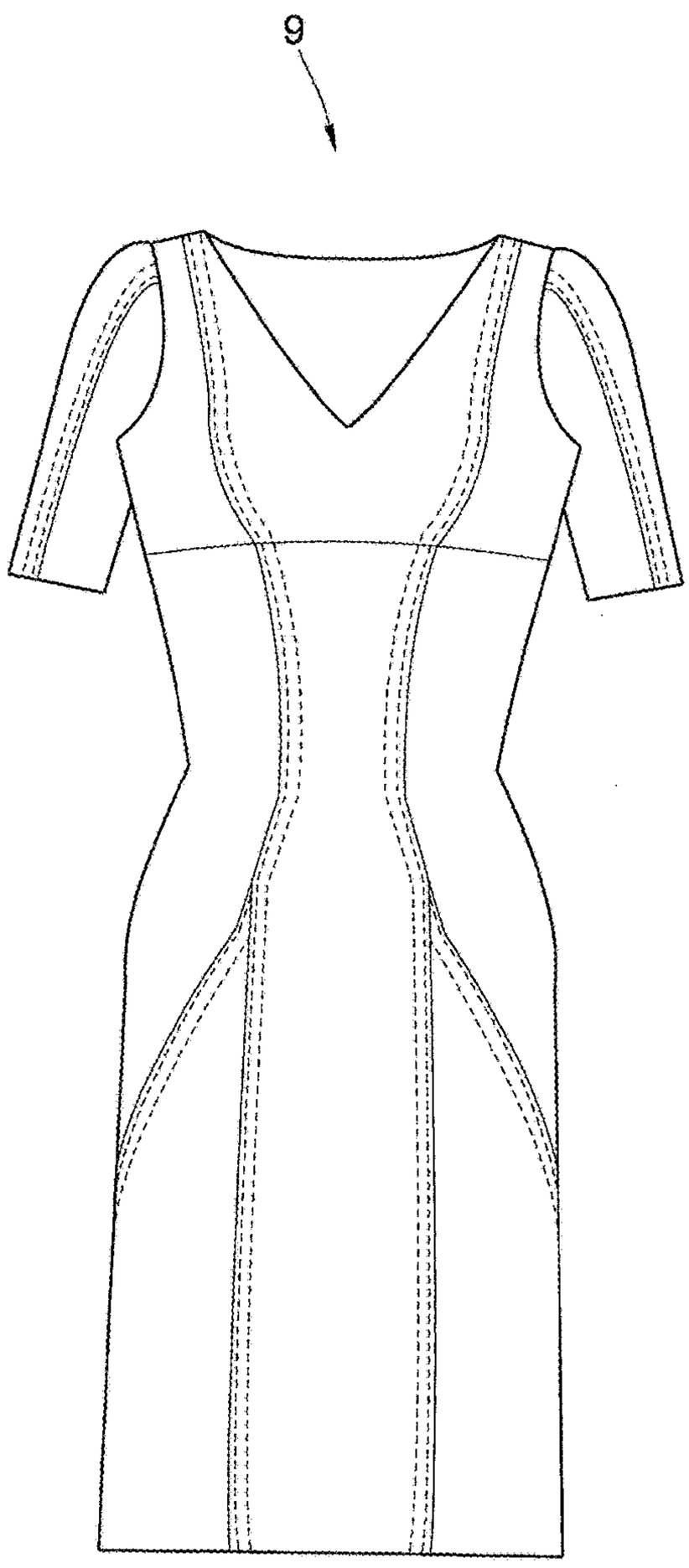


FIG. 30

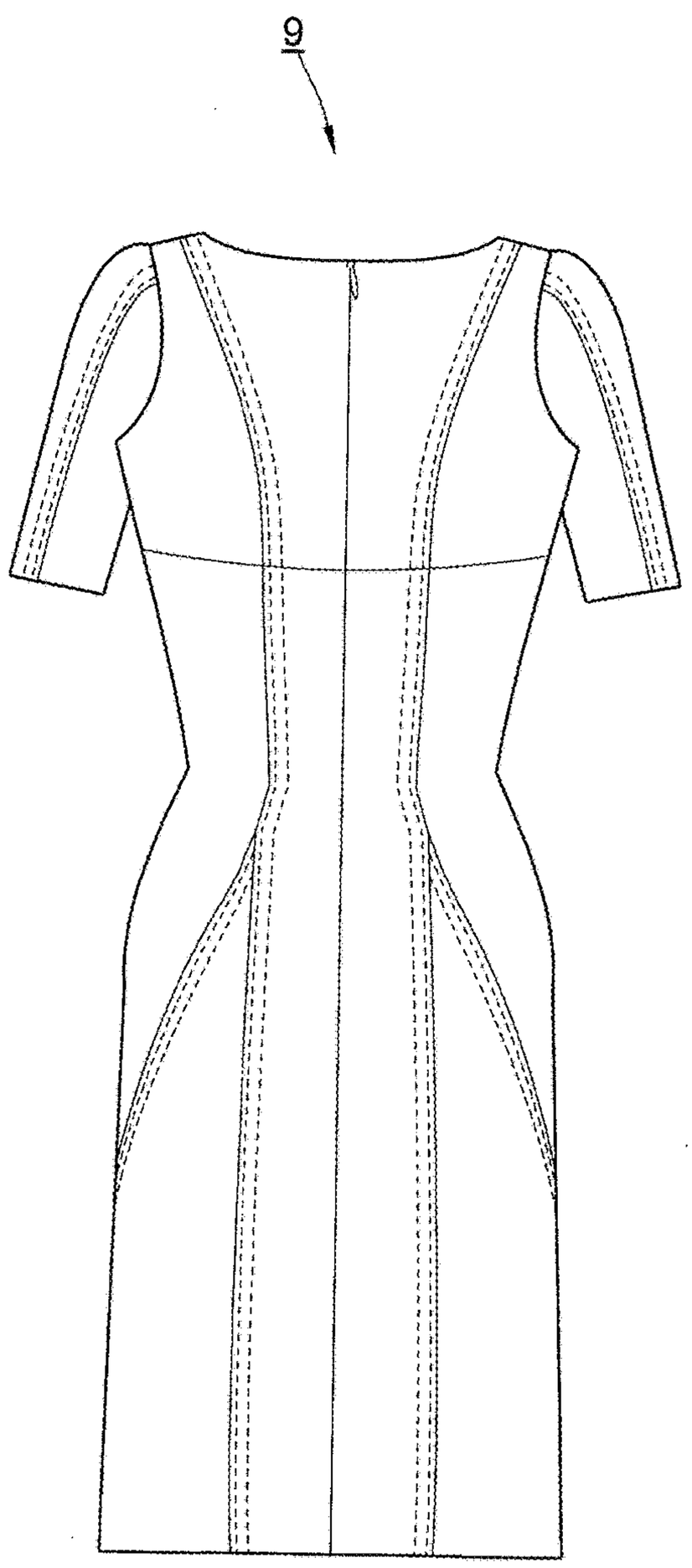


FIG. 31

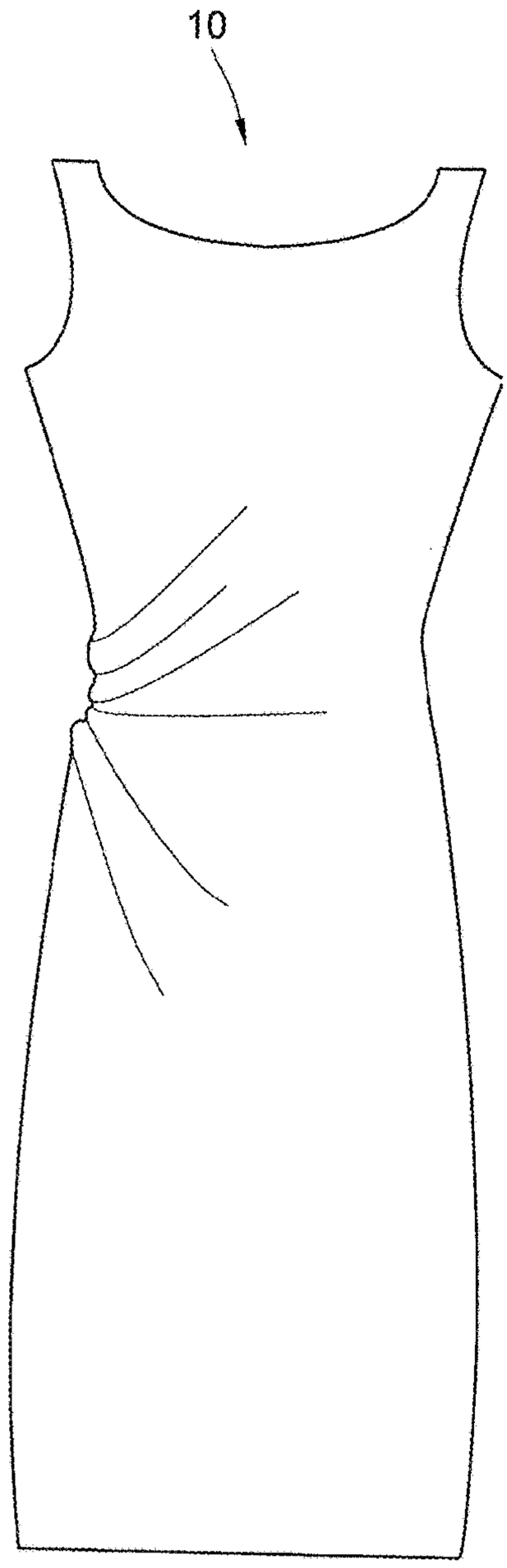


FIG. 32

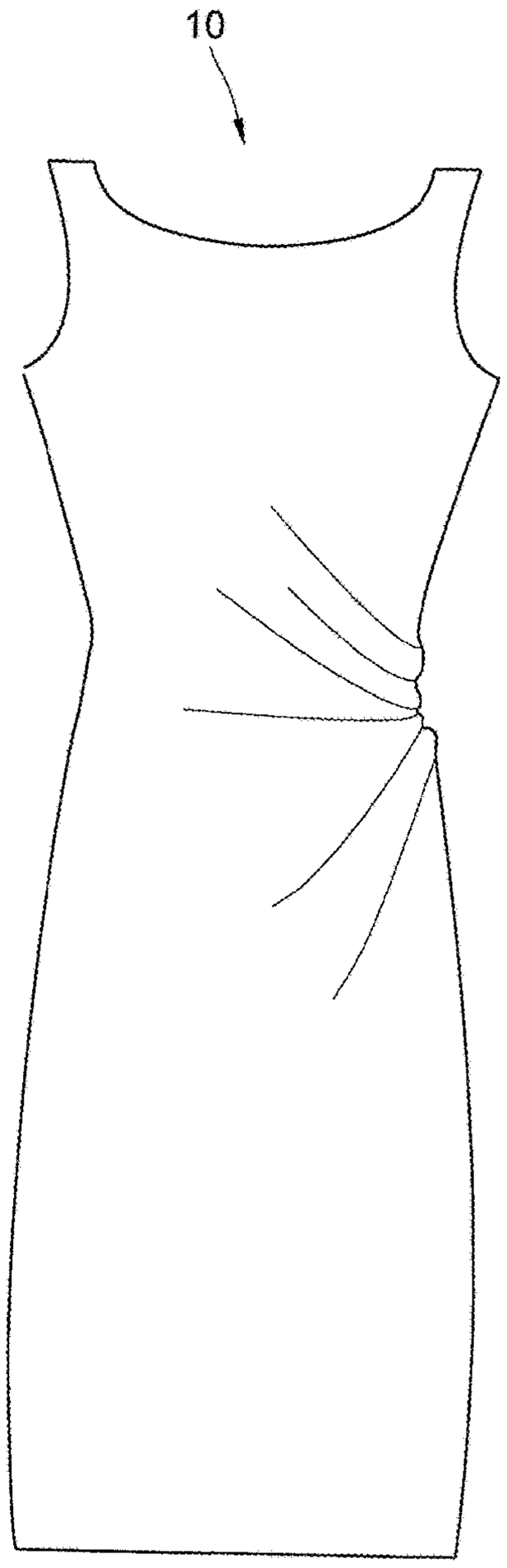


FIG. 33

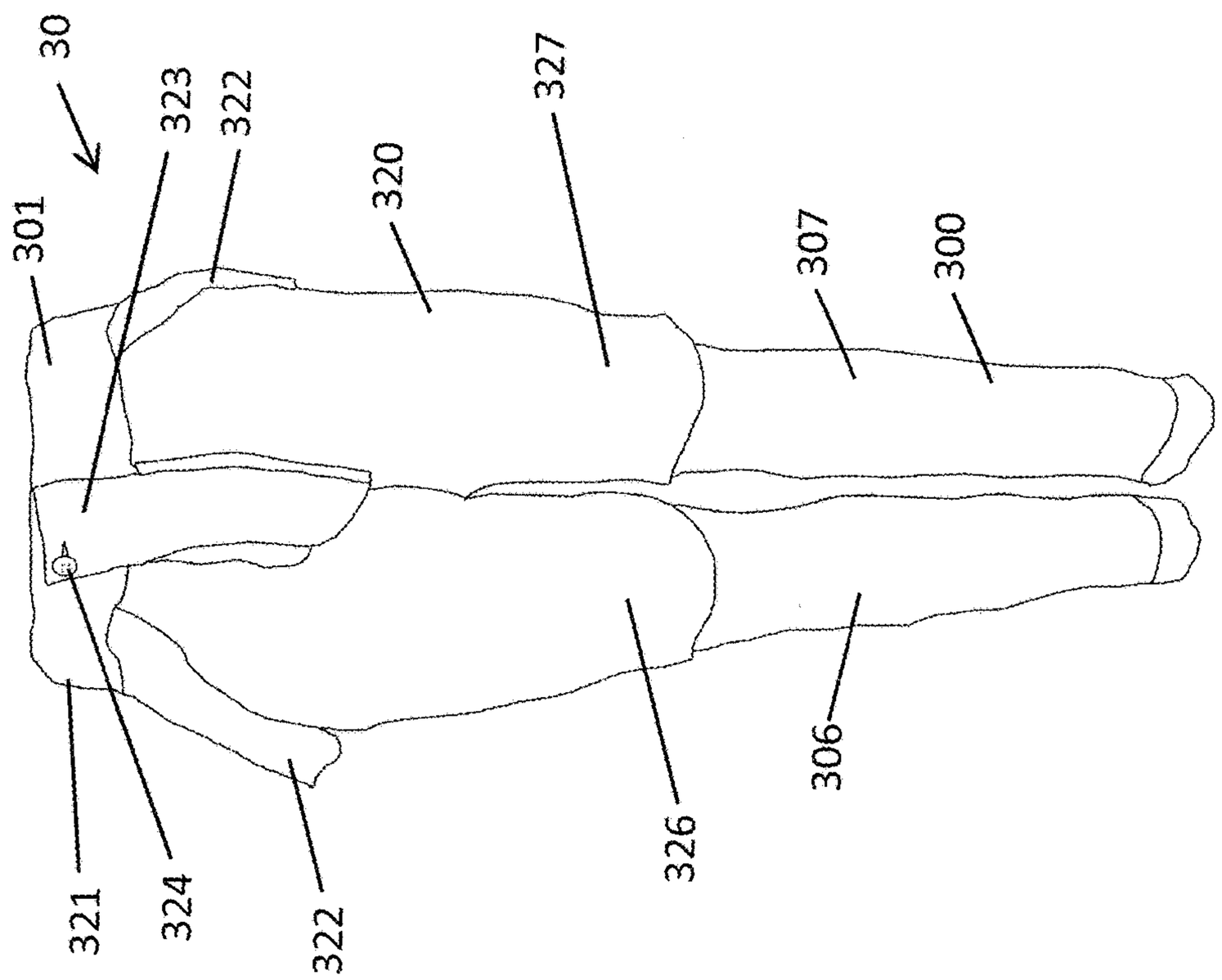


FIG. 34

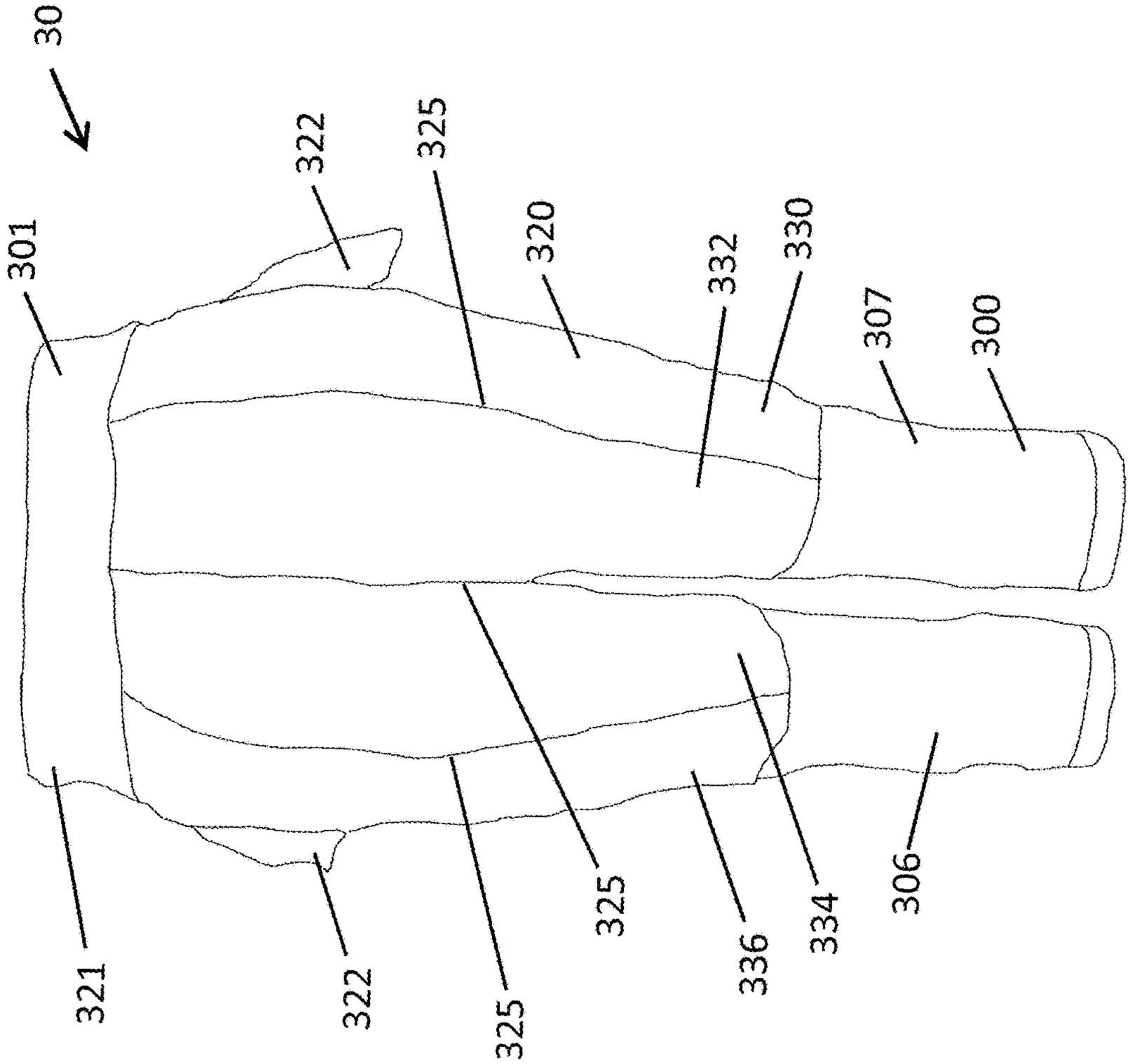


FIG. 35

GARMENT INCLUDING SHAPEWEAR

CROSS-REFERENCE TO PRIOR APPLICATION

[0001] This application claims benefit from U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/296,906 filed Oct. 18, 2016.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0002] The present invention relates generally to clothing that includes shaping material. Exterior garments, such as dresses and pants, are provided with a material that conforms to the wearer's body. The exterior garment and shaping material are formed together as a single garment. The invention also relates generally to a method of creating an exterior garment provided with a shaping material formed together as a single garment.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0003] For years, women have been searching to dress in a way that solves multiple challenges: a polished and refined professional look with lasting quality, and a silhouette that smooths, shapes, and contours their best features. Today, most women would need to buy separate pieces of clothing to accomplish this—an exterior garment such as a dress or pants and undergarments that provide shaping and control (i.e., control top hosiery, compression shape wear).

[0004] This can cause some dissatisfaction. For example, shaping undergarments are not designed specifically with an exterior garment in mind. Thus, the silhouettes and fabrics may compete. In some cases, the shaping undergarment may show through or be visible on the exterior garment.

[0005] In addition, shaping undergarments have a tendency to not stay in place on the body, resulting in, for example, rolling or tucking of the undergarment. The undergarments tend to move throughout the day with the movements of the wearer. The undesirable movement of the shaping undergarment could be more pronounced, for example, when putting on an exterior garment over the shaping undergarments.

[0006] Shaping undergarments may cause discomfort if worn for long periods during the day. The undergarments tend to be tight, in part, to avoid undesirable movement of the undergarment and to lower the likelihood that the undergarment will either compete with or be visible through the exterior garment.

[0007] Furthermore, wearing separate exterior garments and shaping undergarments is inconvenient. Of course, the necessity of wearing two garments in itself is inconvenient. In addition, because the undergarments and exterior garments are worn separately, the undergarment can show through the external garment, thereby requiring the purchase of additional shaping undergarments to avoid the undergarment competing with the exterior garment.

[0008] An object of the invention is to provide clothing that includes shaping material to address problems described above.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0009] In an embodiment, the invention provides a garment including an exterior garment having a waist portion, a first leg portion, and a second leg portion. An inner lining is attached to the exterior garment at the waist portion, the inner lining including a first leg portion disposed within the first leg portion of the exterior garment, and a second leg portion disposed within the second leg portion of the exterior garment. The inner lining includes a shaping material.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0010] The accompanying drawings, which are incorporated herein and constitute part of this specification, illustrate the presently preferred embodiments of the invention, and together with the general description given above and the detailed description given below, serve to explain features of the invention.

[0011] FIG. **1** is a front view of a dress according to a first embodiment;

[0012] FIG. **2** is a rear view of the dress shown in FIG. **1**;

[0013] FIG. **3** is a pattern of the exterior of the dress shown in FIG. **1**;

[0014] FIG. **4** is a pattern of the shapewear interior and sleeves of the dress shown in FIG. **1**;

[0015] FIG. **5** is a detail of a rear view of the dress shown in FIG. **1**;

[0016] FIG. **6** is a detail of the dress shown in FIG. **1** with the zipper opened;

[0017] FIG. **7** is a detail of the dress shown in FIG. **1** with the zipper opened;

[0018] FIG. **8** is a detail of the dress shown in FIG. **1** with the zipper opened;

[0019] FIG. **9** is a detail of the dress shown in FIG. **1** with the shapewear pulled out;

[0020] FIG. **10***a* is a detail of the inside of the dress shown in FIG. **1**;

[0021] FIG. **10***b* is a cross-sectional view of the inner lining along line A-A of FIG. **10***a;*

[0022] FIG. **11** is a detail of the hem of the shapewear;

[0023] FIG. **12** is a detail of the hem of the shapewear;

[0024] FIG. **13** is a front view of a dress according to a second embodiment;

[0025] FIG. **14** is a rear view of the dress shown in FIG. **13**;

[0026] FIG. **15** is a pattern of the exterior of the dress shown in FIG. **13**

[0027] FIG. **16** is a pattern of the shapewear interior of the dress shown in FIG. **13**;

[0028] FIG. **17** is a detail of the dress shown in FIG. **13** with the zipper open showing the shapewear interior;

[0029] FIG. **18** is a front view of a dress according to another embodiment;

[0030] FIG. **19** is a rear view of the dress shown in FIG. **18**;

[0031] FIG. **20** is a front view of a dress according to another embodiment;

[0032] FIG. **21** is a rear view of the dress shown in FIG. **20**;

[0033] FIG. **22** is a front view of a dress according to another embodiment;

[0034] FIG. **23** is a rear view of the dress shown in FIG. **22**;

[0035] FIG. **24** is a front view of a dress according to another embodiment;

[0036] FIG. **25** is a rear view of the dress shown in FIG. **24**;

[0037] FIG. **26** is a front view of a dress according to another embodiment;

[0038] FIG. **27** is a rear view of the dress shown in FIG. **26**;

[0039] FIG. **28** is a front view of a dress according to another embodiment;

[0040] FIG. **29** is a rear view of the dress shown in FIG. **28**;

[0041] FIG. **30** is a front view of a dress according to another embodiment;

[0042] FIG. **31** is a rear view of the dress shown in FIG. **30**;

[0043] FIG. **32** is a front view of a dress according to another embodiment;

[0044] FIG. **33** is a rear view of the dress shown in FIG. **32**;

[0045] FIG. **34** is a front view of pants incorporating shapewear according to an embodiment; and

[0046] FIG. **35** is a rear view of the pants shown in FIG. **34**.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

[0047] According to various embodiments, dresses are designed and manufactured to combine into one single garment the benefits of a professional, elegant exterior dress with the shaping/control attributes of shape wear. The dresses are manufactured with a set of features, including: a classic and professional exterior dress; made of the finest luxury stretch fabrics (including, for example, Italian fabrics) and luxury trim (e.g., RiRi zippers); double-stitch seams that shape and contour the body visually while providing lasting quality and ensuring strength in the garment; shapewear lining built in and attached into the dress; linings have been designed specifically for each dress to create the ideal silhouette and flatter/highlight the best features of every woman's body; elastic waistband and silicon lace trim at the hem that hold the shapewear lining in place all day and prevents rolling and tucking; fabric that breathes and wicks for all-day comfort; shapewear fabric works with the exterior dress fabric so that the dress moves as a single garment with the lining sitting perfectly within the garment (e.g., no twisting, invisible from the outside, fabrics do not compete with each other); non-compression comfortable bust above the elastic waist band that is silky and feels good against the skin, while providing a way for the shapewear lining to be attached into the dress in a way that holds the shapewear in place and making it undetectable from the outside.

[0048] According to a first embodiment, for example as shown in FIGS. **1-10**, a dress **1** is provided with an inner lining **120** and an exterior garment **100**. The inner lining **120** includes a shaping non-compression bust fabric **121** that is attached to the facing at the top **101** of the exterior garment **100** around the neckline **102** and at the armholes **103** of the sleeves **104**. The shaping non-compression bust fabric **121** extends down to below the bust **106** and is then attached to an elastic waistband **122** that sits directly below the bust **106** (typically below the underwire of a woman's bra). The elastic waistband **122** keeps the inner lining **120** in place, prevents twisting of the inner lining **120**, and remains invisible from the outside. From the elastic waistband **122**, a shapewear skirt **123** with an hourglass silhouette is attached. The shapewear skirt **123** is tight around the waist and main torso of the wearer, is wider at the hip to provide contouring around the hips and buttocks, then tapers into a straight skirt to shape the thigh area with a wider sweep at the hem to allow for easy walking. Each dress with this construction may have a slightly different silhouette tailored to the shape of the dress (e.g., some are shorter, some are more hourglass vs. straight column). At the bottom **124** of the shapewear lining **120** is a lace trim **125** that on the interior has a silicon grip to hold the bottom **124** of the lining **120** in place against the leg and to prevent the lining **120** from rolling up. The lace trim **125** also keeps the inner lining **120** discreet, giving the appearance of lingerie rather than shapewear.

[0049] The dress **1** may be provided with a zipper **130** at the back **107** of the exterior garment **100** of the dress **1**. The zipper **130** may be on the back **107** of the dress **1** and positioned in the middle of the dress **1** from below the waist **108** to the neckline **102**. The inner lining **120** and the exterior garment **100** are sewn together on a first side **131** and a second side **132** of the zipper **130**, such that the shaping non-compression bust fabric **121** forms an opening **126** in the inner lining **120** when the zipper **130** is opened. In this regard, as shown in FIGS. **7** and **8**, the shaping non-compression bust fabric **121** is not sewn to the entire periphery of the elastic waistband **122** to create the opening **126**. To get into the dress **1**, a woman unzips the zipper **130** on the back **107** of the dress **1**, steps into the inner lining **120**, pulls the elastic waistband **122** up her body so that it sits below her bust **106** (typically below the bra underwire), and then zips the dress **1** up.

[0050] For the construction of the inner lining **120**, at least two different fabrics are used. The non-compression bust fabric **121** is formed from a material providing a silky lining that comfortably expands to accommodate all chest sizes. The non-compression bust fabric **121** does not press down on the wearer's bust if the wearer is larger and conforms if the wearer has a smaller bust. Preferably, the non-compression bust fabric **121** is comprised of a blend of 77% nylon and 23% elastane. The shapewear skirt **123** is a stronger lining for smoothing/compression/control. Preferably, the shapewear skirt **123** is comprised of a blend of 56% nylon and 44% elastane.

[0051] Combining the different materials into a single inner lining **120** presents a challenge at least because each material has a different stretch content and materials having a different stretch content could twist and/or bunch when combined. Testing of various fabric combinations yields a satisfactory combination of materials.

[0052] As shown in FIG. **10***b*, the two fabrics of the inner lining **120** are held together with the support elastic waistband **122**. The non-compression bust fabric **121** is looped over the elastic waistband **122** such that the elastic waistband **122** is covered all around with the non-compression bust fabric **121** of the inner lining **120**. The non-compression bust fabric **121** may be moisture-wicking to provide added comfort for the wearer. When viewed from the inside of the dress **1**, the elastic waistband **122** is hidden from view in the inner lining **120**. Thus, the elastic waistband **122** does not sit directly against the wearer's skin. Instead, a moisture-wicking non-compression bust fabric **121** sits against the skin comfortably.

[0053] The dress **1** is preferably provided with a facing on the inside of the exterior garment **100**. A fabric is applied around the neckline **102** and armholes **103** on the inside of the exterior garment **100**. The shapewear inner lining **120** is then attached to the facing. This construction additionally

prevents the inner lining **120** from twisting and competing with the fabric of the exterior garment **100**, thereby keeping everything laying flat.

[0054] According to a second embodiment, for example as shown in FIGS. **13-17**, referred to as a column construction, a dress **2** is provided with an inner lining **220** and an exterior garment **200**. The inner lining **220** is a single material of shapewear lining **221**. The inner lining **220** is attached at the neckline **202** facing of the exterior garment **200** and to the shoulders on the top **201** of the exterior garment **200** and around the armholes **203** of the exterior garment **200**. The inner lining **220** may include an attachment portion **222** by which the inner lining **220** is attached to the facing of the exterior garment **200**. According to the second embodiment, the dress **2** does not include an elastic waistband or non-compression shaping bust fabric. At the bottom **224** of each shapewear lining **220** is a lace trim **225**. On the interior of the lace trim **225** is a silicon grip to hold the bottom of the inner lining **220** in place against the leg and to prevent the inner lining **220** from rolling up. The lace trim **225** also keeps the inner lining **220** discreet, giving the appearance of lingerie rather than shapewear.

[0055] The dress **2** is provided with a zipper **230** on a side **209** of the dress **2** in a side-zip construction, extending from one of the armholes **203** to the waist **208**. As shown in FIG. **17**, the inner lining **220** and the exterior garment **200** are sewn together on a first side **231** and a second side **232** of the zipper **230**, such that the inner lining **220** forms an opening **226** in the inner lining **220** when the zipper **230** is opened. To get into the dress **2**, a women unzips the side zipper **230** on the side **209** of the dress **2**, pulls the dress **2** over her body by going in through the bottom of the dress **2** and pulling the dress **2** over her, then zips the dress **2** up.

[0056] The dress **2** is preferably provided with a facing on the inside of the exterior garment **200**. A fabric is applied around the neckline **202** and armholes **203** on the inside of the exterior garment **200**. The shapewear inner lining **220** is then attached to the facing. This construction additionally prevents the inner lining **220** from twisting and competing with the fabric of the exterior garment **200**, thereby keeping everything laying flat.

[0057] Additional embodiments are shown in FIGS. **18-33**. The inner lining of each additional embodiment could be constructed as a single fabric and attached at the top of the exterior garment. In the alternative, the inner lining of the additional embodiments could be constructed of a non-compression bust fabric and a shapewear skirt attached to each other at an elastic waistband.

[0058] According to another embodiment as shown in FIGS. **34** and **35**, pants **30** can be constructed of an exterior garment **300** and an inner lining **320**. The pants **30** are shown in an inside-out orientation in FIGS. **34** and **35**. Inner lining **320** includes a first leg portion **326** and a second leg portion **327**, and exterior garment **300** includes corresponding first leg portion **306** and second leg portion **307**. The inner lining **320** can be connected to the exterior garment **300** at several optional locations. In the embodiment shown in FIGS. **34** and **35**, a waistband **321** of the inner lining **320** attaches to the exterior garment **300** at a waistband **301** of the exterior garment **300**. By attaching the waistband **321** of the inner lining **320** to the exterior garment **300** at the waistband **301**, the exterior garment **300** can be allowed to freely move relative to the inner lining **320**.

[0059] Inner lining **320** can be attached to the exterior garment **300** by any one of several mechanical attachments, such as by being sewn together. Inner lining **320** can also be provided with pockets **322** to accommodate pockets formed in the exterior garment **300**. The inner lining **320** is also provided with an opening portion **323** such that the inner lining **320** can be opened when the pants **30** are opened by way of, for example, button **324** and zipper (not shown).

[0060] Inner lining **320** is preferably formed of the same shaping material as the shapewear **123** described above. The inner lining **320** could be formed from several panels of material joined together at seams **325**, the panels being designed such that the inner lining **320** conforms to the body of the wearer. As shown in FIG. **35**, inner lining **320** is shown as including a first panel **330**, a second panel **332**, a third panel **334**, and a fourth panel **336** joined at seams **325**. Additional panels or fewer panels could alternatively be used in the construction of the inner lining **320**.

[0061] While the invention has been disclosed with reference to certain preferred embodiments, numerous modifications, alterations, and changes to the described embodiments are possible without departing from the sphere and scope of the invention, as defined in the appended claims and their equivalents thereof. Accordingly, it is intended that the invention not be limited to the described embodiments, but that it have the full scope defined by the language of the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A garment, comprising:

an exterior garment having a waist portion, a first leg portion, and a second leg portion; and

an inner lining attached to the exterior garment at the waist portion, the inner lining comprising:

a first leg portion disposed within the first leg portion of the exterior garment; and

a second leg portion disposed within the second leg portion of the exterior garment,

wherein the inner lining comprises a shaping material.

2. The garment of claim **1**, wherein the inner lining comprises a plurality of panels connected together so as to conform to a body of a wearer.

3. The garment of claim **1**, wherein the exterior garment comprises an opening portion, and wherein the inner lining comprises an opening portion corresponding to the opening portion of the exterior garment.

4. The garment of claim **1**, wherein the inner lining comprises pockets corresponding to pockets of the exterior garment.

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