

Title (en)  
ON-THE-FLY PRINTER

Publication  
**EP 0020992 B1 19840912 (FR)**

Application  
**EP 80102648 A 19800513**

Priority  
US 5367879 A 19790629

Abstract (en)  
[origin: EP0020992A1] 1. A printing apparatus for on-the-fly printing, having a plurality of print positions along a print line, comprising : a carrier, a continuous drive means for moving said carrier along the print line past successive print positions, a rotating print element mounted on the carrier comprising a plurality of print characters, a characters selection means for moving said characters over a variable distance between a first selected character and the next selected character, means for applying said characters against the printing medium, a means determining the character selection time for generating a signal which is a function of the length of the time required for driving the print element in rotation from a first selected character to the next selected character, a means determining the carrier speed for generating a carrier speed signal, a carrier escapement control means for selectively actuating the carrier drive means in response to the carrier speed signal to drive said carrier, characterized in that the carrier speed determining means generates a carrier speed signal which is a function of the character selection time and the carrier speed at a first "on-the-fly" print position coincident with the position of the first selected character and of the present position of the carrier to drive said carrier at variable speeds between the position of the first character and the position of the next character, said selected variable speeds being able to be increased, decreased or constant for selected periods of time so that the time required to move the carrier from the first print position to the next print position is equal for every character to the time required to move the print element in rotation from the first selected character to the next selected character.

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