

Title (en)

Traction surface for print media feed of a heated printer

Title (de)

Reibungsoberfläche für eine Druckmedientransportvorrichtung in einem beheizten Drucker

Title (fr)

Surface de traction pour l'alimentation des supports d'impression dans une imprimante chauffée

Publication

EP 0622226 B1 19971105 (EN)

Application

EP 94302985 A 19940426

Priority

US 5669393 A 19930430

Abstract (en)

[origin: EP0622226A2] According to the invention, a structure for advancing print media (90) through a print zone of a printer, the structure being subjected to heat during operation of the printer, gives good traction between the structure and the print media (90). The structure provides a high accuracy print media drive for open loop printing. Traction is maintained through a range of temperatures, for a range of print media drag forces and over a long period of use. The structure includes one or more pinch rollers (102), one or more drive rollers (100) against which a corresponding pinch roller (102) exerts a contact force and a means for rotating the one or more drive rollers (100). Each drive roller (100) is coated with a material that provides good traction over a range of operational temperatures without requiring an undesirably large contact force between the pinch roller (102) and drive roller (100) that may result in visible surface markings being formed on the print media (90). Good traction is maintained over a range of print media drag forces throughout the life of the printer. Each drive roller (102) can be coated with a metal thermal spray. The metal thermal spray can be a plasma sprayed tungsten carbide. The spray can include a bonding agent to enhance the bonding between the coating and the drive roller (102). The structure according to the invention can advantageously be used with a thermal inkjet printer and, in particular, with thermal inkjet printers in which the resolution of the printer is greater than 200 dots/inch. <IMAGE>

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