

Title (en)  
Multipurpose printing apparatus

Title (de)  
Appareil d'impression à usages multiples

Title (fr)  
Mehrzweckdruckapparat

Publication  
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Application  
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Abstract (en)

A multipurpose printing apparatus is described, consisting of a base frame (32) and a user-movable main frame (50) including a printhead. A position detector (22) detects the position of the printhead relative to the base frame and the printing apparatus control means controls the printhead to print output data corresponding to the position detected by the position detector. The position detector includes a rotational gear (36) on the main frame which engages a linear gear (31) on the base frame, a circular encoder (37) which is coupled to the rotational gear and a sensor element (39) for detecting the degree of rotation of the circular encoder. The apparatus is useful for printing on a variety of objects. <IMAGE>

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