

Title (en)  
SHEET FEEDER AND PRINTER

Title (de)  
BLATTZUFÜHRVORRICHTUNG UND DRUCKER

Title (fr)  
DISPOSITIF D'ALIMENTATION FEUILLE A FEUILLE ET IMPRIMANTE

Publication  
**EP 1489028 A1 20041222 (EN)**

Application  
**EP 03708605 A 20030314**

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Abstract (en)  
A paper feeding apparatus according to the present invention has a pickup roller, which includes a drive shaft disposed so as to cross a sheet tray and a plurality of roller parts intermittently attached to the drive shaft, and elastic supporting means, which substantially independently supports a plurality of exposed parts of the drive shaft so as to apply pressure towards a base plate of the sheet tray. In the paper feeding apparatus, respective exposed parts of the drive shaft, which has a narrow diameter and being flexible, are independently pressurized towards the sheet tray of the base plate, so that the respective roller parts contact tightly with the sheets substantially independently. Accordingly, sheets can be fed with high reliability by making the most of the flexibility of the drive shaft. The extremely slim and highly reliable paper feeding apparatus with the extremely slim pickup roller is provided. By stacking a plurality of these paper feeding apparatuses, a compact multitray can be provided. <IMAGE>

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