

Title (en)  
Machine for printing images on articles

Title (de)  
Maschine zum Drucken von Bildern auf Artikeln

Title (fr)  
Machine pour imprimer des images sur des articles

Publication  
**EP 1974940 A2 20081001 (EN)**

Application  
**EP 08153365 A 20080327**

Priority  
IT TO20070230 A 20070330

Abstract (en)  
The machine (1) comprises a support structure (2) on which a reel (3) for unwinding the ink ribbon (R) and a reel (4) for rewinding the used ribbon (R) are rotatably mounted. Between said reels (3, 4) there is defined a path for the ribbon (R), including a first and a second pair of transmission rollers (5, 6; 18, 22) between which a thermal print head (16) is arranged. The machine (1) also comprises a first and second tensioning device (7, 9, 11; 19, 20, 23) including respective tensioning rollers (7, 19) each movable along a trajectory which intersects the path of the ribbon (R) between the two transmission rollers (5, 6; 18, 22) of each pair. A switching device (24-26) is connected to the tensioning rollers (7, 19) of the tensioning devices (7, 9, 11; 19, 20, 23) and is able to be set selectively to a first condition (Figure 2) where the tensioning rollers (7, 19) are arranged in a disengaged position where they extend externally and at a distance from the ribbon path (R) between the corresponding pair of transmission rollers (5, 6; 18, 22), and a second condition where the tensioning rollers (7, 19) are free to assume, under the action of one or more springs (11, 23; 40), an operative position where the ribbon (R) is engaged between the corresponding pair of transmission rollers (5, 26; 18, 22), tending to form between the rollers of these pairs a loop of ribbon (R).

IPC 8 full level  
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CPC (source: EP)  
**B41J 35/08** (2013.01)

Citation (applicant)  
JP H0383682 A 19910409 - ALPS ELECTRIC CO LTD

Cited by  
US11292278B2; EP2366553A1; GB2478725A; US8801306B2; WO2011114136A1

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