

(19)



Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

(11)

Publication number:

0 026 275
A3

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(21)

Application number: 80103960.3

(51)

Int. Cl.³: **B 41 J 33/514**
B 41 J 33/382

(22)

Date of filing: 10.07.80

(30)

Priority: 27.09.79 US 79607

(43)

Date of publication of application:
 08.04.81 Bulletin 81/14

(88)

Date of deferred publication of search report: 22.04.81

(84)

Designated Contracting States:
 DE FR GB IT

(71)

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Print ribbon feed device.

(57)

To provide an improved mechanical reversible spooling drive in a printer, a pair of spool spindles (32; 34), each carrying an apertured circular plate with peripheral ratchet teeth (32a; 32b; 34a; 34b) and a bail trigger (54; 55) spring loaded to extend through the aperture from one side thereof, are provided at the limits of the print path of a print head (24) driven reciprocally over the path. Print ribbon in the path is spooled on and between the spindles generally obstructing the apertures and restraining the triggers against the spring loading. Fixed abutments (52; 53) are engageable by a respective trigger when its spool is empty to lock that spindle and to engage, when the head is at the end of the path, a camming surface (64; 66) provided at each end of a bail (20) pivotally mounted on the print head and rendered positionally bistable by an overcentre mechanism (74) and place it in a position in which one of a pair of pawls (60; 62) engage the ratchet teeth to spool ribbon onto the "empty" spindle each time the print head reaches that end of the print path.

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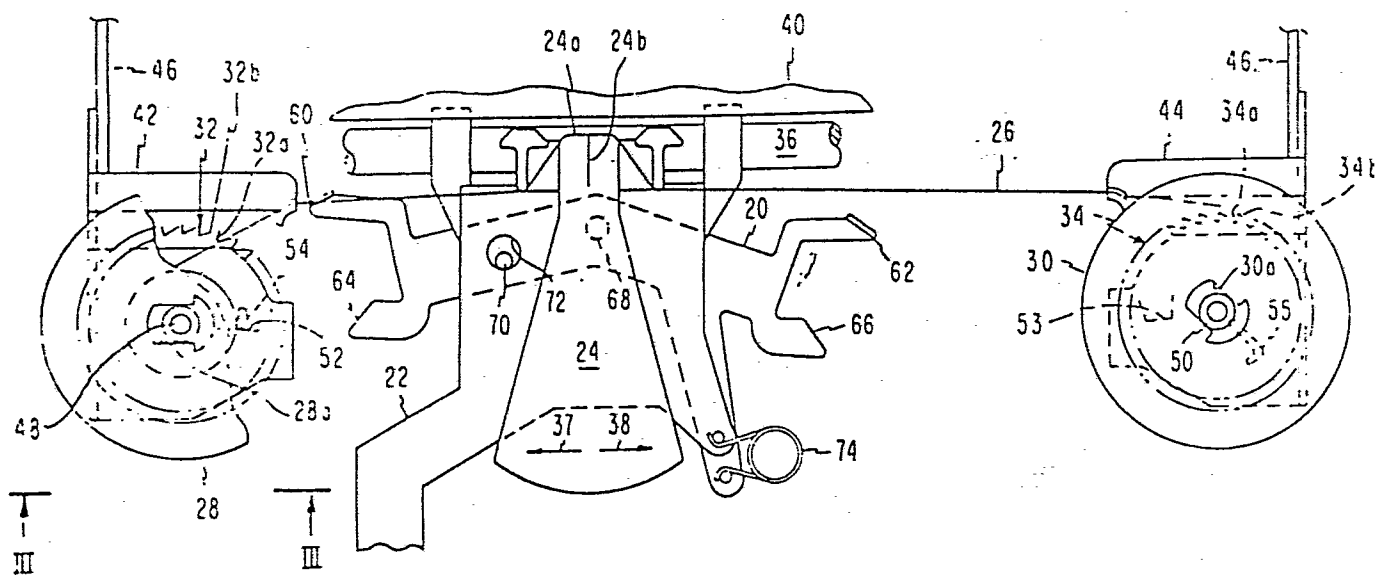
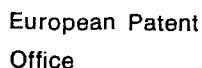


FIG. 1



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Application number

EP 80 10 3960

EPO Form 1503.1 06.78

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