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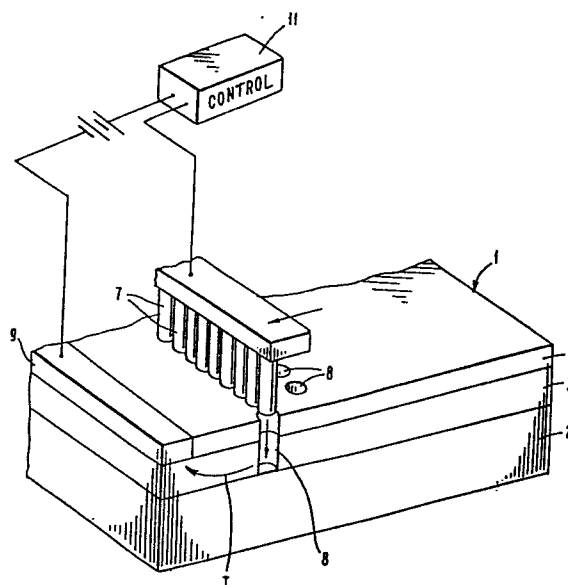
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54 **Lithographic printing plate and method for producing the same.**

57 An improved lithographic printing plate includes a substrate layer (2) of a nonconducting, hydrophobic material, an intermediate film (3) of conducting, hydrophilic material such as aluminum and a top protective film (5) of relatively hard hydrophilic dielectric material, such as aluminum oxide. A printing image is formed in the lithographic printing plate by an electroerosion process wherein erosion electrodes (7) are pulsed with voltage to break down the dielectric film (5) in areas adjacent to the erosion electrodes (7) and to evaporate or otherwise remove corresponding portions of the conducting film (3), thereby creating holes (8) that extend through the dielectric (5) and conducting (3) films and that expose portions of the surface of the underlying hydrophobic substrate (2).



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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application number  
EP 80 10 7228

| DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT   |  |  | CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. <sup>3</sup> )   |
|---|--|--|--|
| Category  | Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages  | Relevant to claim                              |  |
| A   | <p><u>FR - A - 2 254 440</u> (VICKERS LTD)</p> <p>* The claims; page 2, line 6 to page 6, line 4; the figures *</p> <p>&amp; GB - A - 1 451 378</p> <p>--</p>                            | 1,3,10   | <p>B 41 C 1/10</p> <p>B 41 M 5/24</p>  |
| A   | <p><u>DE - C - 849 609</u> (R. BOSCH)</p> <p>* The claims; page 1, line 28 to page 2, line 22; the figures *</p> <p>--</p>   | 1,3,5  | <p>TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl. <sup>3</sup>)</p>  |
| A   | <p><u>DE - A - 2 111 274</u> (R. BOSCH)</p> <p>* The claims; page 2, paragraph 2 to page 5, paragraph 2 *</p> <p>&amp; GB - A - 1 390 675</p> <p>--</p>                                  | 1,3,5  | <p>B 41 C 1/</p> <p>B 41 M 5/</p>  |
| A   | <p><u>FR - A - 2 163 199</u> (R. BOSCH)</p> <p>* The claims *</p> <p>&amp; GB - A - 1 410 424</p> <p>--</p>  | 1  |  |
| A   | <p><u>US - A - 4 082 902</u> (A. SUZUKI)</p> <p>* The abstract; the claims; column 2, line 14 to column 3, line 9; column 3, line 49 to column 5, line 45; the figures *</p> <p>----</p> | 1,3,10   | <p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X: particularly relevant if taken alone</p> <p>Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category</p> <p>A: technological background</p> <p>O: non-written disclosure</p> <p>P: intermediate document</p> <p>T: theory or principle underlying the invention</p> <p>E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date</p> <p>D: document cited in the application</p> <p>L: document cited for other reasons</p> |
| <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p> |  |  | <p>&amp;: member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>   |
| Place of search<br>The Hague  |  | Date of completion of the search<br>03-03-1982 | Examiner<br>VANHECKE   |