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54 **Electrothermal printing apparatus.**

(57) A print head (12) comprises a plurality of thin wire print electrodes (30) mounted in a single plane. The electrodes (30) are held in a closely-spaced row in a block of electrically insulating resilient material (32). The resilience of the material is such that the wires are individually movable out of the planar alignment to a limited extent with respect to the other wires in the array. Silicon rubber is a suitable material. The material (32) is cut-away at (36) to form a bevelled edge giving improved contact between the head and the ribbon. A relatively rigid backing member (34) is provided to support the electrode array via the material (32). The print head is mounted adjacent an electrothermal print ribbon and a predetermined pressure is produced between the print head and the electrothermal print ribbon during printing operations.

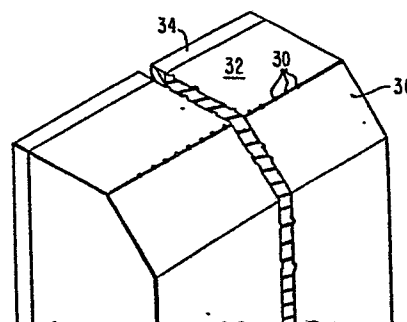


FIG.4



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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EP 82 10 3987

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 3)
A	US-A-3 978 494 (NOKER) * Figure 1; column 2, lines 1-29 *	1,3,6, 7	B 41 J 3/20
A	--- US-A-4 236 834 (HAFFER, WILBUR) * Figure 2; column 4, line 10 - column 5, line 5 *	1,7	
A	--- EP-A-0 028 334 (IBM) -----	1,7,8	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 3)
			B 41 J B 41 M
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 13-12-1984	Examiner HERBELET J.C.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	