

(12)

**EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(21) Application number: 82307016.4

(51) Int. Cl.<sup>3</sup>: B 41 J 3/04

(22) Date of filing: 31.12.82

(30) Priority: 04.01.82 US 336600

(43) Date of publication of application:  
20.07.83 Bulletin 83/29

(88) Date of deferred publication of search report: 29.08.84

(84) Designated Contracting States:  
AT BE CH FR GB IT LI NL SE

(71) Applicant: Exxon Research and Engineering Company  
P.O.Box 390 180 Park Avenue  
Florham Park New Jersey 07932(US)

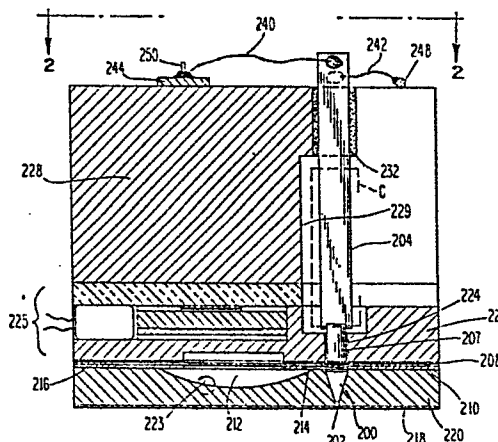
(72) Inventor: De Young, Thomas William  
Overhill Road  
Stormville New York(US)

(72) Inventor: McCormick, John Atwater  
14 Hunting Ridge Road  
Brookfield Center Connecticut(US)

(74) Representative: Field, Roger Norton et al,  
ESSO Engineering (Europe) Ltd. Patents & Licences Apex  
Tower High Street  
New Malden Surrey KT3 4DJ(GB)

(54) Ink jet array.

(57) An ink jet array comprises a plurality of elongate transducers (204) coupled to a plurality of ink jet chambers (200). The transducers (204) are supported at longitudinal extremities only so as to minimise cross-talk between jets within the array. The support at the extremity remote from the chamber (200) is provided by a compliant clamp (230) such that no substantial reaction force transverse to the axis of elongation of the transducers (204) occurs. The support at the other extremity includes bearings (224) precluding substantially lateral movement transverse to the axis of elongation but permitting longitudinal movement along the axis of elongation.



**Fig. 1**



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)
X	GB-A-2 050 949 (XEROX)  * Figures 1-3; page 1, line 56 - page 2, line 44 *	1,2,5, 6,7,10	B 41 J 3/04
A	FR-A-2 397 883 (MEAD CORP.)  * Figures 1-3; page 8, lines 3-10; page 11, lines 33-36 *	1-3,7, 10	
P,X	FR-A-2 498 988 (EXXON)  * Figures 7,9; page 14, lines 7-19 *	1-3,5, 7-9	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 3)
			B 41 J
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 11-05-1984	Examiner HERBELET J.C.
<b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b>			
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	