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(54) **Printing and coating processes employing pigmented water based foamed compositions.**

(57) A printing process employing a water-based foamable ink composition comprising the following steps:

- (a) foaming 32 the ink composition,
- (b) applying a coating of the foamed ink 14 composition to the surface of a gravure cylinder 10 which has an array of open cells spaced on the surface thereof,
- (c) doctoring 18 the surface of the cylinder to convert said coating into discrete thin membranes spanning said cells, and
- (d) transferring the membranes to a web 24 surface, either directly, or indirectly via one or more intermediate transfer rolls.

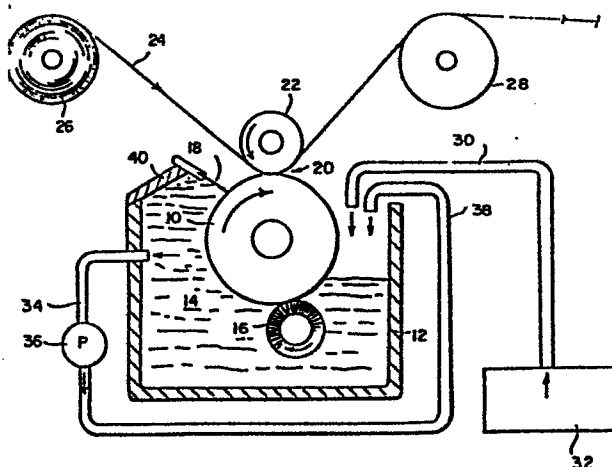


FIG.1



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.4)
X	US-A-3 400 658 (M.P. GAGLIARDI et al.) * whole document *	1-21	B 41 M 1/10 B 05 D 1/40 B 05 C 1/08
X,D	--- US-A-2 971 458 (C.A. KUMINS) * column 2, lines 63-69 *	1	
X	--- TEXTILE CHEM. & COLORIST, vol. 10, no. 10, October 1978, pages 213-214; C.G. NAMBOODRI et al.: "An experimental foam printing system" * whole article *	1	
A	--- FR-A-2 409 095 (INDUSTRIES DES PEINTURES) * page 7, lines 18-21 *	1	
A	--- XEROX DISCLOSURE JOURNAL, vol. 2, no. 4, July/August 1977, page 23, Stamford, Connecticut, US; S.L. GAUDIOSO: "Process for direct master printing" * whole article *	1	
A	--- NL-A-6 914 764 (XEROX) * whole document *	1	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 18-10-1984	Examiner RASSCHAERT A.
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	