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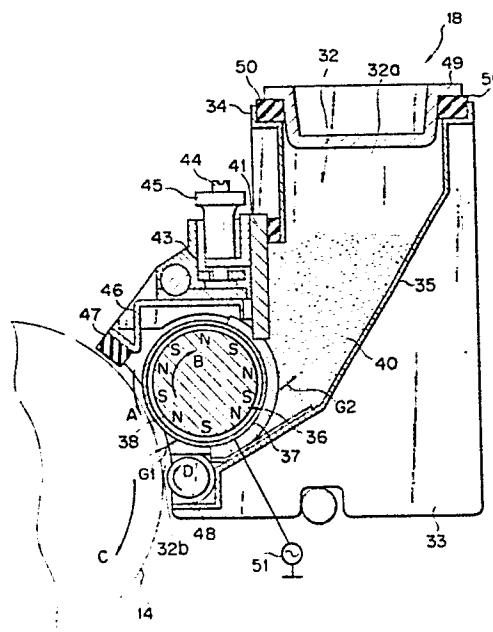
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54 **Developing device and developing method.**

57 A developing device (18) develops an electrostatic latent image formed on a photosensitive layer of a photosensitive drum (14) by a toner (40) and is provided with a developing roller (36) which rotatably faces the photosensitive layer and is adopted to rotate with the toner (40) thereon forming a toner layer (42), such that the toner (40) is transferred to the photosensitive layer to develop the electrostatic latent image, and a doctor blade (41) which is spaced from the developing roller (36), for regulating the thickness of the toner layer (42) formed on the developing roller (36). The toner (40) consists of an electrically insulating toner whose surface potential (V_t) on the developing roller (36) has polarity opposite to that of charges on the electrostatic latent image and absolute value greater than 20 (volts) and smaller than 90 (volts).

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

01 02038

Application number

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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)
Y	Patent Abstracts of Japan vol. 3, no. 155, 19 December 1979 page 149E160 & JP-A-54-136339 ---	1-5	G 03 G 15/09
Y	Patent Abstracts of Japan vol. 2, no. 149, 13 December 1978 page 9488E78 & JP-A-53-117431 ---	1-5	
Y	Patent Abstracts of Japan vol. 4, no. 39, 28 March 1980 page 64P4 & JP-A-55-11201 ---	1-5	
Y	Patent Abstracts of Japan vol. 4, no. 24, 29 February 1980 page 46E173 & JP-A-54-161944 ---	1-5	
Y	DE-B-2 739 703 (KONISHIROKU PHOTO INDUSTRY) * Claim 1; column 3, lines 20-36 * ---	1-3	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. ³) G 03 G 13/00 G 03 G 15/00
Y	DE-A-2 854 825 (CANON) * Claim 1 * ---	1-3	
Y	GB-A-2 064 482 (PITNEY BOWES) * Figure 2 * -----	4,5	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search BERLIN		Date of completion of the search 01-02-1984	Examiner HOPPE H
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p>			