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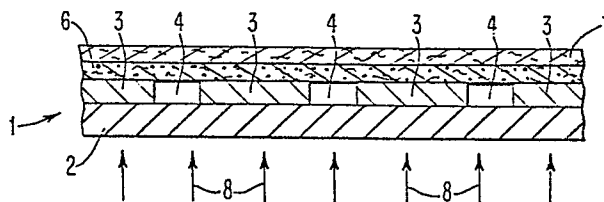
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report: **11.12.85 Bulletin 85/50**

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54 **Thermal transfer printing processes.**

57 Processes for thermal transfer printing are disclosed which comprise electroerosion printing to produce an image bearing element and exposing the imaged element to irradiation so as to permit transfer of thermographic ink from an associated ink layer or ink-containing element onto an ink receiving substrate thus producing copies of the image carried by the image bearing element. Also, described are products for use in such processes.

The process is illustrated in the Figure in which a layer (2) comprises transparent polyethylene terephthalate, the layer (3, 4) comprises aluminium foil (3) and pattern apertures (4), the layer (6) comprises an ink layer and layer (7) comprises a sheet of paper. Infra red radiation (8) passes through layer (2) to be reflected by foil (3) and transmitted by apertures (4). The ink aligned with apertures (4) is heated and thermally transferred to the paper (7).





| 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   | PATENTS ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, vol. 2, no. 40, 16th March 1978, page 268 E 78; & JP - A - 53 5637 (FUJITSU K.K.) 19-01-1978         | 1-5  | B 41 M 5/26<br>B 41 M 5/24                     |
| X   | ---<br>PATENTS ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, vol. 3, no. 38, 30th March 1979, page 93 E101; & JP - A - 54 17 036 (FUJITSU K.K.) 08-02-1979 | 1-5  |  |
| A   | ---<br>GB-A-1 156 996 (PITNEY)<br>* Whole document *<br>-----  | 1-5  |  |
|   |  |  | TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 3)         |
|   |  |  | B 41 M 5/26<br>B 41 M 5/24                     |
| The present search report has been drawn up for all claims  |  |  |  |
| Place of search<br>THE HAGUE  |  | Date of completion of the search<br>27-08-1985   | Examiner<br>RASSCHAERT A.                      |
| CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS   |  |  |  |
| X : particularly relevant if taken alone<br>Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category<br>A : technological background<br>O : non-written disclosure<br>P : intermediate document |  | T : theory or principle underlying the invention<br>E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date<br>D : document cited in the application<br>L : document cited for other reasons<br>& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document |  |

