

12 **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

21 Application number: **87306080.0**

51 Int. Cl.4: **B41J 35/18**

22 Date of filing: **09.07.87**

30 Priority: **17.07.86 JP 168907/86**

43 Date of publication of application:
24.02.88 Bulletin 88/08

84 Designated Contracting States:
DE FR GB

88 Date of deferred publication of the search report:
07.06.89 Bulletin 89/23

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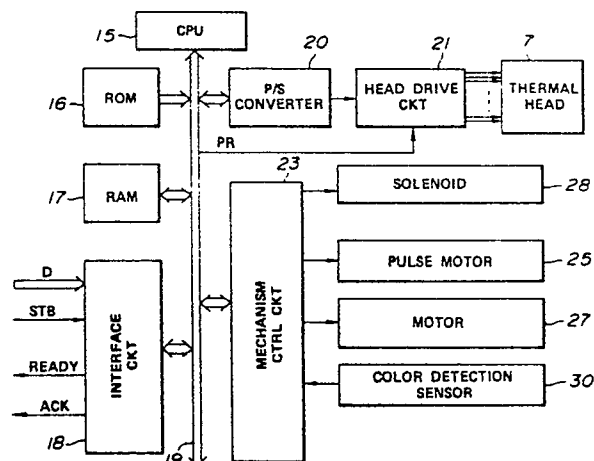
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54 **Printing process for a thermal transfer type multicolor printer.**

57 A printing process for a thermal transfer type multicolor printer repeatedly transfer a plurality of color ink, such as yellow, magenta and cyan color ink, in turn on a printing paper (1) so as to obtain a multicolor printed paper (1c). After every time when one color ink is transferred to the printing paper (1), the printing paper (1) lapped with a multicolor ink film (2) is fed forward to a predetermined separation position at a predetermined printing speed under a pressure applied between a thermal head (7) and a platen roller (6). Thereafter, the thermal head (7) is separated from the platen roller (6) so as to prevent the remaining heat of the thermal head (7) from affecting to the multicolor ink film (2), so that the ink wax of the multicolor ink film (2) is prevented from being melted and working as an adhesive agent for the printing paper (1) and the multicolor ink film (2). Hence, the printing paper (1) can be separated from the multicolor ink film (2) with ease. Then the feeding speed of the printing paper (1) is made slower than that of the multicolor ink film (2) so as to prevent the multicolor ink film (2) from slackening. Thereafter, the printing paper (1) is completely separated from the multicolor ink film (2) and the trans-

ferred ink quantity is not changed in this separation process (S5, S10 and S15; S6, S11 and S16), thus, the multicolor dot printing can be performed with accuracy.

FIG.4





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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. 4)
A	US-A-4 586 834 (T. HACHISUGA) * Whole document *	1-4	B 41 J 35/18

A	US-A-4 551 729 (T. KUBO) * Whole document *	1-4	

			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)
			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 10-03-1989	Examiner VAN DEN MEERSCHAUT G.
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			