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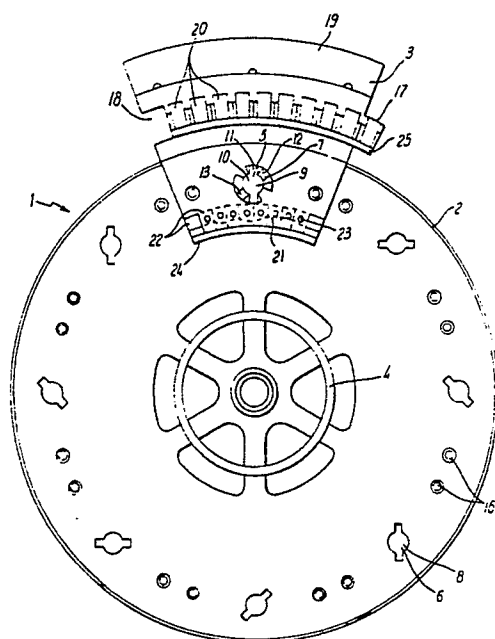
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Type disc for a printing device.

A known form of printing machine for printing alphanumeric characters and symbols on an elongate tape utilises a circular font or "typedisc". The known typedisc is a one-piece moulding which makes even a minor alteration in the character set expensive to achieve. In order to maximise the use of common components while avoiding the difficulties associated with individually replaceable characters, selected sub-sets of characters, symbols or patterns are mounted or formed on the periphery of a part-circular segment 3. A suitable number of segments 3 are detachably secured to a common hub 2 by mounting means (5-9, 16a, 16b). The sub-sets of characters can be formed separately and attached to a common segment component (Figs 8-10), or formed directly on otherwise identical basic segments (Figs 11-15). Segments are readily interchangeable, and a multiplicity of typediscs can be formed from a minimum number of components (2,3,5) which differ only in the readily formed and individualised characters (41;42) that they carry.



EP 0 259 994 A3



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			EP 87307344.9
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 4)
Y	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, unexamined applications, M field, vol. 7, no. 189, August 18, 1983 THE PATENT OFFICE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT page 85 M 237 * Kokai-no. 58-90 963 (NIPPON DENKI K. K.) *	1	B 41 J 1/28 B 41 J 3/38
Y	US - A - 4 324 498 (STEINHARDT) * Fig. 1 *	1	
A		2-4	
A	US - A - 4 339 209 (TANIGAMI) * Abstract; fig. 2 *	1	
A	DE - A1 - 2 910 113 (HUTCHINSON IND. CORP.) * Claim 10 *	7,8	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 4) B 41 J B 41 K
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search VIENNA		Date of completion of the search 05-06-1989	Examiner WITTMANN
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			