

(19)



Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

(11) Publication number:

0 376 170
A3

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(21) Application number: 89123693.7

(51) Int. Cl.⁵ **B41J 2/325**

(22) Date of filing: 21.12.89

(30) Priority: 28.12.88 JP 334668/89
19.09.89 JP 240504/89
06.12.89 JP 315427/89

(43) Date of publication of application:
04.07.90 Bulletin 90/27

(84) Designated Contracting States:
CH DE FR GB LI SE

(88) Date of deferred publication of the search report:
07.11.90 Bulletin 90/45

(71) Applicant: Tohdo, Michiharu
7-34, Miyazaki 6-chome Miyamae-ku
Kawasaki-shi Kanagawa-ken(JP)

(72) Inventor: Tohdo, Michiharu
7-34, Miyazaki 6-chome Miyamae-ku
Kawasaki-shi Kanagawa-ken(JP)

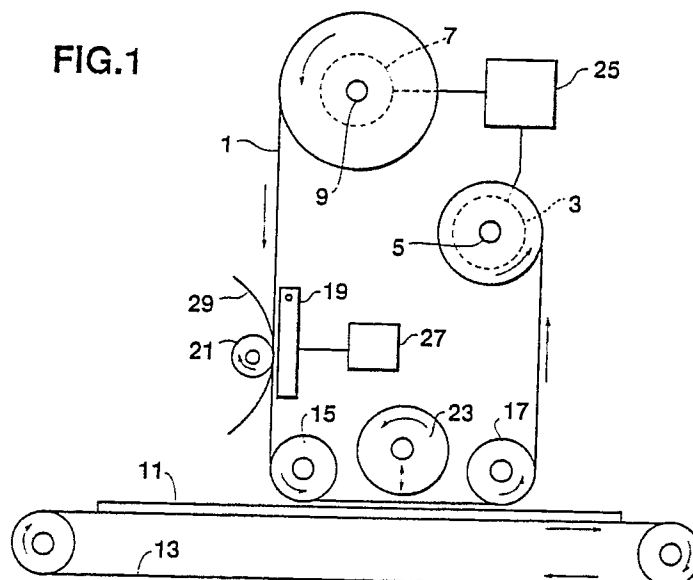
(74) Representative: Patentanwälte Grünecker,
Kinkeldey, Stockmair & Partner
Maximilianstrasse 58
D-8000 München 22(DE)

(54) Method and apparatus for thermal printing suitable for large printing area.

(57) A method and an apparatus for thermal printing capable of thermally printing diverse patterns on large printing areas at a high accuracy. In the apparatus, the carbon ribbon (1) is moved along a first track and then along a second track which are spatially separated from the first track; a printing object is carried along the second track below the carbon ribbon (1); the desired printing patterns are imprinted

on the carbon ribbon (1) moving along the first track by a printing head (19) placed on the first track; and the carbon ribbon (1) is pressed onto the printing object by thermal transfer roller (23) placed on the second track so as to thermally transfer the desired printing patterns on the carbon ribbon to the printing object.

FIG.1



EP 0 376 170 A3



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 89 12 3693

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.5)
X	US-A-4739343 (DOLAN) * column 4, line 23 - column 6, line 5; figure 3 *	1-4, 8-11	B41J2/325
A	---	5, 12	
A	US-A-4740798 (ATSUSHI SHINOAZAKI) * column 2, line 15 - column 5, line 25; figures 1-3 * -----	1-5, 7, 8-12, 14	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			B41J
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 05 SEPTEMBER 1990	Examiner HERBELET J.C.
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			