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(71) Applicant: **Grantham, Geoffrey Roger Peter**
7 Buckbeck Way
Cleethorpes, South Humberside DN35
0RJ(GB)

(72) Inventor: **Grantham, Geoffrey Roger Peter**
7 Buckbeck Way
Cleethorpes, South Humberside DN35
0RJ(GB)

(74) Representative: **Adkins, Michael et al**
Withers & Rogers 4 Dyer's Buildings
Holborn London, EC1N 2JT(GB)

(54) **A fluid supply device, a fluid supply system and a method of supplying fluid to a printing roller.**

(57) In a system for supplying fluid to a printing roller for lithographic printing, an infra-red thermometer is provided for sensing the temperature of the printing roller (38) surface. A control device is provided and controls a cooling unit for air pumped from a pump (30) dependent upon the temperature sensed by the thermometer. The cooled air is directed onto the printing cylinder (38) by a fluid supply device (10) which comprises a cylindrical tube (11) having aligned outlet openings (12) along its length. Each outlet opening (12) is elongate in the axial direction and has rounded corners. The tube (11) includes a filter unit (29) and a needle valve (28) at the end opposite the inlet and has a baffle plate (26) running axially therethrough. These features inhibit turbulence in the tube (11). There is a compensation opening (18) on the other side of the tube to each outlet opening (12) and each compensation opening (18) is the same size as its opposite outlet opening (12). Throttle clips (14) are provided on the tube (11) and allow the outlet openings (12) to be open when the compensation openings (18) are closed and the compensation openings (18) to be open when the outlet openings (12) are closed.

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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.5)
Y	AU-B-21515/83 (MILTON RAY LEMASTER) * page 4, line 11 - page 8, line 15; figures 1-3 *	1, 3, 8, 13	B41F31/00
A		9	
X		10-12	
Y	CH-A-402302 (SIEMENS) * the whole document *	1, 3, 8, 13	
X	US-A-3686771 (VEB POLYGRAPH LEIPZIG) * column 2, line 32 - column 3, line 18; figures 1, 6 *	14-17, 22	
A	GB-A-726158 (STE-MARIE)		
A	GB-A-1118212 (BRISTOL FAN COMPANY)		
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			B41F F26B G10K F16L G05D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 11 SEPTEMBER 1990	Examiner LONCKE J.W.
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 I : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	