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EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

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㉕ Thermal transfer recording apparatus.

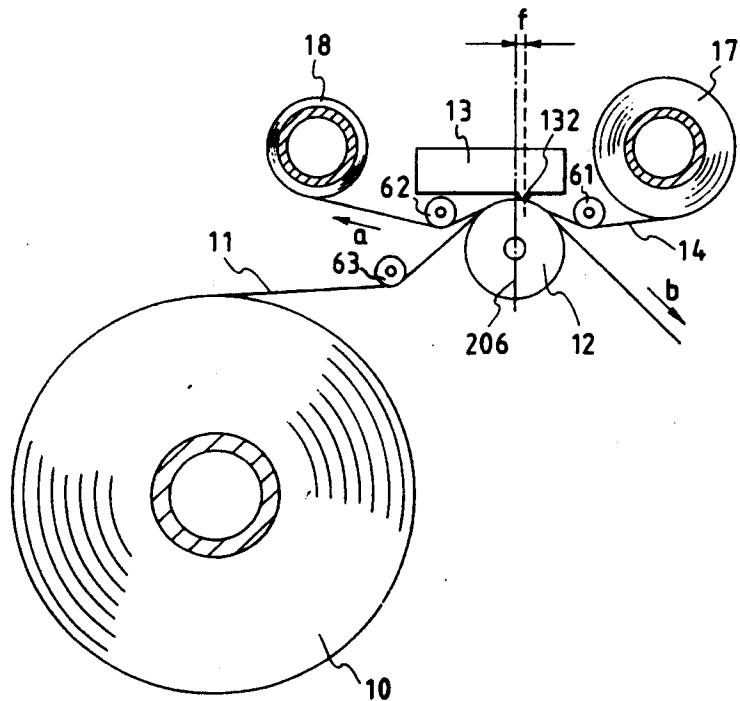
㉖ A thermal transfer recording apparatus for image recording by transferring ink contained in an ink sheet (14) onto a recording medium (11) comprises means (17, 18) for transporting ink sheet (14), means for transporting recording sheet (11), means for act-

ing on the ink sheet by a thermal head (13) thereby recording an image on the recording sheet transported to the recording position by means for transporting recording sheet, and the center of the heat-generating resistor (132) of the thermal head is shift-

ed by a predetermined distance (f) from the center of pressure exerted by the thermal head at the recording position to the upstream side in the trans-

porting direction of the ink sheet, thus ensuring the transfer of ink onto the recording sheet to obtain a high-quality image for the recording.

FIG. 2





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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 5)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 5)
D, X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, vol. 6, no. 196, (M-161)[1074], 5th October 1982; & JP-A-57 103 863 (DAINI SEIKOSHA K.K.) 28-06-1982 * The whole abstract * ---	4, 6-9	B 41 J 2/325 B 41 J 2/345
D, A	---	1, 2, 5, 11	
D, Y	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, vol. 6, no. 263 (M-181)[1141] 22th December 1982; & JP-A-57 157 771 (RICOH K.K.) 29-09-1982 * The whole abstract * ---	1	
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D, A	---	2, 5, 9, 11	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 5)
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A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, vol. 10, no. 155, (M-485)[2211] 4th June 1986; & JP-A-61 10 471 (MATSUSHITA DENKI SANGYO K.K.) 17-01-1986 * The whole abstract * ---	1, 4, 6-8	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
THE HAGUE	23-09-1991	JOOSTING T.E.D.	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		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	
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			



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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- All claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- Only part of the claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claims:
- No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

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- All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- None of the further search fees has been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims: 1-2, 4-14



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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
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D,A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, vol. 7, no. 81, (M-205)[1226], 5th April 1983; & JP-A-58 7 377 (TOKYO SHIBAURA DENKI K.K.) 17-01-1983 * The whole abstract * -----	10,12, 13,14	
TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)			

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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			



LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims 1-2,4-14: Enhance quality by shift of print head
2. Claim 3: Transporting lengthmultiprint-sheet