



(11) Publication number : **0 538 071 A3**

(12)

## EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(21) Application number : **92309507.9**

(51) Int. Cl.<sup>5</sup> : **B41J 2/17**

(22) Date of filing : **16.10.92**

(30) Priority : **18.10.91 JP 271378/91**  
**18.10.91 JP 271380/91**

(43) Date of publication of application :  
**21.04.93 Bulletin 93/16**

(84) Designated Contracting States :  
**DE ES FR GB IT**

(88) Date of deferred publication of search report :  
**15.09.93 Bulletin 93/37**

(71) Applicant : **CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA**  
**30-2, 3-chome, Shimomaruko, Ohta-ku**  
**Tokyo (JP)**

(72) Inventor : **Ikeda, Yasuhiko, c/o Canon**  
**Kabushiki Kaisha**  
**30-2, 3-chome, Shimomaruko, Ohta-ku**  
**Tokyo (JP)**

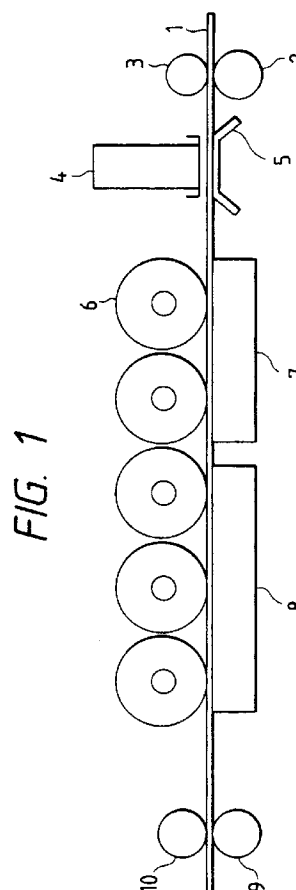
Inventor : **Okubo, Akio, c/o Canon Kabushiki**  
**Kaisha**  
**30-2, 3-chome, Shimomaruko, Ohta-ku**  
**Tokyo (JP)**

Inventor : **Saito, Atsushi, c/o Canon Kabushiki**  
**Kaisha**  
**30-2, 3-chome, Shimomaruko, Ohta-ku**  
**Tokyo (JP)**

(74) Representative : **Beresford, Keith Denis Lewis**  
**et al**  
**BERESFORD & Co. 2-5 Warwick Court High**  
**Holborn**  
**London WC1R 5DJ (GB)**

(54) **Ink jet apparatus provided with a fixing mechanism.**

(57) An ink jet recording apparatus is arranged to dry ink ejected from a recording head (4) onto a recording sheet (1) by conveying the recording sheet (1) on a heater (7) for the fixation of the ink on the recording sheet (1). Such an ink jet recording apparatus comprises an ink fixing mechanism having the area in which the recording sheet (1) is conveyed on the heater (7), the area being structured with a fixing area (8) where a heat sufficient to fix ink is transferred to the recording sheet (1), and a preliminarily heating area (7) located on the recording head (4) side from the fixing area, in which a heat lower than the fixing area is transferred to the recording sheet (1); hence making it possible to perform the fixation of the ink reliably without any occurrence of density unevenness and waving (vertical lines) of the recorded images.





European Patent  
Office

# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 92 30 9507

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)
P,X	EP-A-0 488 415 (CANON K.K.)	1-3, 11-14	B41J2/17
P,Y	* page 3, line 45 - page 12, line 29; figures *	4-8,10	
Y	EP-A-0 284 215 (HEWLETT-PACKARD CO) * column 4, line 41 - column 6, line 14; figures *	4-8,10	
Y	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 15, no. 411 (M-1170)21 October 1991 & JP-A-31 69 644 ( RICOH CO LTD ) 23 July 1991 * abstract *	7	
			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 19 JULY 1993	Examiner DE GROOT R.K.
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			

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (F0401)