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④ Method for fusing developed image.

⑤ Imaging apparatus, utilizing a liquid developer comprising toner particles and a carrier liquid to produce a developed image, transfer it to a final substrate (100) and fuse and fix the image thereon comprising:

a first member (68) having a first contact surface (71) including a silicone material operative to contact the developed image on the final substrate (100)

a backing member (70) having a second contact surface, a portion of said second contact surface defining a nip with a portion of said first contact surface wherethrough the final substrate (100) passes

a heat source (69) for elevating the temperature of the developed image so as to cause fixing and fusing of the developed image to the final substrate (100) as it passes through the nip and

a spring (84) for applying a force through said nip thereby to assist said fusing and fixing of said developed image onto said substrate as it passes between said first and second movable surfaces.

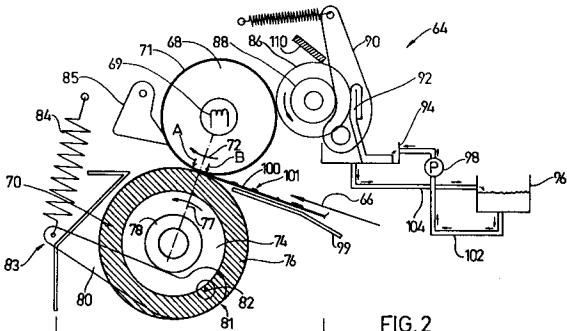


FIG. 2

EP 0 559 299 A3



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 93 20 1225

| DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | | CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.4) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Category | Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages | Relevant to claim | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| <p>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Place of search THE HAGUE</td> <td>Date of completion of the search 09 AUGUST 1993</td> <td>Examiner CIGOJ P.M.</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"> 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 </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"> 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 </td> </tr> </table> | | | | Place of search THE HAGUE | Date of completion of the search 09 AUGUST 1993 | Examiner CIGOJ P.M. | 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 | | |
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| 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 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |