



(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(21) Application number : **93309826.1**

(51) Int. Cl.⁵ : **G07B 17/00**

(22) Date of filing : **07.12.93**

(30) Priority : **07.12.92 US 986231**

(43) Date of publication of application :
06.07.94 Bulletin 94/27

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

(88) Date of deferred publication of search report :
21.09.94 Bulletin 94/38

(71) Applicant : **PITNEY BOWES INC.**
World Headquarters
One Elmcroft
Stamford Connecticut 06926-0700 (US)

(72) Inventor : **Kirschner, Wallace**
262 Beacon Hill Road
Trumbull, Connecticut 06611 (US)
Inventor : **Muller, Arno**
8 Linda Lane
Westport, Connecticut 06880 (US)

(74) Representative : **Cook, Anthony John et al**
D. YOUNG & CO.
21 New Fetter Lane
London EC4A 1DA (GB)

(54) **Postage metering system with indicia selectable to compensate for detected printer defects.**

(57) A postage metering system includes a printer for printing an indicia. Information is stored and adapted to generate signals for causing the printer to print a selected one of a plurality of postal indicia. A fault detection arrangement is coupled to the printer for detecting faults in the printer. The printer is caused to print a selected one of the plurality of indicia depending upon the fault sensed. The indicia may be a composite indicia formed from a plurality of portions of stored postal indicia. The size and position of the indicia and indicia elements, which may be printed or bar code information, may be altered in location and size, if desired, based on the detected fault in the printer.



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			EP 93309826.1
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
D,Y	US - A - 4 813 802 (GILHAM) * Fig.; abstract; column 1, line 65 - column 3, line 10; column 5, lines 38-62; claim 3 *	1-3, 5-7, 9-12	G 07 B 17/00
D,A	* Column 1, line 65 - column 2, line 12 *	4	
D,Y	US - A - 4 933 849 (CONNELL) * Abstract; column 1, lines 6-11 *	1-3, 5-7, 9-12	
D,A	US - A - 4 595 935 (BROOKS) * Fig.; abstract; claims *	1-12	
D,A	US - A - 4 641 347 (CLARK) * Fig. 4,A-D; abstract *	1,8, 12,13	
A	EP - A - 0 217 043 (KABUSHIKI KAISHA SATO) * Fig. 1; abstract; column 2, line 52 - column 3, line 3 *	1,8	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5) G 07 B 17/00 B 41 J 1/00 G 01 D 15/00 G 06 K 9/00 B 41 J 3/00
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search VIENNA		Date of completion of the search 14-07-1994	Examiner WENNINGER
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	

EPO FORM 1503 01.82 (P0601)