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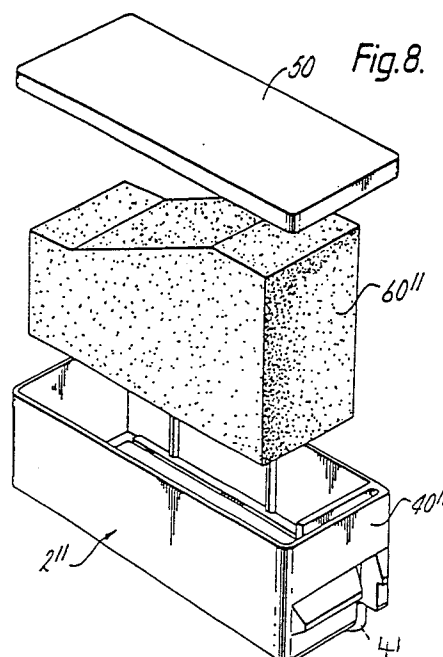
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(54) **Ink guide assembly and ink-tank for a dot matrix printer head.**

(57) Ink guide assembly and ink tank for a dot matrix printer head, especially a wire dot matrix printer head, comprises at least one ink supply tank (2'') containing ink absorbing means having an ink supply port (41) which is arranged to receive ink and transmit ink via an ink guide to printing means. The ink absorbing means comprises at least one porous member (60'') whose pores are progressively reduced in size in a direction towards the ink supply port (41) and that the ink supply port (41) is located in a bottom wall (40a) of said ink supply tank.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 94 10 1083

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.4)
E	EP-A-0 139 508 (SEIKO EPSON CORPORATION) * the whole document * ---	1-12	B41J3/12
E	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 10, no. 40 (M-454) (2097) 18 February 1986 & JP-A-60 192 672 (JIYANOME SEWING MACHINE KOGYO K.K.) 1 October 1985 * abstract * ---	1	
A	US-A-4 279 519 (SHIURILA) * column 1, line 51 - column 3, line 14; figure 2 * ---	1-12	
A	US-A-4 400 102 (SHIURILA ET AL.) * column 9, line 10 - column 12, line 38; figures 10-14 * ---	1-12	
D,A	EP-A-0 042 293 (SHINSU SEIKO K.K. & K.K. SUWA SEIKOSHA) * page 14, line 28 - page 19, line 19; figures 3,4 * ---	1-12	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.4)
D,A	DE-A-25 46 835 (PHILIPS PATENTVERWALTUNG GMBH) * the whole document * -----	1-12	B41J
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 29 April 1994	Examiner Joosting, T
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			