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(54) **Security document**

(57) A component bearing an image is produced by printing the image (12) on a layer (11) of a high temperature glue which has been applied to a layer of a transparent medium (10). The image is printed on the glue layer using carbon or a carbon-containing compound that does not flow when applied to the glue surface. The component consisting of transparent medium, high temperature glue and image is then bonded to a substrate (13) using a thermal bonding process to produce a laminate of the transparent medium and the substrate. The image is not distorted by the thermal bonding process, but remains clearly visible through the transparent medium. Typically the transparent medium will be a polyester film or a sheet of glass beads dispersed in glue. One or more additional layers (27) may be bonded to the substrate (13) to increase the stiffness of the product laminate.

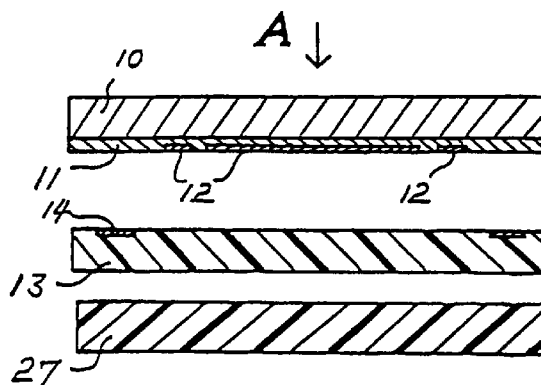


Fig.1.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 96 10 8494

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.6)
E	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 14, no. 532 (M-1051), 22 November 1990 & JP-A-02 223494 (MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION), 5 September 1990, * abstract *	1,9,17	B42D15/10
A	WO-A-83 00766 (GALLAGHER, LACAPRIA) 3 March 1983 * the whole document *	1,7,19	
A	WO-A-82 04149 (HARRISON AND SONS (HIGH WYCOMBE)) 25 November 1982 * the whole document *	1,7,19	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			B42D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		9 October 1996	Evans, A
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p>& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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