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(71) Applicant: **SEIKO EPSON CORPORATION**
Shinjuku-ku Tokyo 163-08 (JP)

(72) Inventors:
• Takamizawa, Yuji,
c/o Seiko Epson Corporation
Suwa-shi, Nagano-ken, 392 (JP)

• Teradaira, Mitsuaki,
c/o Seiko Epson Corporation
Suwa-shi, Nagano-ken, 392 (JP)
• Aruga, Kazuhisa,
c/o Seiko Epson Corporation
Suwa-shi, Nagano-ken, 392 (JP)

(74) Representative: **Hoffmann, Eckart, Dipl.-Ing.**
Patentanwalt,
Bahnhofstrasse 103
82166 Gräfelfing (DE)

(54) **Printing apparatus and initialization method thereof**

(57) Disclosed are a printing apparatus and a method of initializing it which allow to prevent loss of print data due to print operation malfunction after the completion of the initialization. This is achieved by detecting error conditions related to the motion of a print head during the initialization. In the initialization process of the print head (3) is moved until it is detected by a reference position detector (16) located at the left edge of a printable area. Then the print head (3) is moved over the entire printable area to its rightmost position (37). By checking whether or not the print head has moved correctly, it is possible to detect any error conditions relating to the motion of print head (3) prior to printing.

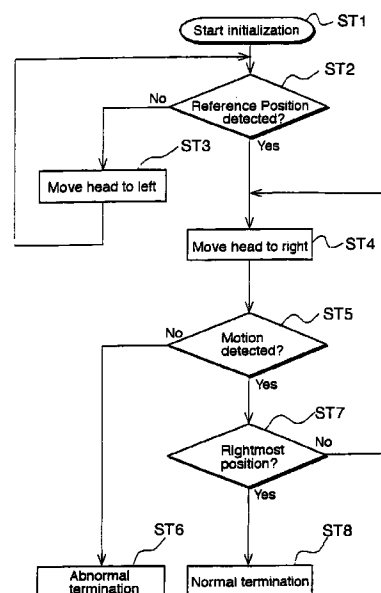


FIG. 4

EP 0 759 363 A3



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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search BERLIN		Date of completion of the search 28 May 1997	Examiner Nielsen, 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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Application Number
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Place of search BERLIN		Date of completion of the search 28 May 1997	Examiner Nielsen, M
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