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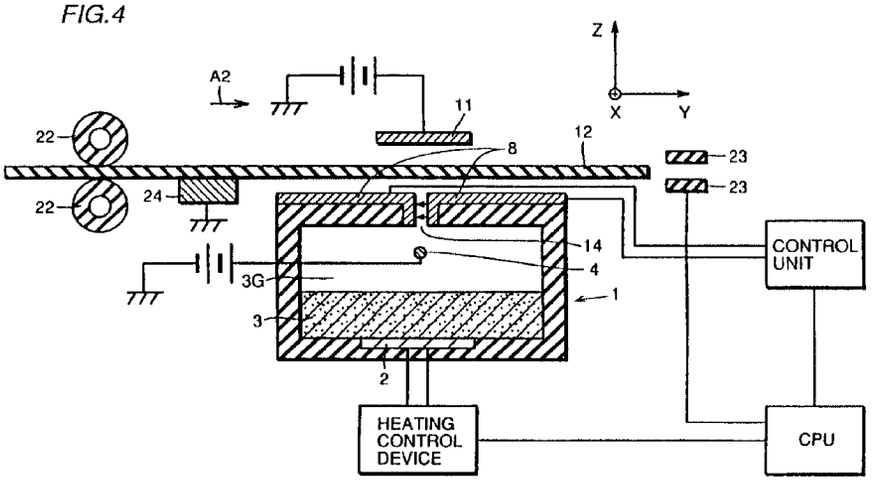
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(54) Image recording apparatus provided with a discharger for removing charges from recording medium

(57) An image recording apparatus includes a transport unit (22) for conveying a recording medium, and a print head (1). The print head (1) includes a heater unit (2) for heating and vaporizing ink, an eject unit (4, 11) for ejecting ink vaporized by the heater unit (2) onto the recording medium, and an eject control unit (8) for controlling the vaporous ink so that it is ejected intermittently according to image data corresponding to an image to be recorded. The eject unit (4, 11) includes a charging unit (4) for charging vaporous ink, a backside electric unit (11) provided at a back surface of the recording medium for attracting the vaporous ink charged by the charging unit (4) onto the recording medium. The eject control unit (8) includes an electrostatic shutter unit (8) for controlling ejection of the vaporous ink charged by the charging unit with an electric field. The image recording apparatus further includes a discharger unit (24) provided upstream of the eject unit (4, 11) in a conveying direction of the recording medium for removing the charges from the recording medium.

FIG.4



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 97 30 1723

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)
Y A	US 5 374 949 A (TAKASUMI WADA) * column 9, line 43 - column 10, line 3 * * figures 1,2 *	1,13,15 2,3	B41J29/00 B41J2/06
Y	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 017, no. 455 (M-1466), 20 August 1993 & JP 05 104724 A (MINOLTA CAMERA CO LTD), 27 April 1993, * abstract *	1,13,15	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE	3 December 1997	Van den Meerschaut,G

CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS

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