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(54) **Modular electronic printer architecture**

(57) An electronic printing system comprises a substrate (22), controllably transported through the printing system past a plurality of print heads (18) and print stations in sequence, to generate a printed image. The print heads (18) are mounted on a swing arm mechanism to allow rotation from a print-ready position into a service

position. The system is created from simplex print modules (12) and is capable of multi-color and process color duplex printing without turnbars between print stations. The system is configured so that additional print stations can be added to the printing system without adding substantially to the length of the system.

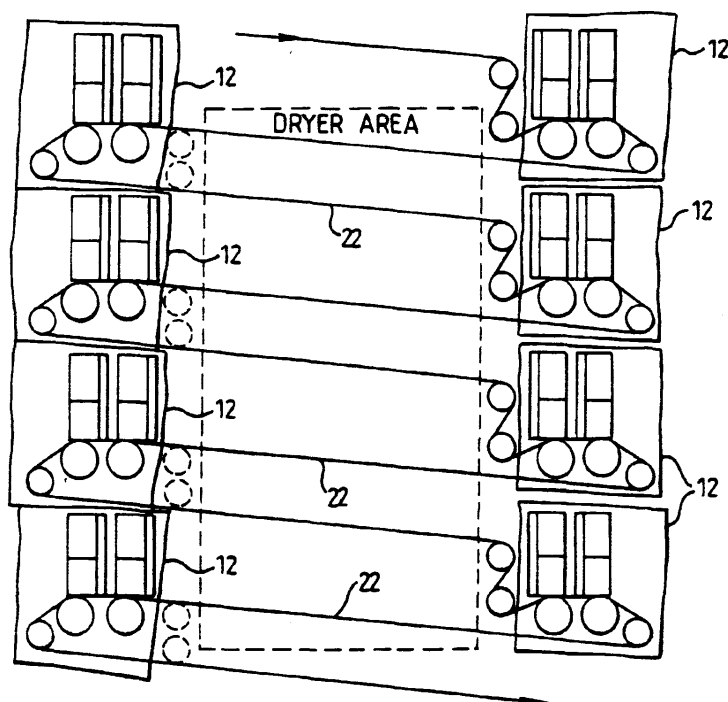


FIG. 2

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 97 30 4186

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)
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		8	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 10 November 1998	Examiner Didenot, B
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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