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(54) Keying system for ink supply containers

(57) The present invention is an ink container (12) for supplying ink having proper ink parameters to an ink supply station (40). The ink container (12) includes a latch feature (22, 22') indicative of an ink parameter of

a plurality of ink parameters. The latch feature (22, 22') being configured for engaging a supply station (40) latch surface (46) for securely mounting ink containers (12) having proper ink parameters in supply stations (40).

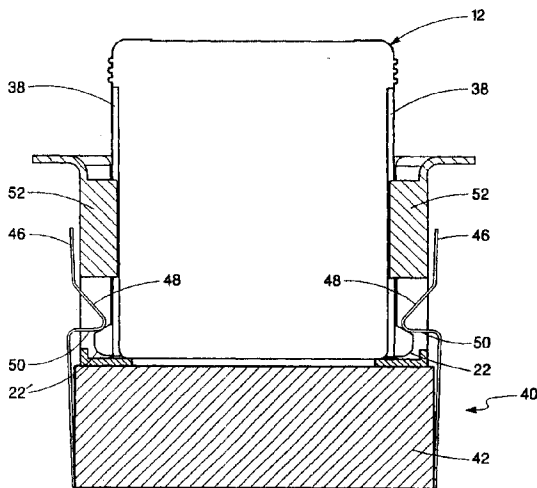


FIG. 3

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 97 30 4273

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)
P,X	EP 0 739 740 A (HEWLETT PACKARD COMPANY) 30 October 1996 * column 7, line 55 - column 8, line 20; figure 4 *	1-10	B41J2/175
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D,P, X	EP 0 778 148 A (HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY) 11 June 1997 * the whole document *	1-10	
P,X	EP 0 778 146 A (HEWLETT PACKARD CO) 11 June 1997 * column 16, line 5 - line 25; figure 10 *	1-10	
X	EP 0 623 471 A (HEWLETT PACKARD CO) 9 November 1994 * claims 1,7; figure 1 *	1-10	
A	EP 0 622 208 A (HEWLETT PACKARD CO) 2 November 1994 * figure 8 *	1	
A	EP 0 478 244 A (CANON KK) 1 April 1992 * figure 2A *	1	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6) B41J
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 20 August 1998	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	

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