



(19)

Europäisches Patentamt

European Patent Office

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(11)

EP 0 856 416 A3

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(88) Date of publication A3:
07.10.1998 Bulletin 1998/41

(51) Int. Cl.⁶: **B41M 5/38**, B41J 2/325

(43) Date of publication A2:
05.08.1998 Bulletin 1998/32

(21) Application number: **97122847.3**

(22) Date of filing: **24.12.1997**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
**AT BE CH DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU MC
NL PT SE**
Designated Extension States:
AL LT LV MK RO SI

(30) Priority: **30.12.1996 IT TO961098**

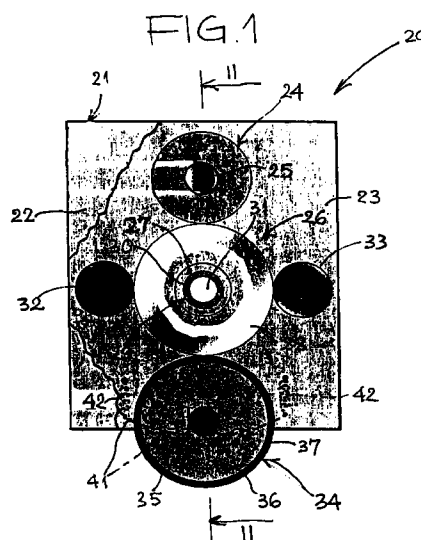
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(54) **Device, method and an equipment for thermally transferring an image onto an article**

(57) The device comprises a support structure (21) in which is mounted a motorised drive roller (24) rotatable about a fixed axis (X-X) in contact with a heating roller (26) which is rotatable in contact with a roller pad (34). The heating roller (26) and the roller pad are rotatable about respective axes (Y-Y; Z-Z) movable with respect to the support structure (21). The roller pad (34) is resiliently urged against the heating roller (26) towards the drive roller (24). A pair of free rollers (32, 33) retain the heating roller (26) between the roller pad (34) and the drive roller (24).



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 97 12 2847 .

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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A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 97, no. 2, 28 February 1997 & JP 08 278669 A (TEC CORP), 22 October 1996 * abstract *	1	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 13 August 1998	Examiner Rivero, C
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	

EPO FORM 1503 03/82 (P04C01)



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 97 12 2847

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Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 13 August 1998	Examiner Rivero, C
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