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(71) Applicant: **Ricoh Company, Ltd.**
Tokyo 143-8555 (JP)

(72) Inventors:
• **Kakitani, Yohtaro,**
c/o Ricoh Company, Ltd.
Tokyo 143-8555 (JP)

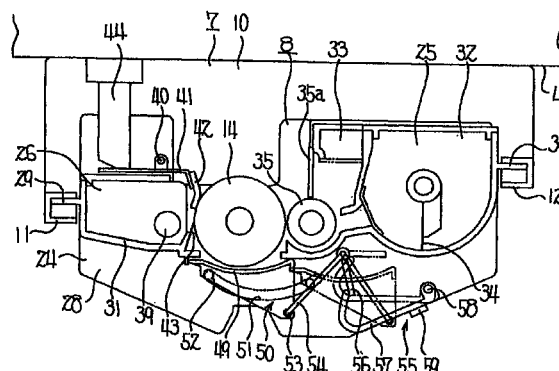
- **Matsumoto, Kentaro,**
c/o Ricoh Company, Ltd.
Tokyo 143-8555 (JP)
- **Nagashima, Hiroyuki,**
c/o Ricoh Company, Ltd.
Tokyo 143-8555 (JP)
- **Tsuda, Kiyonori,**
c/o Ricoh Company, Ltd.
Tokyo 143-8555 (JP)
- **Ri, Yonsoku,**
c/o Ricoh Company, Ltd.
Tokyo 143-8555 (JP)

(74) Representative:
Schwabe - Sandmair - Marx
Stuntzstrasse 16
81677 München (DE)

(54) **A process cartridge having a shutter to cover the surface of a photoconductor and image forming apparatus using the same cartridge**

(57) A process cartridge (8) for an image forming apparatus, which includes a cartridge main body (24) having at least one of a developing device (25) for developing with toner a latent image on a photoconductor (14) and a cleaner (26) for salvaging the toner remaining on a surface of the photoconductor and detachably mounted to a main body of the image forming apparatus, and a shutter (49) which covers a covering area including an area beneath a lower part of the circumferential surface of the photoconductor (14) and an area beneath a lower part of at least one of a boundary between the photoconductor (14) and the developing device (25) and a boundary between the photoconductor (14) and the cleaner (26). The shutter (49) moves in a substantially horizontal posture between the covering area and a siding area beneath the developing device or the cleaner. Therefore, toner received by the shutter is prevented from falling from the shutter when the shutter is moved.

Fig. 2





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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 THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 23 January 2001	Examiner Lipp, G
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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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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