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(54) **Imaging element comprising an improved electrically conductive layer containing acicular metalcontaining particles**

(57) The present invention is an imaging element which includes a support, an image-forming layer superposed on the support and an electrically-conductive layer superposed on the support. The electrically-conductive layer contains a film-forming binder and acicular, crystalline single-phase, electrically-conductive metal-containing particles. The acicular, crystalline single-phase, conductive metal-containing particles have a di-

ameter less than or equal to 0.02  $\mu\text{m}$  and an aspect greater than or equal to 3:1. The electrically-conductive layer is formed by dispersing the acicular particles using polymeric milling media having a size less than 350  $\mu\text{m}$  to form a colloidal dispersion, combining the colloidal dispersion with the film forming binder to form a mixture, coating the mixture onto the support and drying the mixture to form the electrically-conductive layer.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 99 20 0876

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			G03C B41M
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
MUNICH		21 December 1999	Binder, R
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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