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(30) Priority: **24.09.2003 JP 2003331342**

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Kanagawa (JP)**

(54) **Support for lithographic printing plate and presensitized plate**

(57) A support for a lithographic printing plate is composed of a metal base that has been grained and anodized then subjected to treatment with an aqueous solution containing an inorganic fluorine compound and a phosphate compound, followed or preceded by treatment with a silicate compound-containing aqueous solution, and an intermediate layer which lies on the treated metal base and contains an acid group-bearing polymeric compound. Presensitized plates composed in

part of the support, when used as on-machine development type plates, have a good on-machine developability, high sensitivity, long press life and good resistance to scumming. When used as positive or negative-working thermal plates, such presensitized plates efficiently utilize heat in image formation, have a high sensitivity and a long press life, and minimize scumming in non-image areas.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 04 02 0031

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Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 7 April 2005	Examiner Spyropoulou, E
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- ☒ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☐ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:



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LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B

Application Number
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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-3,5

Claim 1 defines a support for a lithographic printing plate, comprising a metal base subjected to graining and anodizing, then treated with an aqueous solution containing an inorganic fluorine, a phosphate and silicate compound and an intermediate layer which lies on the treated metal base and contains an acid group-bearing polymeric compound. Claim 5 defines a presensitized plate comprising a lithographic printing plate according to claim 1.

2. claims: 4,5

Claim 4 defines a support for a lithographic printing plate comprising a metal base having a surface which satisfies the formulas mentioned in said claim 4 and an intermediate layer which lies on the metal base and contains an acid group-containing polymeric compound. Claim 5 defines a presensitized plate comprising the lithographic printing plate support of claim 4.

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

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