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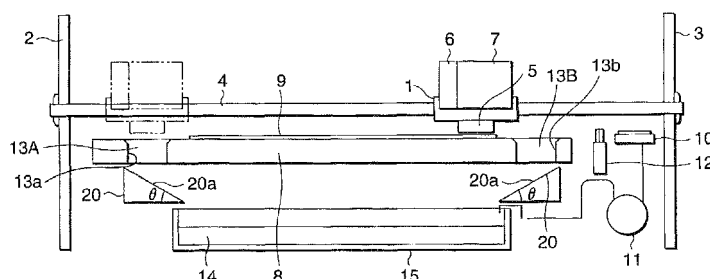
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(54) **Flushing position controller incorporated in ink-jet recording apparatus and flushing method used for the same**

(57) Flushing regions (13A,13B) for receiving ink droplets to be ejected when flushing signal is supplied to a recording head (5) are provided in both of non-print regions situated at both sides of print region in order to prevent throughput during the flushing operation from deteriorating. A guide member (20A) having a slant surface is disposed between the recording head and an ink absorbing member (14) to which the ink landed on the slant surface flows in order to reduce in size of the ink absorb-

ing member. A porous sheet member closely faced to nozzle orifices of the recording head for receiving the ink droplets ejected therefrom is provided in order to prevent undesired mist of fine ink droplets from generating. A plurality of plate members closely faced to the nozzle orifices are provided at a predetermined angle with respect to the flight direction of the ink droplets in order to prevent the undesired mist from generating. The flushing operation is performed so as to prevent solidification of the ejected ink.

FIG.3





EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 08 16 1992

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
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Y	* column 11, line 3 - line 68; figures 12,16,17 *	3,10-12, 14,16, 17,22	
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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 16 December 2008	Examiner De Groot, Ronald
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p>			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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