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(54) Ink cartridge, set of ink cartridges, and ink cartridge determination system

(57) An ink cartridge includes a first signal blocking portion configured to selectively prevent a first signal from passing therethrough or to alter a path of the first signal. The ink cartridge also includes a second signal blocking portion configured to selectively prevent a second signal from passing therethrough or to alter a path of the second signal. The second signal blocking portion has a thickness determinative of whether the second signal blocking portion prevents the second signal from passing therethrough or alters the path of the second signal at a time that the first signal blocking portion initially prevents the first signal from passing therethrough or alters the path of the first signal.

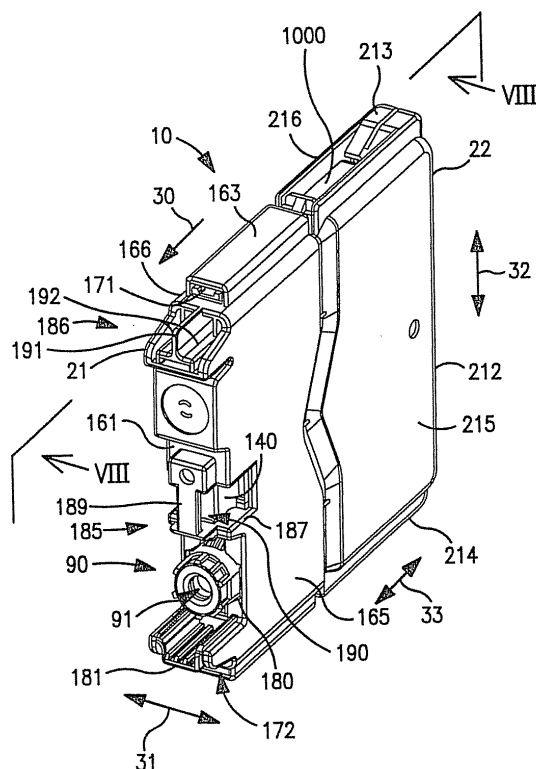


FIG. 2(a)

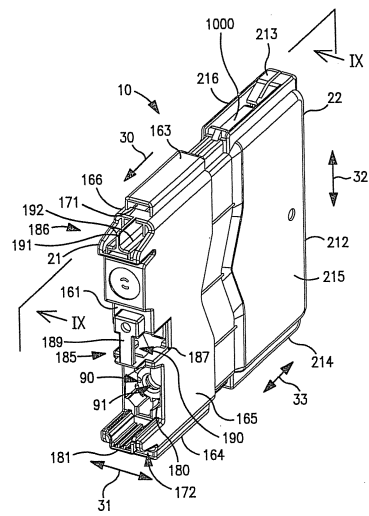


FIG. 2(b)

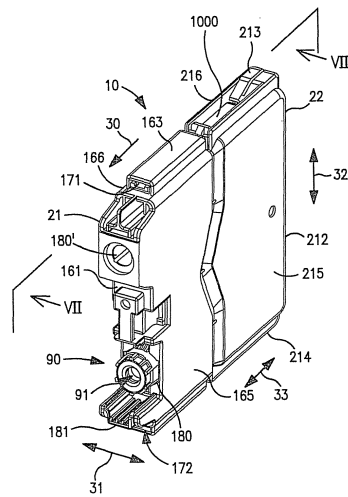


FIG. 2(c)

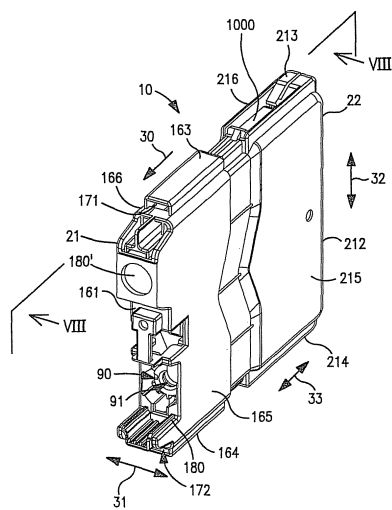


FIG. 2(d)



## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 09 17 9904

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Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 24 March 2010	Examiner Adam, Emmanuel
<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 ..... &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

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