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ematic viscosity compared to water, which is the conventional solvent used in dampening fluids. The dampening fluids, which are relatively nonpolar, can be used in a combination with polar inks to form a new type of digital lithographic printing system.

FIG. 1



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 12 19 0034

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	US 2008/299487 A1 (CHANG CHING-YU [TW]) 4 December 2008 (2008-12-04) * paragraph [0038] * * paragraph [0078] * * paragraph [0089] - paragraph [0094] * * claims 1, 6, 7, 10, 13, 14 *	1-4, 11	INV. B41N3/08 B41M1/06
X,P	EP 2 447 065 A1 (PALO ALTO RESEARCH CENTER, INC. [US]) 2 May 2012 (2012-05-02) * paragraph [0001] * * paragraph [0015] * * paragraph [0036] * * paragraph [0047] * * paragraph [0050] * * paragraph [0062] * * claims 1-15 * * figure 1 *	1-4, 11-13	
X,P	EP 2 450 190 A1 (PALO ALTO RESEARCH CENTER, INC. [US]) 9 May 2012 (2012-05-09) * paragraph [0001] * * paragraph [0019] * * paragraph [0029] - paragraph [0030] * * paragraph [0035] * * paragraph [0046] * * paragraph [0049] * * paragraph [0061] * * claims 1-15 * * figure 1 *	1-4, 11-13	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC) B41M B41N G03F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 18 April 2013	Examiner Bacon, Alan
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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EPO FORM 1503 03.02 (P04C01)



Application Number

EP 12 19 0034

CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing claims for which payment was due.

☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due 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 those claims for which no payment was due.

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:

2-4, 12, 13(completely); 1, 11(partially)

☐ 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:

☐ The present supplementary 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 (Rule 164 (1) EPC).



LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B

Application Number

EP 12 19 0034

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: 5-10(completely); 1, 11(partially)

Volatile silicone solvent liquid.

2. claims: 2-4(completely); 1, 11(partially)

Volatile hydrofluoroether solvent liquid.

3. claims: 12, 13

Process for variable lithographic printing comprising the steps of (a) applying a dampening liquid to an imaging surface, (b) forming a latent image by evaporating the dampening liquid to form hydrophobic non-image areas and hydrophilic image areas, (c) developing the latent image areas by applying polar ink to the hydrophilic image areas, and (d) transferring the developed latent image to a substrate.

4. claims: 14, 15

Variable lithographic system comprising an ink, a dampening fluid and an imaging member, wherein the dampening fluid has a surface energy which is less than the surface energy of the ink and the surface energy of the imaging member surface.

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

EP 12 19 0034

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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18-04-2013

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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82