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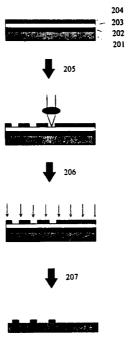
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(54) Title: DIGITAL LASER IMAGABLE LITHOGRAPHIC PRINTING PLATES



(57) Abstract

Lithographic printing plates for wet or waterless offset printing are disclosed which can be imagewise exposed using a digitally controlled IR laser. The invention comprises a laser imageable lithographic printing plate comprising a substrate (201), a photosensitive coating (202) on the substrate, and a water soluble laser ablatable top coating (264) containing dyes or polymers that absorb infra-red, ultraviolet and visible light. Laminated transparent polymer films and/or peelable polymeric coatings films (203) can be interposed between the coated substrate and a water soluble and/or organic solvent soluble laser ablatable top layer to augment plate production or image inscription on the plate.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US96/10734

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER							
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Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where a	appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.				
Υ	US,A, 4,132,168 (PETERSON) (lines 14-22, 58-66, col. 2, lines 3	1-2,4-7, 9-10					
Y	US,A, 5,262,275 (FAN) 16 Noven 68, col. 5, lines 1-3, col. 6, lines 7, lines 46-56, col. 9, lines 4-19.	1-2, 4-7, 9-10					
Α	US,A, 4,755,445 (HASEGAWA) Abstract.	none					
A,P	US,A, 5,512,420 (HALLMAN Abstract.	none					
A,P	US,A, 5,478,695 (LEENDERS) 26 December 1995, Abstract. none						
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