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Creo Products Inc., 3700 Gilmore Way, Burnaby, British
Columbia V5G 4M1 (CA).

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(74) Agent: **MANNING, Gavin, N.**; OYEN WIGGS GREEN
& MUTALA, 480 - 601 West Cordova Street, Vancouver,
British Columbia V6B 1G1 (CA).

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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **CREO
SRL** [CA/CA]; c/o Creo Products Inc., 3700 Gilmore Way,
Burnaby, British Columbia V5G 4M1 (CA).

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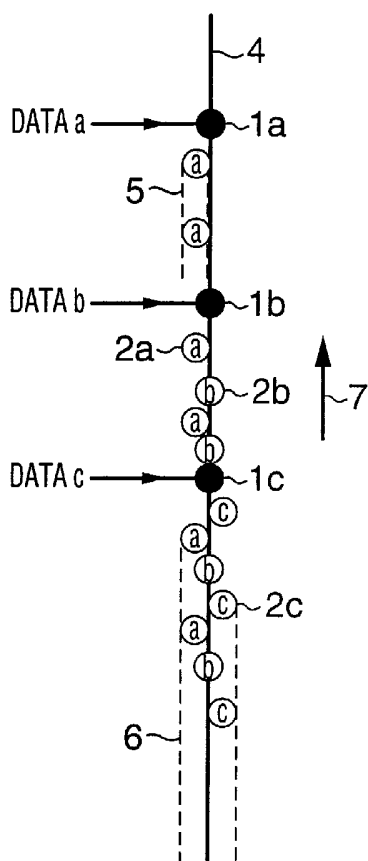
(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **GELBART, Daniel**
[CA/CA]; 4688 Pine Crescent, Vancouver, British Colum-
bia V6J 4L2 (CA). **MICHELSON, Amos** [CA/CA]; c/o

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(54) Title: IMPROVED UNIFORMITY INK JET SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: Ink jet printers and other systems using multi-nozzle ink jet heads can be made to print with a high degree of uniformity by assigning multiple jets (1-a, 1-b, 1-c) to each track (6). In order to avoid the throughput loss caused by simple overwriting, the marks created by the nozzles of a given track write in an interleaved mode, with interleaving performed along the track. Since each track is formed by multiple nozzles a high degree of redundancy can be achieved at a low overhead by having one or more spare nozzles (1-e) in each track.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/CA 01/00996

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4 540 996 A (SAITO SEIJI) 10 September 1985 (1985-09-10)	1,2,8, 13,14, 18,20
Y	figures 2,4,8,9,12	5,9,12, 16,19-21
X	WO 99 54139 A (DUCHOVNE YORAM ; SCITEX WIDE FORMAT PRINTING LT (IL)) 28 October 1999 (1999-10-28) figures 2A,2B,4 column 4, line 9 - line 11	1,2,8, 13,14
X	US 5 767 875 A (SAWADA HIDEKI) 16 June 1998 (1998-06-16) figures 3,5	8,13,14, 18
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Patent family members are listed in annex.

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- *&* document member of the same patent family

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Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Bardet, M

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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