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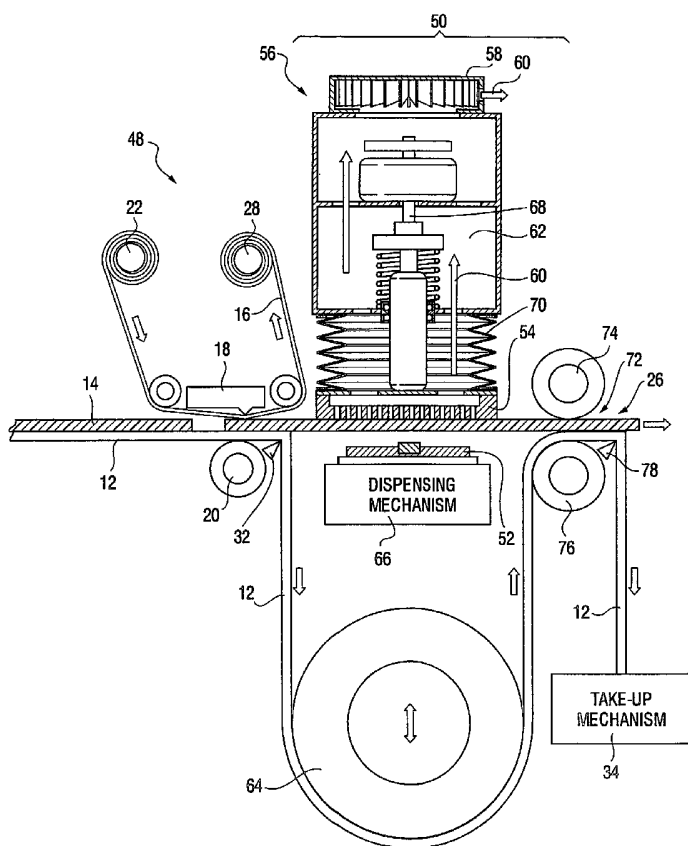
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ASSOCIATING ON DEMAND CERTAIN SELECTED MEDIA AND VALUE-ADDING ELEMENTS



(57) Abstract: A thermal transfer media printer (48) is disclosed. In one embodiment, the printer (48) selectively programs RFID transponders (52), and then embeds them into conventional on-demand printed media (26) between the adhesive layer and the release liner. Selective configuration of each printed media sample (26) by addition of value-adding elements (50) may be performed independently for each media sample (26), under software control during processing of each media sample format print control program. An add-on mechanism is disclosed that can be operatively attached to a conventional media printer. This allows value-adding elements (50) such as RFID transponder labels to be selectively applied at precise location on the printed surface of on-demand printed media in connection with existing printers.



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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : B41J 3/00

US CL : 347/2

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
NONE

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
EAST Text Search (JPO, EPO, USPAT)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X --- Y	US 5,909,233 A (HAMMAN et al) 01 June 1999 (01.06.1999), column 5, lines 20-57; column 8, lines 10-49; column 16, lines 19-56; column 25, lines 1-39.	1, 5, 9, 16, 17, 20-27, 32, 33, 37-39 ----- 2-4, 6-8, 10-15, 18, 19, 28-31, 34-36
Y	US 6,173,119 B1 (MANICO et al) 09 January 2001 (09.01.2001), column 2, lines 15-31; column 4, lines 55-64; column 6, lines 1-18.	2-4, 6-8, 10-15, 18, 19, 28-31, 34-36

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

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"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&"	document member of the same patent family
"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

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