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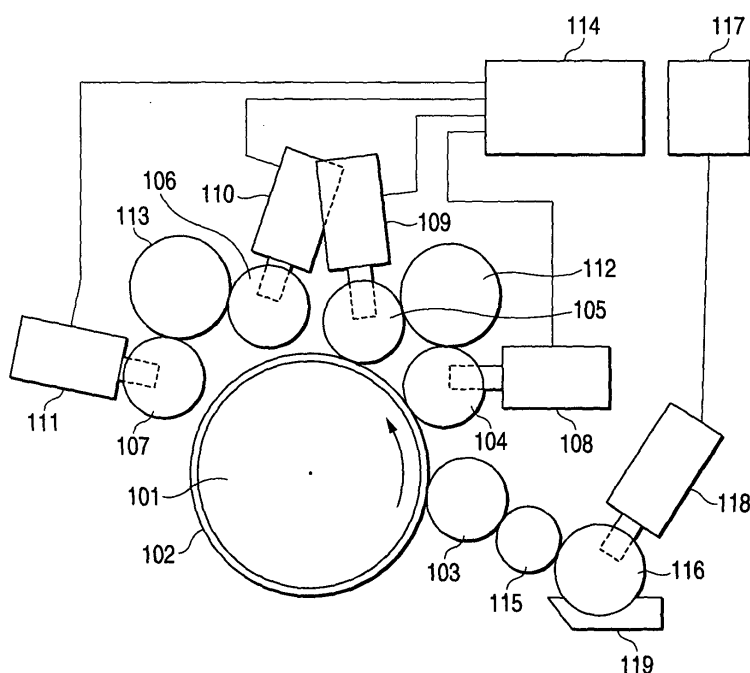
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(54) **On-press development and printing method and printing apparatus**

(57) A method of on-press developing and printing an on-press development type lithographic printing plate precursor by using a printing apparatus having a plurality

of inking rollers, the method comprising an inking step in which at least one of said plurality of inking rollers is not in contact with a plate surface.

FIG. 1





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 07 00 4245

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 27 February 2008	Examiner DIAZ-MAROTO, V
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			

4
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 07 00 4245

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 27 February 2008	Examiner DIAZ-MAROTO, V
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			

4

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)



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Application Number

EP 07 00 4245

CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims 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 the first ten claims.

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:
- ☐ 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).



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: 1-6

Method of on-press developing and printing with lithographic printing plate precursors, wherein the method comprises an inking step in which one of several inking rollers is not in contact with the plate surface.

2. claims: 7-9

Printing apparatus comprising (a) three or more inking rollers divided into two groups, and (b) an inking roller attachment/detachment control means.

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

EP 07 00 4245

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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27-02-2008

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