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(54) **Method of making a heat-sensitive lithographic printing plate.**

(57) A method of making a lithographic printing plate is disclosed which comprises the steps of

- (1) providing a lithographic printing plate precursor comprising (i) a support having a hydrophilic surface or which is provided with a hydrophilic layer and (ii) a coating provided thereon which comprises hydrophobic thermoplastic polymer particles;
- (2) exposing the precursor to IR-light or heat, thereby inducing coalescence of the thermoplastic polymer particles at exposed areas of the coating;
- (3) applying a hydrophilic protective layer on the coating ; and then,
- (4) while the precursor is mounted on a print cylinder of a printing press, developing the precursor by supplying an aqueous dampening liquid and/or ink

to said precursor while rotating said print cylinder whereby the coating and the hydrophilic protective layer are removed from the support on the non-exposed areas.

According to the above method, the hydrophilic protective layer can be applied by coating a solution by means a spray nozzle or a jet nozzle and wherein the applied hydrophilic protective layer improves clean-out in an on-press development.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 04 10 4688

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	EP 0 816 070 A (AGFA GEVAERT NV) 7 January 1998 (1998-01-07) * Example 1, imaging elements II,III * * column 2, line 43 - column 3, line 47 * * column 5, line 19 - line 27 * * column 7, line 27 - line 39 * * column 8, line 17 - line 58 * * claims 1,8,9 * -----	1-11	B41C1/10 B41N3/08
X	EP 1 092 555 A (AGFA GEVAERT NV) 18 April 2001 (2001-04-18) * paragraph [0011] * * paragraph [0041] * -----	1-11	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			B41C B41N
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 27 September 2005	Examiner Whelan, N
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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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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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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27-09-2005

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