(19) Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

(11) **EP 1 464 485 A3**

(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:
21.02.2007 Bulletin 2007/08

(43) Date of publication A2:
06.10.2004 Bulletin 2004/41

(21) Application number: **03100929.3**

(22) Date of filing: **07.04.2003**

(51) Int Cl.:
B41F 27/12 *(2006.01)* ***B41F 13/00*** *(2006.01)*
B41F 13/24 *(2006.01)* ***B41F 35/00*** *(2006.01)*
B41C 1/10 *(2006.01)* ***B41C 1/00*** *(2006.01)*

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HU IE IT LI LU MC NL PT RO SE SI SK TR
Designated Extension States:
AL LT LV MK

(30) Priority: **05.04.2003 US 117482**

(71) Applicant: **AGFA CORPORATION**
Ridgefield Park, NJ 07660-2199 (US)

(72) Inventors:
- **Marincic, Thomas**
  01879, Tyngsboro (US)
- **Mirmelshteyn, Aron**
  01945, Marblehead (US)
- **Lyons, Joseph**
  01887, Wlimington (US)
- **Kowalczyk, Matthew**
  02143, Somerville (US)

(74) Representative: **De Niel, Marc Alfons Jozef**
Agfa-Gevaert N.V.
Corporate Intellectual Property Department 3800
Patent Administration
Septestraat 27
2640 Mortsel (BE)

(54) **Plate cassette loader for platesetter.**

(57) A plate cassette loader (100) for a platesetter (10) comprises a cassette holder (110) for receiving a cassette (14), containing a stack of plates. A cassette inverter (105) then rotates this cassette (14) to a feed position in which the plates can be fed into the imaging engine (12) of the platesetter (10). In this way, the somewhat unwieldy process of loading plates into the imaging engine (12) is handled by the cassette inverter (105), in combination with the fact that the stack of plates, contained in the cassette (14), can be loaded in one step, rather than requiring the feeding of individual plates by a dedicated operator.

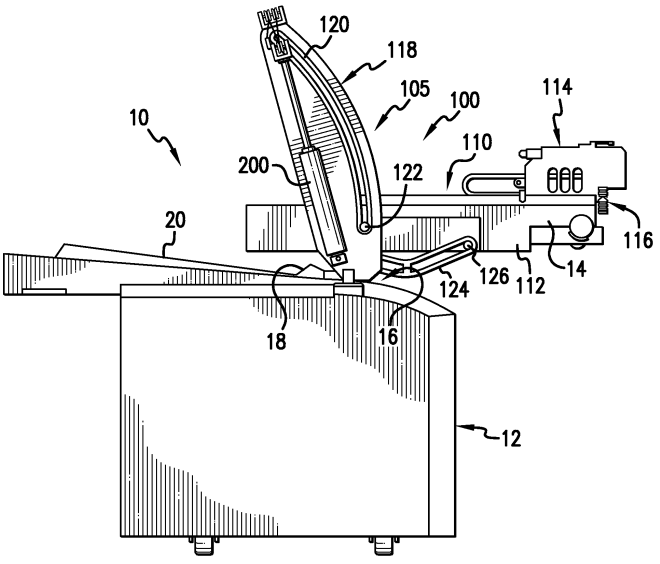

FIG.1

EP 1 464 485 A3

European Patent Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 03 10 0929

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X A	US 5 537 926 A (BEISEL HERMANN [DE] ET AL) 23 July 1996 (1996-07-23) * column 5, lines 17-65; figures 1-17 *	1-3,6-8, 10 4,5,9	INV. B41F27/12 B41F13/00 B41F13/24
X	EP 1 084 837 A1 (KOMORI PRINTING MACH [JP]) 21 March 2001 (2001-03-21) * column 7, line 8 - column 10, line 23; figures 1-19 *	1-3,6-8, 10	B41F35/00 B41C1/10 B41C1/00
X	EP 0 949 071 A1 (HEIDELBERGER DRUCKMASCH AG [DE]) 13 October 1999 (1999-10-13) * column 5, line 56 - column 6, line 57; figures 4,7 *	1-3,10	
X	JP 61 248834 A (MITSUBISHI HEAVY IND LTD) 6 November 1986 (1986-11-06) * abstract; figures 1,3 *	1-3,10	
A	EP 0 822 453 A (BAYER CORPORATION) 4 February 1998 (1998-02-04) * the whole document *	1-10	

TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)

B41C
B41F
B65H

The present search report has been drawn up for all claims

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
Munich	11 January 2007	Findeli, Bernard

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

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO. EP 03 10 0929

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
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

11-01-2007

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5537926 A	23-07-1996	AT 122965 T	15-06-1995
		AT 123255 T	15-06-1995
		AT 135970 T	15-04-1996
		CA 2118582 A1	18-03-1993
		CA 2118583 A1	18-03-1993
		CN 1071368 A	28-04-1993
		CN 1071369 A	28-04-1993
		CN 1071370 A	28-04-1993
		DE 4130359 A1	18-03-1993
		WO 9304863 A1	18-03-1993
		WO 9304864 A1	18-03-1993
		WO 9304865 A1	18-03-1993
		EP 0603245 A1	29-06-1994
		EP 0603246 A1	29-06-1994
		EP 0603261 A1	29-06-1994
		HK 12396 A	02-02-1996
		HK 122496 A	19-07-1996
		JP 2760898 B2	04-06-1998
		JP 7500293 T	12-01-1995
		JP 2669934 B2	29-10-1997
		JP 7500294 T	12-01-1995
		JP 2669935 B2	29-10-1997
		JP 7500295 T	12-01-1995
		US 5443006 A	22-08-1995
		US 5495805 A	05-03-1996
EP 1084837 A1	21-03-2001	AT 333368 T	15-08-2006
		JP 2001080041 A	27-03-2001
		US 6393986 B1	28-05-2002
EP 0949071 A1	13-10-1999	DE 19814661 A1	07-10-1999
		IL 129205 A	31-10-2001
		JP 11314353 A	16-11-1999
		US 6510795 B1	28-01-2003
JP 61248834 A	06-11-1986	NONE	
EP 0822453 A	04-02-1998	DE 69708992 D1	24-01-2002
		DE 69708992 T2	25-07-2002
		JP 10086315 A	07-04-1998
		US 5788455 A	04-08-1998

EPO FORM P0459

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