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- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))

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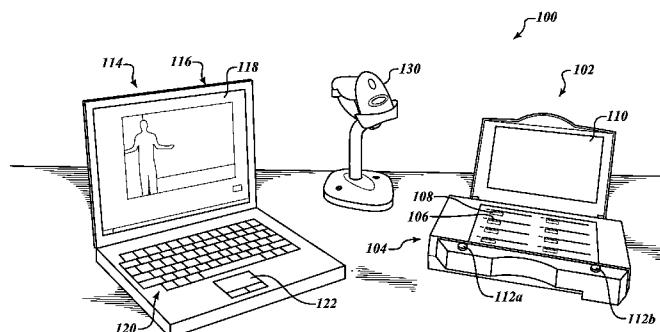


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: An assay system includes an optical imager to acquire high resolution images of assay strips (e.g., lateral flow immunochromatographic test strips) and performs image processing to identify individual assay strips and determine results for each assay strip, by quantifies the presence or absence of test signal line(s) and control signal line(s). Assay strips may be in a holder or carrier contained in a specimen container also holding a specimen. The assay system automatically logs all results and data to a database that stores a high resolution image of the original immunochromatographic assay, the values of test line(s) and control line(s), and the test result. A user interface directs an end user through operation.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**G01N 35/00(2006.01)i, G01N 30/74(2006.01)i, G06F 19/00(2006.01)i**

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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
 Korean Utility models and applications for Utility models
 Japanese Utility models and applications for Utility models

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
 eKOMPASS(KIPO internal) & keywords: assay, information representative, strip, carrier, and container

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 2000-046598 A1 (NATIONAL MEDICAL REVIEW OFFICES, INC.) 10 AUGUST 2000 See abstract; page 7 line 5 – page 13 line 32; claims 1, 13, 49; Figures. 8-4.	1-90
A	US 2005-0203353 A1 (JIE MA et al.) 15 SEPTEMBER 2005 See abstract; paragraphs [112]-[134]; claim 1; Figures. 1-4.	1-90
A	US 07267799 B1 (DAMON VINCENT BORICH et al.) 11 SEPTEMBER 2007 See abstract; column 4, line 9 – column 9, line 35; claim 1; Figures. 1-9.	1-90
A	US 05429804 A (PHILIP W. SAYLES) 4 JULY 1995 See column 2, line 34 – column 3, line 62; claim 1; Figures. 1-3.	1-90
A	US 05403551 A (R. KEITH GALLOWAY et al.) 4 APRIL 1995 See column 3, line 59 – column 6, line 2; claim 1; Figures. 1-8.	1-90

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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