

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
28 February 2008 (28.02.2008)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2008/024202 A3

(51) International Patent Classification:

G03B 42/08 (2006.01) **A61B 6/00** (2006.01)
G01T 1/29 (2006.01)

(74) Common Representative: **CARESTREAM HEALTH, INC.**; 150 Verona Street, Rochester, New York 14608-1733 (US).

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2007/017589

(22) International Filing Date: 8 August 2007 (08.08.2007)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:

11/507,348 21 August 2006 (21.08.2006) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **CARESTREAM HEALTH, INC.** [US/US]; 150 Verona Street, Rochester, New York 14608-1733 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **URBON, Micheal P.** [US/US]; 1174 Palmer Road, Churchville, New York 14428 (US). **WENDLANDT, William C.** [US/US]; 1347 Middle Road, Rush, New York 14543 (US).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, PL,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: APPARATUS FOR SCANNING STIMULABLE PHOSPHOR MEDIUM

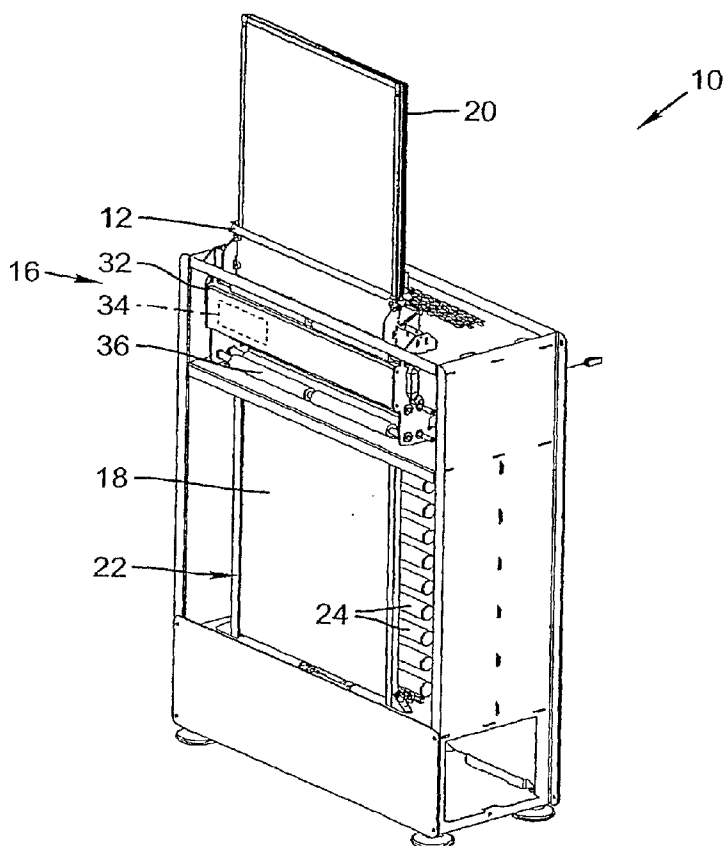


FIG. 3

(57) Abstract: A radiation image reading apparatus (10), including a cassette receiving section (12), a scanning section (16), an erase section (22), and a transport section (30). The cassette receiving section (12) is adapted to receive a cassette (20) housing a stimuable storage phosphor sheet (15). The transport section is adapted to transport the sheet along a substantially linear transport path to and from a travel end point in forward and reverse directions, respectively, through the scanning section (16) and the erase section (22). The scanning section (16) is coupled to the transport section (30) and comprises: an excitation source for directing excitation energy of a first wavelength toward the sheet (18); a detector for receiving light excited from the sheet by the excitation energy; and a gimbaled mounting mechanism (80, 82, 84, 88, 90) configured to register the scanning section to the surface of the sheet (18).



PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM,
GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— *with international search report*

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

7 August 2008

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2007/017589

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. G03B42/08 G01T1/29 A61B6/00

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)
G03B A61B G01T

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 998 633 B2 (STAHL WERNER [DE]) 14 February 2006 (2006-02-14)	1,4,7,8, 13,16
Y	column 3, line 53 - column 7, line 33; figures 1-9	2,3,5,6, 9-12,14, 15,17,18
Y	----- US 6 949 759 B2 (YONEKAWA HISASHI [JP]) 27 September 2005 (2005-09-27) cited in the application column 13, line 15 - column 36, line 12; figures 6,7	2,3,5,6, 9-12,14, 15,17,18
X	----- US 5 440 146 A (STEFFEN JAMES E [US] ET AL) 8 August 1995 (1995-08-08) column 12, line 44 - column 16, line 23; figures 7-9	1,4,7,8, 13,16
	----- -/--	

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

☒ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

21 April 2008

Date of mailing of the international search report

06/05/2008

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Bähr, Achim

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/US2007/017589

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 1 014 174 A (AGFA GEVAERT AG [DE] AGFA GEVAERT HEALTHCARE GMBH [DE]) 28 June 2000 (2000-06-28) the whole document	1-18
A	US 5 265 865 A (AGANO TOSHITAKA [JP] ET AL) 30 November 1993 (1993-11-30) cited in the application the whole document	1,18
A	US 6 437 359 B1 (HALL DOUGLAS O [US] ET AL) 20 August 2002 (2002-08-20) cited in the application the whole document	1,18

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/US2007/017589

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6998633	B2	14-02-2006	AT 384273 T 15-02-2008
		EP 1378767 A1 07-01-2004	
		JP 4041030 B2 30-01-2008	
		JP 2004086201 A 18-03-2004	
		US 2004104364 A1 03-06-2004	
US 6949759	B2	27-09-2005	CN 1480894 A 10-03-2004
		EP 1391749 A1 25-02-2004	
		US 2004089826 A1 13-05-2004	
US 5440146	A	08-08-1995	AU 1975795 A 23-10-1995
		WO 9527370 A1 12-10-1995	
EP 1014174	A	28-06-2000	DE 19860246 C1 16-11-2000
		ES 2252910 T3 16-05-2006	
US 5265865	A	30-11-1993	NONE
US 6437359	B1	20-08-2002	DE 60009008 D1 22-04-2004
		DE 60009008 T2 21-10-2004	
		EP 1102118 A1 23-05-2001	
		JP 2001183765 A 06-07-2001	