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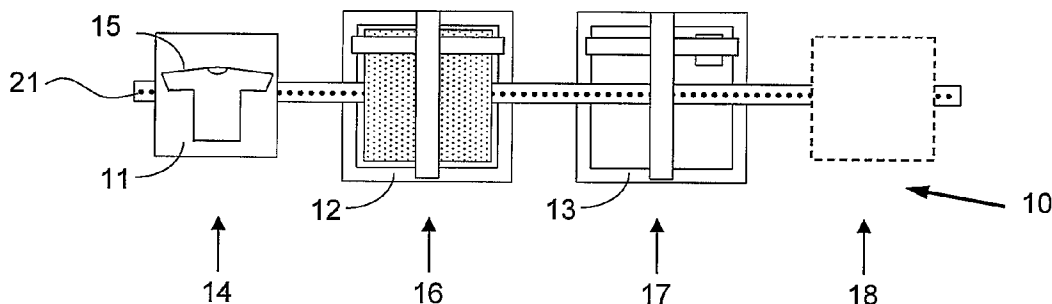
- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

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

31 May 2007

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: COMBINED STENCIL AND DIGITAL PRINTING SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: A carousel and station-based printing system for textiles comprises one or more stations with a digital printing apparatus and optionally other stations with a stencil printing apparatus. The system allows for high speed printing of images having details of high resolution, rich colors, or variability, optionally also comprising a wetting apparatus operative to wet at least a part of the printed object prior to the digital printing.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/IL2006/000526

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. B41L13/00 B41L13/02 B41L13/04 B41L13/06

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)

B41L

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

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 1 201 451 A (RISO KAGAKU CORP [JP]) 2 May 2002 (2002-05-02) paragraph [0035] - paragraph [0037] -----	1,2,4, 15-17, 49,50, 60-62,64
X	US 2003/095823 A1 (MAEDA YUKIHIRO [JP]) 22 May 2003 (2003-05-22) figure 1 -----	1,4,49, 50, 60-62,64

 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.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

28 November 2006

Date of mailing of the international search report

20.03.2007

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/IL2006/000526

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.

2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

see annex

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-4,13,15-17,49-51,58,60-62,64

a system comprising a stencil printing system and a digital printing system according to claims 1-4, 13, 15-17 and a method according to claims 49-51, 58, 60-62, 64

2. claims: 5-12,14,18-20,52-57,59,65,67,68

a stencil printing system/apparatus combined with a digital printing system/apparatus and a wetting apparatus according to claims 5-12, 14, 18-20, 52-57, 59, 65, 67 and 68

3. claims: 26-28

a pre-wetting system according to claim 26-28

4. claims: 33-48

a digital printing system combined with a wetting system according to claims 33-48

5. claims: 21-25,29-32

a digital printing system according to claims 21-25 and 29-32

6. claim: 69

a digital-type print station combined with a stencil-type print station comprising a carousel for carrying a medium to be printed and a plurality of print stations arranged about a circumference according to claim 69

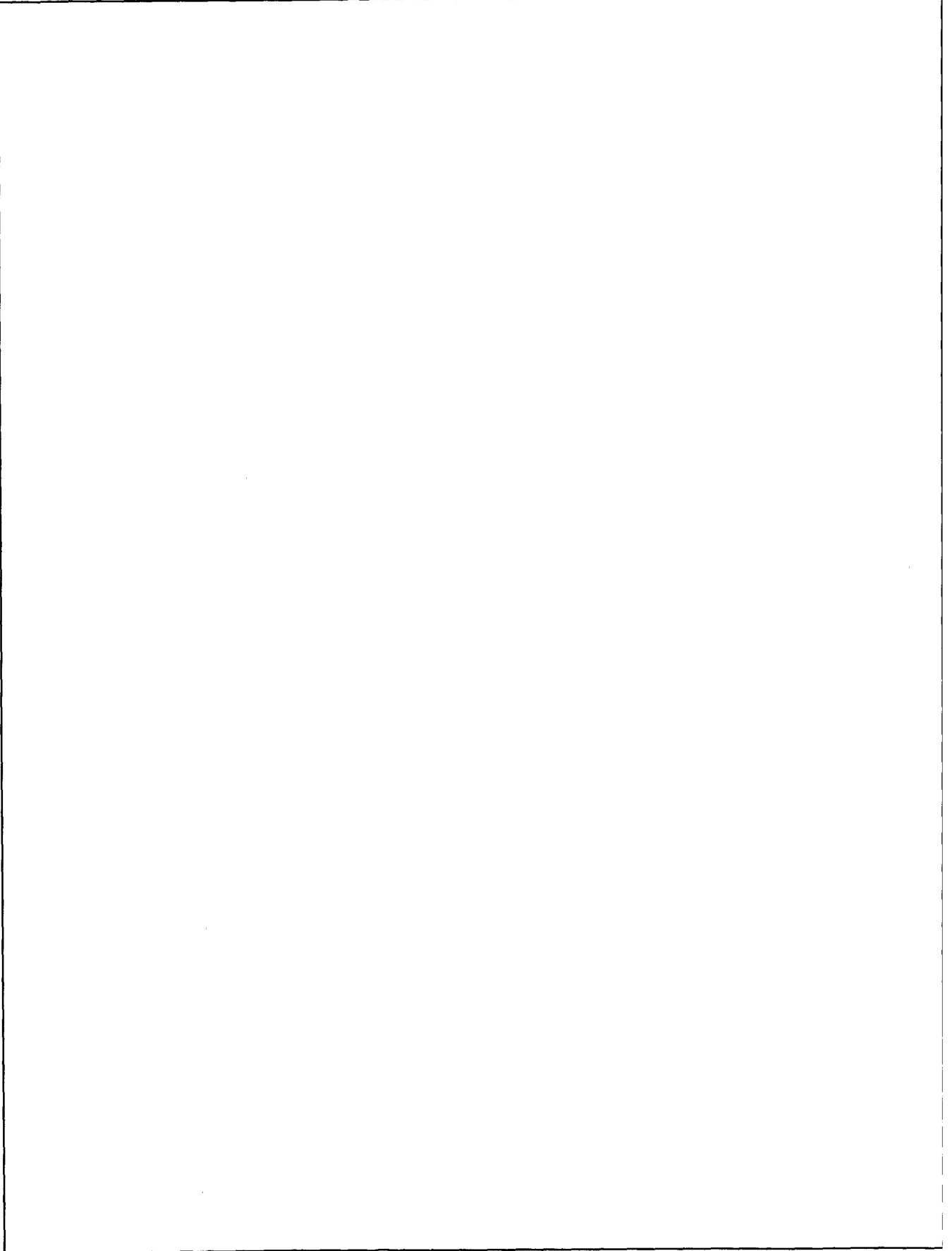
7. claims: 70,71

a digital-type print station comprising a carousel for carrying a textile media to be printed and a plurality of print stations arranged about a circumference according to claim 70-71

8. claims: 63,66

a digital printing system combined with a screen printing machine according to claims 63 and 66.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/IL2006/000526

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date	
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