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(54) **Top feed droplet generator**

(57) A droplet generator assembly is used for an ink jet printhead of a continuous ink jet printer. A nozzle plate (2) has associated nozzles to stimulate jets. The droplet generator assembly has a fluid ingress location

(8) and a fluid egress location (9), on a side of the resonator body opposite the nozzle plate (2). A fluid trench (5) redirects flow in-line with the nozzles. A fluid passage (4) extends from the fluid ingress location (8) to the fluid trench (5).

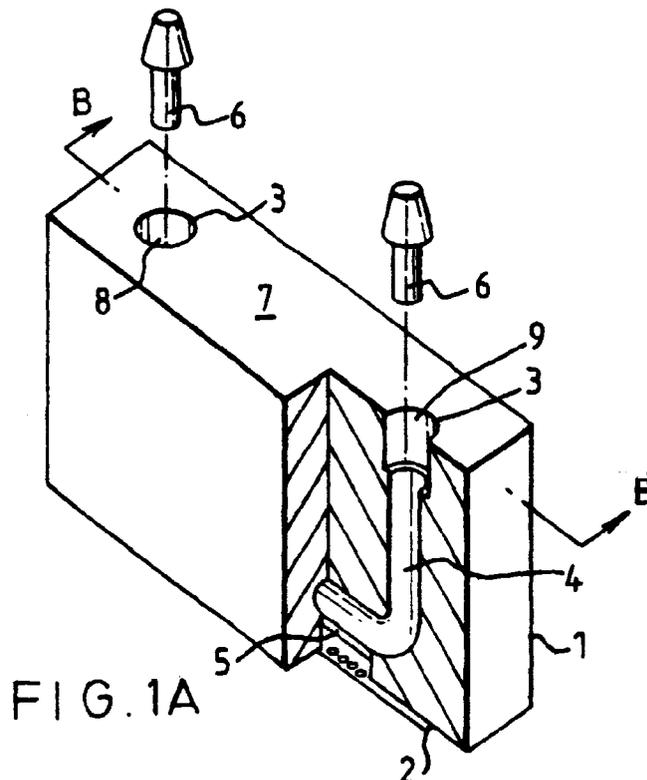


FIG. 1A

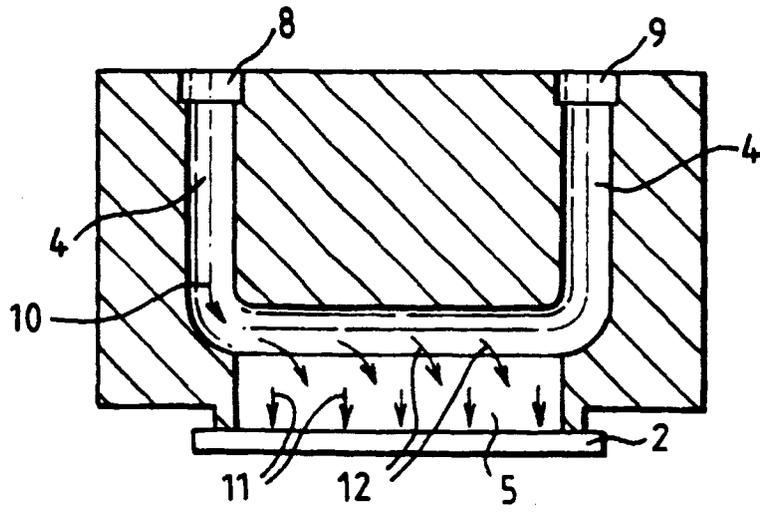


FIG. 1B



European Patent Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 97 30 2690

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.6)
Y	EP 0 624 469 A (SCITEX DIGITAL PRINTING INC) * the whole document * ---	1,3-5	B41J2/14 B41J2/025 B41J2/175 B41J2/045
Y	US 4 827 287 A (BRAUN HILARION ET AL) * the whole document * ---	1,3-5	
A	US 4 746 929 A (LIN LARRY W ET AL) * the whole document * ---	1	
A	US 4 937 589 A (FAGERQUIST RANDY L ET AL) * abstract; figure 4 * ---	1	
A	US 4 284 993 A (KAKENO SADA0) * abstract * * column 3, line 30-60; figures 6-8 * ---	1	
A	US 4 780 728 A (FOST IAN M) * column 3, line 15-16; figure 2 * -----	1	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			B41J
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
BERLIN	3 March 1998	Nielsen, M	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		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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