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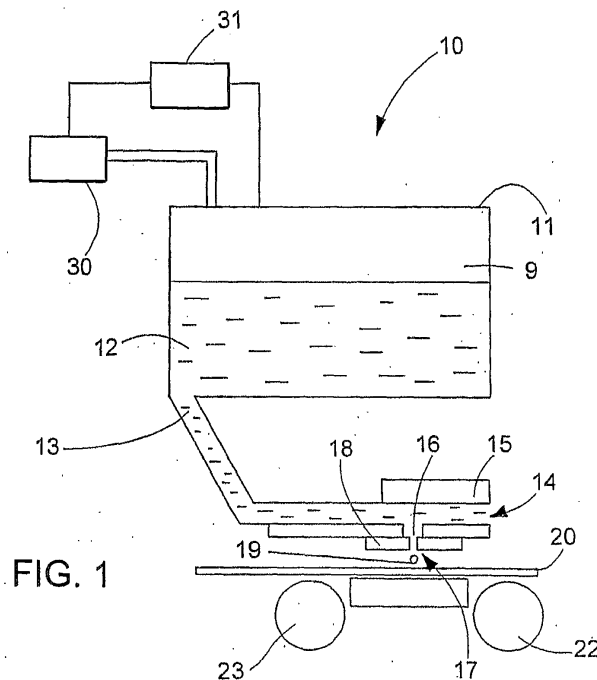
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(62) Document number(s) of the earlier application(s) in accordance with Art. 76 EPC:  
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(54) **Drop ejection assembly**

(57) A fluid drop delivery device is disclosed. The device includes a plurality of nozzle openings from which fluid is ejected and a waste control aperture.



**FIG. 1**

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 11 18 3973

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
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X	----- EP 1 334 833 A (ILLINOIS TOOL WORKS [US]) 13 August 2003 (2003-08-13) * paragraphs [0017] - [0028]; figures 1-6 *	1-11	
A	----- EP 1 052 099 A (EASTMAN KODAK CO [US]) 15 November 2000 (2000-11-15) * paragraphs [0022] - [0025]; figures 1,2 *	1-11	
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			B41J
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
Munich		9 December 2011	Axters, Michael
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	

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**CLAIMS INCURRING FEES**

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing claims for which payment was due.

- Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
- No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due.

**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION**

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.
- Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:  
siehe Folgeseite(n)
- The present supplementary European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims (Rule 164 (1) EPC).



**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION  
SHEET B**

Application Number  
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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-11

A drop ejection device wherein each aperture communicates with a lumen that extends from the first surface through the nozzle plate to an opening on a second surface of the nozzle plate and is isolated from the flow path.

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2. claims: 12-18

A method of ejecting liquid wherein fluid is ejected at a frequency of about 10KHZ or greater, and waste fluid is drawn through a waste fluid control aperture in an amount of about 5% or less of the fluid ejected.

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

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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  
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09-12-2011

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