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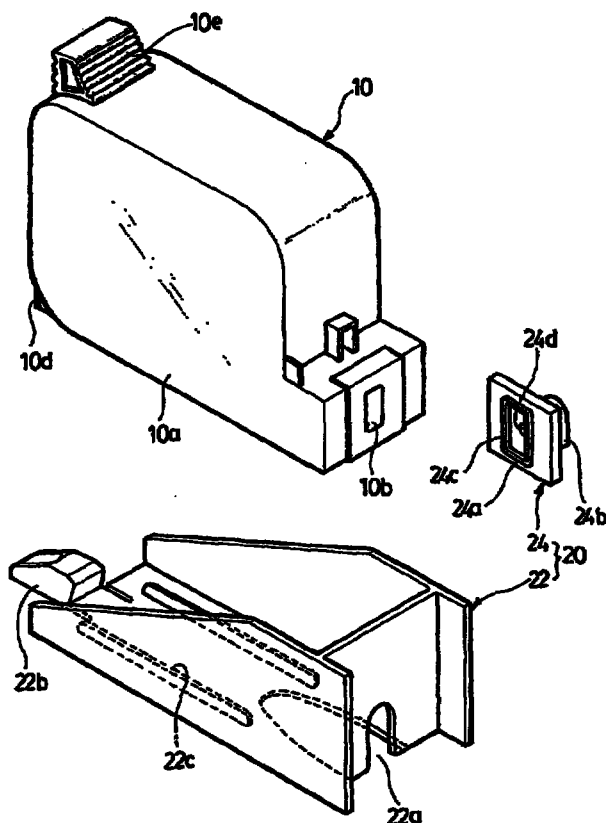
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(54) Title: DEVICE AND METHOD OF REFILLING INK INTO INK CARTRIDGES FOR INK-JET PRINTERS



(57) Abstract: A device (20) and method of refilling ink into ink cartridges (10) for ink-jet printers is disclosed. The device and method are designed to expel a predetermined amount of ink and/or air from an ink cartridge after refilling ink into the cartridge, thereby securing a desired ink passage in the ink-jet nozzle (10b) of the cartridge's print head in addition to cleaning the nozzle and finally allowing an effective recycling of such ink cartridges. The device consists of a case (22) and a pad (24). The case has a shape capable of covering the lower portion of the cartridge (10) from one end having a print head to the other end. The case (22) has both a cutout (22a) at one end wall corresponding to the print head of the cartridge and a locking hook (22b) at the other end so as to engage with the locking projection (10d) of the cartridge. The pad (24) is removably and upwardly set into the cutout (22a) of the case (22) from the bottom of the case so as to be positioned just around the ink-jet nozzle (10b) of the cartridge. This pad consists of a flat plate (24a) with both a cutout fitting boss (24b) formed on one surface of the plate and a pressure ring (24c) formed on the other surface so as to be brought into air-tight contact with the edge of the ink-jet nozzle during an ink refilling process.



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