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ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to a printing technology wherein an endless belt-shaped printing plate 13 is wound about a plate cylinder 18 and a guide roller 19 of a printing cylinder 16 and, by using the printing plate 13, a continuous form 1 sent between the printing plate 16 and an impression cylinder 17 is printed. The plate cylinder 18 of the printing plate 16 and the impression cylinder 17a are each composed of a solid cylinder. In the plate cylinder 18, feed pins 43 are disposed in rows at an even pitch along an outer periphery of the cylinder at both ends in the axial direction. The feed pins 43 are guided by a fixed cam ring 52 and are disposed so as to project and retract freely and project in a desired region of the plate cylinder 18, respectively with respect to the cylinder surface S. Pin feed holes 37 are provided in rows in the marginal zones 34 of the endless belt-shaped printing plate 13. The endless belt-shaped printing plate 13 is formed endless by abutting and joining both ends of an elongated resinous relief printing plate so that both ends are engaged with each other and bonded with an adhesive tape from the printing surface side. The pin feed holes 37 of the endless belt-shaped printing plate 13 are engaged with the feed pins 43 of the plate cylinder 18, whereby the plate feed is guided. According to the present invention, it is possible to provide a printing apparatus and a printing method that allow clear and beautiful printing with sufficient accuracy and no printing unevenness, even if relief printing is performed on a continuous business form by using such an endless belt-shaped printing plate 13 formed from an elongated resinous relief



printing plate, thus allowing photographic printing capable of microscopic characters and screen lines of 175 or more line and up to 300 lines; and also a method of attaching a belt-shaped printing plate.