

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
10 April 2003 (10.04.2003)

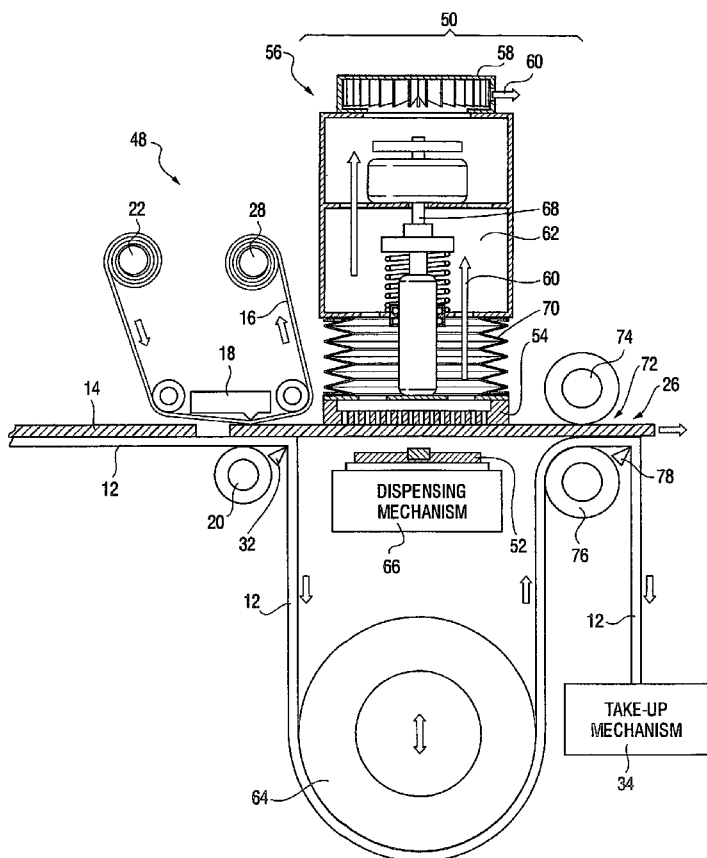
PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 03/029005 A3

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **B41J 3/00**
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/US02/29457
- (22) International Filing Date:
17 September 2002 (17.09.2002)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
09/969,114 1 October 2001 (01.10.2001) US
10/001,364 25 October 2001 (25.10.2001) US
- (71) Applicant: **ZIH CORP.** [US/US]; 1201 Market Street, Wilmington, DE 19801 (US).
- (72) Inventors: **HOHBERGER, Clive, P.**; 630 Vernon Avenue, #5, Glencoe, IL 60022 (US). **REAM, Matthew, R.**; 505 Seville Avenue, Naperville, IL 60565 (US). **DONATO, Daniel, E.**; 912 Stratford Lane, Mundelein, IL 60060 (US).
- (74) Agents: **COHEN, Eric, D.** et al.; Welsh & Katz, Ltd., 120 South Riverside Plaza, 22nd Floor, Chicago, IL 60606 (US).
- (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ASSOCIATING ON DEMAND CERTAIN SELECTED MEDIA AND VALUE-ADDING ELEMENTS



(57) Abstract: A thermal transfer media printer (48) is disclosed. In one embodiment, the printer (48) selectively programs RFID transponders (52), and then embeds them into conventional on-demand printed media (26) between the adhesive layer and the release liner. Selective configuration of each printed media sample (26) by addition of value-adding elements (50) may be performed independently for each media sample (26), under software control during processing of each media sample format print control program. An add-on mechanism is disclosed that can be operatively attached to a conventional media printer. This allows value-adding elements (50) such as RFID transponder labels to be selectively applied at precise location son the printed surface of on-demand printed media in connection with existing printers.

WO 03/029005 A3



Published:

— with international search report

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.

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

16 October 2003