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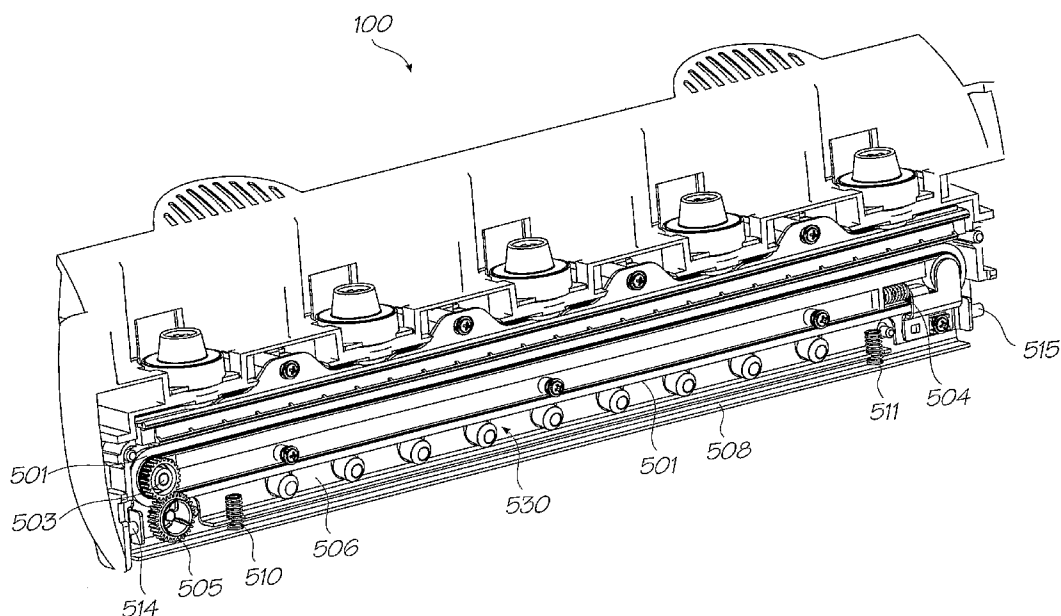
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(54) Title: PRINthead MAINTENANCE STATION HAVING MAINTENANCE BELT



(57) Abstract: A printhead maintenance station (500) for maintaining a printhead (600) in an operable condition is provided. The maintenance station (500) comprises an elastically deformable maintenance belt (501) having a contact surface (502) for sealing engagement with an ink ejection face (601) of the printhead (600), the contact surface (502) being sloped with respect to the face (601); and a conveyor mechanism (503, 505, 144) for conveying the belt (501) past the face (601). The belt (501) is reciprocally movable between a first position in which part of the contact surface (502) is sealingly engaged with the face (601), and a second position in which the contact surface (502) is disengaged from the face (601).

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