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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **KONINKLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V.** [NL/NL];
Groenewoudseweg 1, NL-5621 BA Eindhoven (NL).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **HIKMET, Rifat, A., M.** [CY/NL]; c/o Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL).

(74) Agents: **UITTENBOGAARD, Frank** et al.; Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL).

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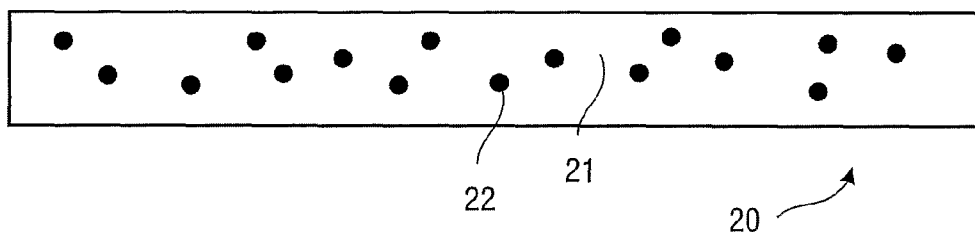
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(54) Title: OPTICAL DATA CARRIER WITH A THERMOCHROMIC LAYER



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to an optical data carrier (1, 10) comprising a thermochromic layer (4, 11, 20) including a dielectric transition material (21) and metal nano-particles (22) embedded in said transition material (21) for absorbing at least a part of an irradiation (3) applied to said optical data carrier (1, 10) for reading out data from said optical data carrier (1, 10) and/or for recording data on said optical data carrier (1, 10). The invention further relates to an optical master (30) for manufacturing an optical data carrier, said optical master (30) comprising such a thermochromic layer (20, 32). In order to provide an optical data carrier (1, 10) or an optical master (30) with a thermochromic material which allows a choosing of the position of the absorption band and of the temperature at which a thermochromic effect takes place and which is further sufficiently fast and stable, it is proposed that said transition material (21) has a first value of a material characteristic being a specific volume and/or a thermal expansion coefficient of said transition material (21) below a transition temperature (T_g , T_m) and a second value of said material characteristic above said transition temperature (T_g , T_m), said second value being higher than said first value.

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