

ABSTRACT

LASER MARKING METHOD

The invention concerns a method of marking an article using a laser emitting radiation of wavelength λ , the article being formed of a material that is slightly absorbent at said wavelength λ , characterized in that it includes the following main steps:

- 5 - taking a support formed of a metal that is highly absorbent at wavelength λ and capable of converting at least in part the light energy absorbed into thermal energy,
- arranging the article directly against the support so as to form a sufficient thermal contact between the article and the support to transfer the thermal energy
- 10 from the support to the article, the article being inserted between the laser and the support,
- locally illuminating said support through said article in conditions able to generate, at the surface of the support, sufficient thermal energy for the thermal energy transfer from the support to the article to produce on the surface of the article a
- 15 local physical or chemical transformation resulting in a contrast at the origin of the marking.

Figure 1