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(54) Title: **INK JET RECORDING PAPER INCORPORATING NOVEL PRECIPITATED CALCIUM CARBONATE PIGMENT**

(57) Abstract

An improved thermal ink jet recording paper, incorporating heat aged and/or milled precipitated calcium carbonate ("PCC") and a binder, is disclosed. The heat aging and milling processes produce discrete particles of PCC with a surface morphology and chemistry that enhances the ability of the PCC to bind to ink jet ink without binding so strongly that the color of the ink is changed. Ink jet recording papers incorporating the PCC and binders of the present invention have been produced that are superior to multipurpose office papers with reduced feathering, spreading, and penetration or backside showthrough, as well as improved optical density, dry time, and water fastness. The ink jet recording paper of the present invention is comparable to silica based commercial papers, at a fraction of the cost.

