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ABSTRACT

SELF-CONTAINED PRINTING DEVICE DIAGNOSTICS

A tester print head (100) has at least one conductive pad (200) that is coupled to a status return pad (230) by circuitry (201). The tester print head (100) is inserted into a printer carriage assembly that is linked to printer control circuitry (120) through linking hardware (115). A self-test signal is applied to the linking hardware (115). If the tester print head (100) provides an indication to the control circuitry (120) that the self-test signal was received, the linking hardware (115) passed the self-test. If the indication is not provided to the control circuitry (120), the self-test failed and the functional print head that was replaced by the tester print head (100) may be operating properly.

(Fig. 1)