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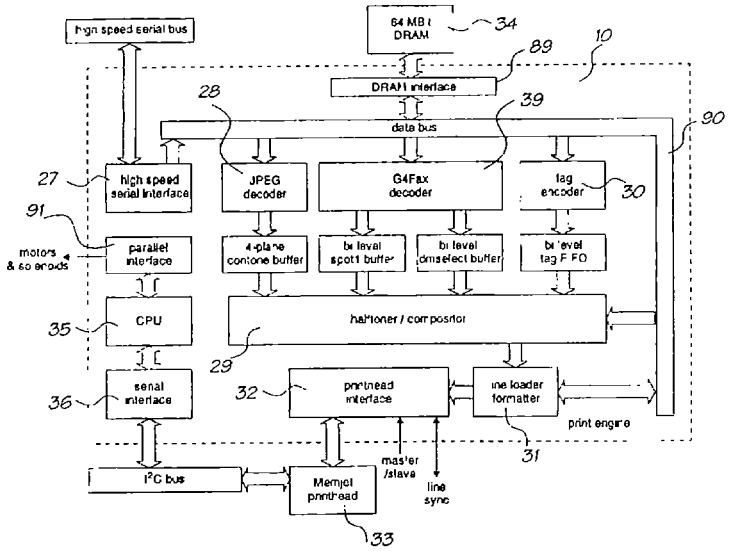
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(54) **Title:** PRINT ENGINE/CONTROLLER AND PRINTHEAD INTERFACE CHIP INCORPORATING THE ENGINE/CONTROLLER



(57) **Abstract:** A print engine/controller suited to use with a drop on demand print head. The print engine/controller works with compressed page data having both JPEG contone image layers and a bi-level image plane compressed using a Group 4 facsimile protocol. It receives compressed image plane's and effects expansion and printing in a pipeline fashion It consists of a high speed serial interface (27) (such as a standard IEEE 1394 interface), a standard JPEG decoder (28), a standard Group 4 Fax decoder (39), a halftoner/compositor unit (29), a tag encoder (30) by which to place infrared tags into a printed page, a line loader/formatter unit 31 feeding an interface 32 to the print head (33) The decoders (28, 39) and encoder (30) are buffered to the halftoner/compositor (29).

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