

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
19 April 2007 (19.04.2007)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2007/041745 A1

(51) International Patent Classification:
B41J 2/165 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/AU2005/001562

(22) International Filing Date: 10 October 2005 (10.10.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **SILVERBROOK RESEARCH PTY LTD** [AU/AU]; 393 Darling Street, Balmain, New South Wales 2041 (AU).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **KARPPINEN, Vesa** [FI/AU]; 393 Darling Street, BALMAIN, NSW 2041 (AU). **SILVERBROOK, Kia** [AU/AU]; 393 Darling Street, Balmain, Australia, New South Wales 2041 (AU).

(74) Agent: **SILVERBROOK, Kia**; 393 Darling Street, Balmain, Australia, New South Wales 2041 (AU).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

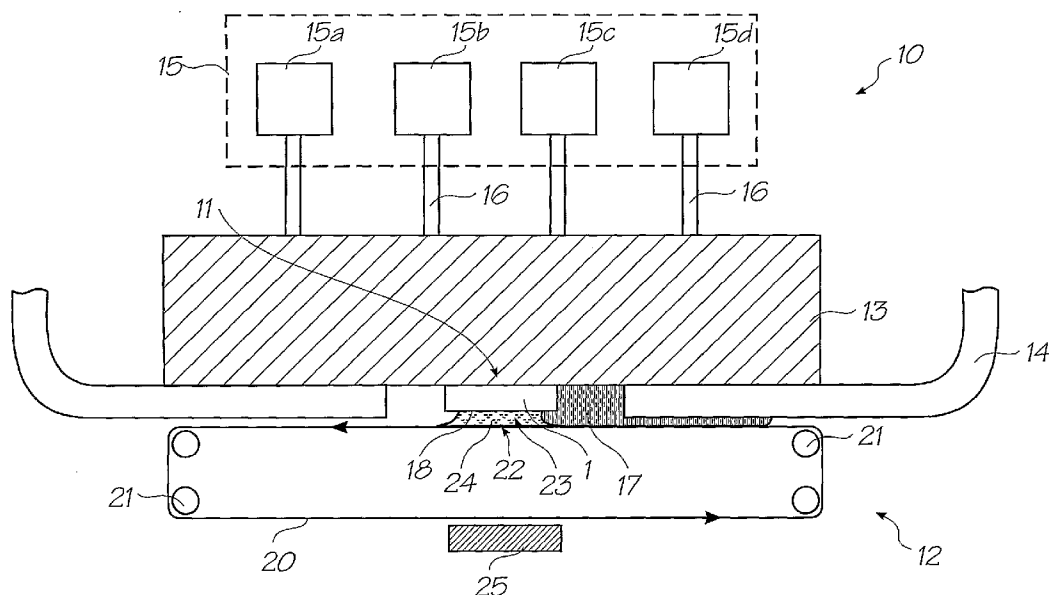
(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: PRINthead MAINTENANCE ASSEMBLY WITH FILM TRANSPORT OF INK



(57) Abstract: A printhead maintenance assembly (10) for maintaining a printhead (1) in an operable condition is provided. The maintenance assembly (10) comprises (i) a printhead assembly (11) comprising a printhead (1) having an ink ejection face (18) and a film guide (21) sealingly bonded to the face (18), the film guide (21) being positioned to guide a film (20) through a transfer zone (22) defined by a plane spaced apart from the face (18); and (ii) an ink transport assembly (12) comprising a film (20) and a transport mechanism for feeding the film (20) through the transfer zone (22) and away from the printhead (11). In use, the film (20) sealingly contacts with the film guide (21) thereby forming a cavity (23) defined at least partially by the film (20), the film guide (21) and the face (18).