(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
13 March 2003 (13.03.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 03/021580 A3

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: G11B 7/007, 20/00

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(21) International Application Number: PCT/IB02/03546

(22) International Filing Date: 28 August 2002 (28.08.2002)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
01203348.6 5 September 2001 (05.09.2001) EP

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

(84) Designated States *(regional)*: ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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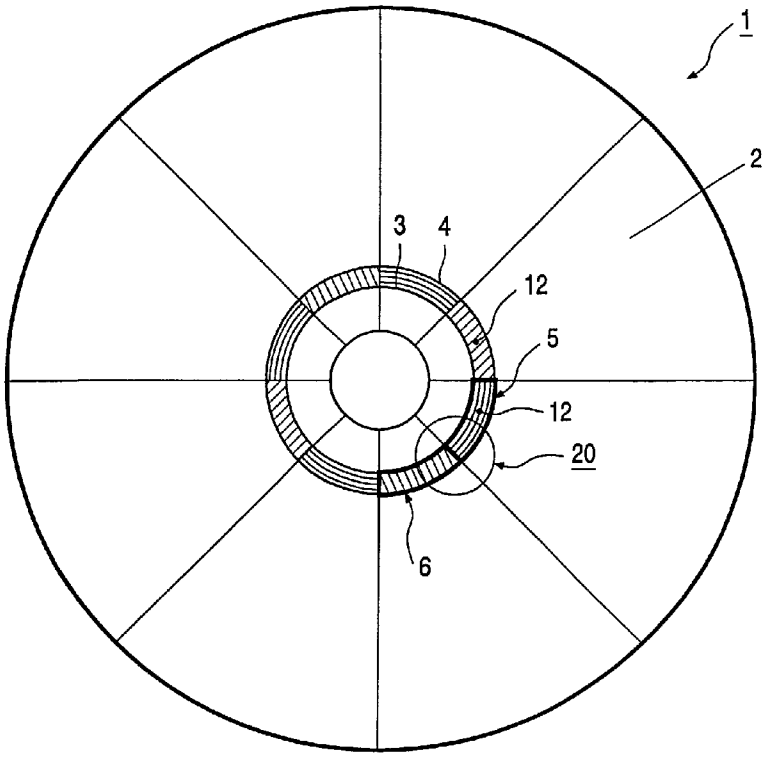
(54) Title: OPTICAL DATA STORAGE MEDIUM AND METHODS FOR READING AND WRITING SUCH A MEDIUM



(57) Abstract: An optical data storage medium (1) is described. The medium (1) has an optically readable information layer with a first optical reflectivity. An annular zone (12), outside the user data recording area (2) has at least one first type (5) of sector provided with a permanent information mark (7), having a second optical reflectivity. The zone has at least one second type (6) of sector provided with a recordable identification mark (8), having a third optical reflectivity different from the first optical reflectivity. Thus, a hybrid bar code like structure, with both permanent and recordable information requiring little radial space, is provided. Further, methods to read such permanent information marks (7) / recordable identification marks (8) and to write such recordable identifications marks (8) are disclosed.

WO 03/021580 A3

Published:
— *with international search report*

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
5 June 2003

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.