

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
1 November 2007 (01.11.2007)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2007/123273 A1

(51) International Patent Classification:

G03G 9/087 (2006.01) G03G 15/09 (2006.01)
G03G 15/02 (2006.01) G03G 15/16 (2006.01)
G03G 15/08 (2006.01) G03G 21/10 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/JP2007/059138

(22) International Filing Date: 20 April 2007 (20.04.2007)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:

2006-118038 21 April 2006 (21.04.2006) JP

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **Ricoh Company, Ltd.** [JP/JP]; 3-6, Nakamagome 1-chome, Ohta-ku, Tokyo1438555 (JP).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **IWAMOTO, Yasuaki** [JP/JP]; 14-18, Ichimichi-cho, Numazu-shi, Shizuoka, 4100866 (JP). **WATANABE, Yohichiroh** [JP/JP]; 1817-6, Nakazato, Fuji-shi, Shizuoka, 4170826 (JP). **SHITARA, Yasutada** [JP/JP]; Ambree 203, 1-7-21, Numazukita, Numazu-shi, Shizuoka, 4100000 (JP).

(74) Agent: **HIROTA, Koichi**; HIROTA, NAGARE & ASSOCIATES, 4th Floor, Shinjuku TR Bldg., 2-2-13, Yoyogi, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo1510053 (JP).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, 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, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, 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, MT, 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: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS, IMAGE FORMING METHOD, AND PROCESS CARTRIDGE

(57) Abstract: To provide an image forming apparatus including: a latent electrostatic image bearing member; a charging unit configured to charge the surface of the latent electrostatic image bearing member; an exposing unit configured to expose the charged surface of the latent electrostatic image to form a latent electrostatic image; a developing unit configured to develop the latent electrostatic image with a toner to form a visualized image; a transferring unit configured to transfer the visualized image onto a recording medium; and a fixing unit configured to fix the transferred image transferred onto the recording medium, wherein the toner comprises a binder resin and a coloring agent, and the binder resin comprises a polyester resin obtained by condensation polymerization of an alcohol component and a carboxylic acid component containing a (meth)acrylic acid modified rosin.

WO 2007/123273 A1