IMPROVED LATENT IMAGE DEVELOPMENT APPARATUS

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

Imaging apparatus including:

an image-forming surface having formed thereon a latent electrostatic image, the latent electrostatic image including image regions at a first voltage and background regions at a second voltage;

a developer surface charged to a third voltage intermediate the first and second voltages and having a second surface urged against and adapted for operative engagement with the image-forming surface at a development region;

an applicator assembly operative to apply a layer of concentrated liquid toner comprising charged toner particles and carrier liquid onto the developer surface;

a developer operative to develop the latent image by transferring less than the total thickness of the layer of concentrated liquid toner from the developer surface to the image regions of the image-forming surface thereby to form a developed image on the image-forming surface; and

apparatus for transferring the developed image from the image-forming surface to a final substrate.

(Figure 1)