

ABSTRACT**A PRINT ENGINE FOR A PAGEWIDTH PRINthead INCORPORATING
MICRO-ELECTROMECHANICAL NOZZLE ARRANGEMENTS**

A print engine for a pagewidth printhead that includes one or more printhead chips that each include an array of micro-electromechanical nozzle arrangements positioned on a substrate includes page data input means for receiving page data representing pages to be printed. A memory buffer stores said page data. A print engine controller is configured to transfer the page data to the memory buffer and to retrieve page data from the buffer. The print engine controller includes a data bus that is connected to the memory buffer. An input interface is interposed between the page data input means and the data bus so that page data can be written to the memory buffer. Page data processing circuitry is connected to the data bus to receive the page data and is configured to process the page data according to printing parameters. A printhead interface is connected to the page data processing circuitry for receiving the processed page data and is configured to format the processed page data for printing by the pagewidth printhead.

Figure 3