

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 12P00088WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/JP2012/051522	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 25 January 2012 (25.01.2012)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 25 January 2011 (25.01.2011)	
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237			
Applicant KYOCERA CORPORATION			

<p>1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 bis.1(a).</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.</p>																								
<p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. I</td> <td>Basis of the report</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. II</td> <td>Priority</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. III</td> <td>Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. IV</td> <td>Lack of unity of invention</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. V</td> <td>Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VI</td> <td>Certain documents cited</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VII</td> <td>Certain defects in the international application</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VIII</td> <td>Certain observations on the international application</td> </tr> </table> <p>4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis .2).</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application
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<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application																						

	Date of issuance of this report 30 July 2013 (30.07.2013)
The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Authorized officer Yukari Nakamura
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

TRANSLATION

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

Date of mailing (day/month/year)	28.02.2012
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Applicant's or agent's file reference
12P00088WO

FOR FURTHER ACTION
See paragraph 2 below

International application No.
PCT/JP2012/051522

International filing date (day/month/year)
25.01.2012

Priority date (day/month/year)
25.01.2011

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC
B41J2/335 (2006.01) i

Applicant
KYOCERA CORPORATION

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- Box No. II Priority
- Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP	Date of completion of this opinion	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.		Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2012/051522

Box No. I **Basis of this opinion**

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - the international application in the language in which it was filed
 - a translation of the international application into _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b)).

2. This opinion has been established taking into account the **rectification of an obvious mistake** authorized by or notified to this Authority under Rule 91 (Rule 43*bis*.1(a))

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, this opinion has been established on the basis of a sequence listing filed or furnished:
 - a. (means)
 - on paper
 - in electronic form

 - b. (time)
 - in the international application as filed
 - together with the international application in electronic form
 - subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search

4. In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.

5. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

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Box No. IV **Lack of unity of invention**

1. In response to the invitation (Form PCT/ISA/206) to pay additional fees the applicant has, within the applicable time limit:
- paid additional fees
 - paid additional fees under protest and, where applicable, the protest fee
 - paid additional fees under protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid
 - not paid additional fees
2. This Authority found that the requirement of unity of invention is not complied with and chose not to invite the applicant to pay additional fees.
3. This Authority considers that the requirement of unity of invention in accordance with Rule 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3 is
- complied with
 - not complied with for the following reasons:

The invention as in claim 1 is disclosed in JP 2008-230126 A (see in particular paragraphs [0010] to [0015], fig. 2) and thus does not have a special technical feature. Accordingly, since there is no technical relationship involving one or more of the same or corresponding special technical features, the invention as in claim 1 and the invention as in claims 2 to 10 are not considered to be linked to form a single general inventive concept.

Therefore the present application does not meet the requirement of unity of invention.

4. Consequently, this opinion has been established in respect of the following parts of the international application:

all parts

the parts relating to claims Nos. _____

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.

PCT/JP2012/051522

Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement							
1. Statement	Novelty (N)	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%;">Claims</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">2-10</td> <td style="text-align: right;">YES</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Claims</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">1</td> <td style="text-align: right;">NO</td> </tr> </table>	Claims	2-10	YES	Claims	1	NO
Claims	2-10	YES						
Claims	1	NO						
	Inventive step (IS)	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%;">Claims</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">2-5, 7-9</td> <td style="text-align: right;">YES</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Claims</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">1, 6, 10</td> <td style="text-align: right;">NO</td> </tr> </table>	Claims	2-5, 7-9	YES	Claims	1, 6, 10	NO
Claims	2-5, 7-9	YES						
Claims	1, 6, 10	NO						
	Industrial applicability (IA)	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%;">Claims</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">1-10</td> <td style="text-align: right;">YES</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Claims</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"></td> <td style="text-align: right;">NO</td> </tr> </table>	Claims	1-10	YES	Claims		NO
Claims	1-10	YES						
Claims		NO						
<p>2. Citations and explanations:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">(2.1) List of documents in International Search Report</p> <p>Document 1: JP 2008-230126 A (TOSHIBA HOKUTO ELECT CORP) 2 October 2008, paragraphs [0002], [0010]-[0015], fig. 2</p> <p>Document 2: JP 2010-247470 A (KYOCERA CORP) 4 November 2010, paragraphs [0030], [0048]-[0053], fig. 4</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">(2.2) Novelty and inventive step</p> <p style="margin-left: 80px;">The invention as in claim 1 is disclosed in document 1 (see in particular paragraphs [0010]-[0015], fig. 2), and thus lacks novelty and does not involve an inventive step.</p> <p style="margin-left: 80px;">Regarding the invention as in claims 6 and 10, document 1 does not describe a first enveloping layer being SiN and does not substantially describe the thermal printer comprising a thermal head, a conveying mechanism, and a platen roller described therein.</p> <p style="margin-left: 80px;">However, document 2 describes providing SiN in a first enveloping layer (see, in particular, paragraph [0030]), and a</p>								

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

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Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement

thermal printer having a thermal head, a conveying mechanism for conveying a recording medium on a plurality of heating units, and a platen roller for pressing the recording medium on the plurality of heating units as described in document 2 (see in particular paragraphs [0048]-[0053], fig. 4) would be a general configuration for a person skilled in the art.

Consequently, the invention as in claims 6 and 10 does not involve an inventive step in the light of the features disclosed in the two documents.

The invention as in claims 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 is not described or suggested in the two documents, and thus has novelty and involves an inventive step.