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1. [WO/2021/014147](#) CHARGE ELECTRODE FOR A CONTINUOUS INK JET PRINTER

WO - 28.01.2021

Int.Class [B41J 2/035](#) ⓘ **Appl.No** PCT/GB2020/051744 **Applicant** [LINX PRINTING TECHNOLOGIES LTD](#) **Inventor** LANGHELT, Matthew

A low conductivity layer [83] is provided over an electrically conductive core [85] of the charge electrode [21] of an electrostatic deflection continuous ink jet printer at all of the exposed part of the charge electrode [21]. The low conductivity layer [83] is at least 0.1 mm thick and has a volume electrical resistivity of 104 to 109 ohm metres. The low conductivity layer [83] provides at least partial electrical safety in case an operator touches the charge [electrode 21] while the charge electrode voltage is applied, but is also capable of dissipating any electrostatic charges that might otherwise accumulate on the surface of the charge electrode [21].

2. [WO/2017/212215](#) INKJET PRINTER

WO - 14.12.2017

Int.Class [B41J 2/08](#) ⓘ **Appl.No** PCT/GB2017/051465 **Applicant** [LINX PRINTING TECHNOLOGIES LTD](#) **Inventor** COOKE, Stephen

An electrostatic deflection ink jet printer has a main printer body [1] separated by a vapour barrier [67] into an electrical region and a fluid region. Electrically operated valves [39, 41, 45, 51, 57] are provided in the fluid region. Control circuitry [69] for deciding when to operate the valves is provided in the electrical region. Valve drive circuitry [65], for generating drive currents for the valves, is provided in the fluid region and is in data communication with the control circuitry [69] via wiring [preferably comprising a serial data bus] that passes through the vapour barrier [67]. This reduces the number of electrical connections that need to pass through the vapour barrier. Preferably a circuit carrier [85] for the valve drive circuitry is mounted on a valve block [63] for the valves, and an electrically insulating material [109] covers the circuit carrier [85]. The electrically insulating material [109] may extend partially or wholly around the valve block [63].



3. [WO/2017/212216](#) INK JET PRINTER AND METHOD OF PRIMING

WO - 14.12.2017

Int.Class [B41J 2/175](#)  **Appl.No** PCT/GB2017/051466 **Applicant** [LINX PRINTING TECHNOLOGIES LTD](#) **Inventor** BRIGGS, Craig

A continuous ink jet printer has an ink circuit comprising an ink tank [27], an ink pump [31] and a Venturi suction device [35], [49]. The Venturi [49] is used to suck in extra solvent or ink as required. However, if the ink tank [27] is empty, no ink can be pumped through the Venturi [49] and so it will not develop suction. Therefore the Venturi [49] cannot be used to suck in an initial supply of ink to an empty tank. This problem is overcome by connecting a removable ink container [63] to the ink tank [27] or elsewhere in the ink circuit [preferably between the Venturi outlet and the pump inlet], and then compressing the ink container manually to force ink into the ink circuit. When enough ink has been added, the pump [31] will drive ink through the Venturi [49] and suction will be generated.

4. [WO/2017/203213](#) MESSAGE SELECTION FOR A PRINTER


WO - 30.11.2017

Int.Class [B41J 5/00](#)  **Appl.No** PCT/GB2017/051396 **Applicant** [LINX PRINTING TECHNOLOGIES LTD](#) **Inventor** GREEN, John

Either during message selection in an industrial printer [e.g. ink jet or laser marking] for [printing](#) onto objects [27] carried past it on a conveyor [29], or during [printing](#), or both, the printer displays an image [51, 53] associated with the message proposed for [printing](#) or being printed. The image may be a picture [e.g. a photograph] of the object [27] on which the message should be printed or the intended customer/end user or the intended use of the object on which the message should be printed. Since a human operator can usually identify an object or intended customer/use more quickly and accurately from a picture than from text, this reduces errors in message selection and/or helps the detection of an incorrect message during [printing](#). The image may be displayed with the associated message or without it.

5. [WO/2017/203219](#) PRINTER FOR [PRINTING](#) ONTO A SUCCESSION OF OBJECTS

WO - 30.11.2017

Int.Class [B41J 3/407](#)  **Appl.No** PCT/GB2017/051419 **Applicant** [LINX PRINTING TECHNOLOGIES LTD](#) **Inventor** LANGHELT, Matthew

A non-contact printer controls the sensitivity of sensors [31] provided upstream of a print head [5], to detect the approach of an object [11] to be printed onto. In a calibration operation to set the sensitivity level of the sensors before a [printing](#) operation, the printer displays instructions to guide the operator and adjusts the sensor sensitivity to find detection threshold levels for a background [object absent] condition and when the object is present. The calibration results can be stored in association with data identifying the conveyor [13] and the type of object used in the calibration operation. If the same conveyor and/or object type is used again in a later [printing](#) operation, the sensitivity level of the sensors can be set using the stored calibration results so that a further calibration operation is not necessary.

6. [WO/2019/063978](#) PIGMENT DISPERSAL IN AN INK JET PRINTER


WO - 04.04.2019

Int.Class [B41J 2/175](#)  **Appl.No** PCT/GB2018/052677 **Applicant** [LINX PRINTING TECHNOLOGIES LTD](#) **Inventor** THOMAS, Graham

In a continuous ink jet printer for use with pigmented ink, the entrance to the ink path [81], [35] from the interior of the ink tank [27] to the ink pump [31] is made up of a plurality of small inlet openings, which may be provided by nozzles 85 formed in a shroud 83 that fits around an ink filter [33] in the ink tank [27]. The openings are provided at the bottom of the ink tank [27], close to the floor, and face parallel to the floor or at least partially towards it. If the ink pump [31] is driven in reverse, any ink in the ink path is driven at speed out through the inlet openings into the interior of the ink tank [27], followed by air. This tends to disperse pigment that may have settled to the bottom on the ink tank [27].

7. [WO/2009/081110](#) INKJET PRINTER AND FLOW RESTRICTION SYSTEM THEREFOR


WO - 02.07.2009

Int.Class [B41J 2/085](#)  Appl.No PCT/GB2008/004181 Applicant [LINX PRINTING TECHNOLOGIES LTD](#) Inventor HEYLEN, Henry, Charles

A system for adjusting the flow of fluid along the gutter line of a continuous inkjet printer includes a variable flow restrictor [1] fitted into the gutter line [3], and a pressure transducer [5] for measuring the pressure in the gutter line [3] downstream of the variable flow restrictor [1]. The variable flow restrictor [1] is controlled in response to the output of the pressure transducer [5] in order to maintain the downstream pressure substantially constant. Since airflow along the gutter line [3] has a lower flow resistance than a slug of ink, the variable flow restrictor [1] will apply a greater flow restriction to the gutter [line 3], in order to maintain constant pressure at the pressure transducer [5], when there is only air in the gutter line [3] as compared with when a slug of ink passes along the gutter line [3]. Accordingly, the system responds dynamically to restrict the flow of air along the gutter line [3] when no ink is passing along it, thereby reducing the volume of air sucked along the gutter line [3] while maintaining adequate suction to clear ink reliably away from the gutter [103]. This reduction in the amount of air passing along the gutter line [3] can reduce the amount of solvent lost from the ink during operation of an inkjet printer.

8. [WO/2021/014148](#) CONTINUOUS INK JET PRINTER AND PRINT HEAD ASSEMBLY THEREFOR


WO - 28.01.2021

Int.Class [B41J 2/08](#)  Appl.No PCT/GB2020/051745 Applicant [LINX PRINTING TECHNOLOGIES LTD](#) Inventor COOKE, Stephen John

The print head cover [83] of an electrostatic deflection inkjet printer is made of a material having an electrical surface resistivity of no more than 1012 ohms per square or an electrical volume resistivity of no more than 109 ohm metres and is electrically connected to an earth line [93, 97]. This prevents build-up of electric charge on the cover [83]. The resistance from the surface of the cover [83] to a place where a cover earth line [93] joins a signal earth line [97] or enters the umbilical [7] is at least 16000 times the resistance from that place to earth. This prevents an electrostatic discharge to the cover [83] disrupting the electronic circuits. The high resistance earth connection for the cover [83] avoids the need for an earthing wire braid in the umbilical [7]. The cover [83] may be moulded from an antistatic or static dissipative material.

9. [WO/2008/117013](#) INK JET [PRINTING](#)

WO - 02.10.2008

Int.Class [B41J 2/18](#)  Appl.No PCT/GB2008/000836 Applicant [LINX PRINTING TECHNOLOGIES LTD](#) Inventor HILL, Anthony

A continuous ink jet printer has a line [69a] for venting at least some of the air that has been sucked along the gutter line [17], and a line [69b] for recirculating back to the printhead [25] at least some of the air that has been sucked down the gutter line [17]. Preferably the relative proportions of vented air and recirculated air can be varied, so as to reduce solvent loss during normal operation but allow increased solvent loss if the ink is over-dilute. Preferably the air recirculated to the printhead is connected directly into the flow path from the gutter orifice to the source of gutter suction, without opening into the space containing the ink jet. This reduces the tendency of solvent in the recirculated air condense on the printhead electrodes.

10. [WO/2012/001386](#) INK JET PRINTER

WO - 05.01.2012

Int.Class [B41J 2/19](#)  **Appl.No** PCT/GB2011/051115 **Applicant** [LINX PRINTING TECHNOLOGIES LTD](#) **Inventor** PLUMMER, Marc

An ink/air separator for an ink jet printer has one or more plates [77, 79, 81, 83] over which an ink/air mixture can spread. Preferably there is more than one plate, and the mixture overflows from one plate to the next. Preferably adjacent plates are spaced so that as the mixture passes between two plates it contacts the surface above it as well as the surface below it. The plates may be separated by a gap of 10 mm or less, e.g. a gap of 2 mm to 5 mm, where they overlap. Preferably some or all of the plate surfaces contacted by the mixture are roughened. Interaction between the ink/air mixture and the plate surface tends to slow the flow of very small air bubbles and encourage them to accumulate and/or merge, so that they separate from the ink more quickly than individual small bubbles. The ink/air separator may be connected in the path of unused ink returned from the gutter [27] of a continuous ink jet printer to an ink tank [39], or may be placed inside the ink tank [39].

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