

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)

Applicant's or agent's file reference N-FF007-06P		FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below
International application No. PCT/JP2006/312115	International filing date (day/month/year) 16.06.2006	Priority date (day/month/year) 07.07.2005
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC		
Applicant FUJIFILM 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.

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Box No. I	Basis of this opinion
1.	<p>With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the international application in the language in which it was filed</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> the translation of the international application into _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rule 12.3(a) and 23.1(b)).</p>
2.	<p>With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:</p> <p>a. type of material</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> a sequence listing</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> table(s) related to the sequence listing</p> <p>b. format of material</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> on paper</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> in electronic form</p> <p>c. time of filing/furnishing</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> contained in the international application as filed</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> filed together with the international application in electronic form</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search</p>
3.	<p><input type="checkbox"/> In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto 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.</p>
4.	<p>Additional comments:</p>

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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																								
1. Statement	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%; padding: 2px;">Novelty (N)</td> <td style="width: 10%; padding: 2px;">Claims</td> <td style="width: 60%; padding: 2px;">1-25</td> <td style="width: 10%; padding: 2px;">YES</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Claims</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">_____</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">NO</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Inventive step (IS)</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Claims</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">_____</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">YES</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Claims</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">1-25</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">NO</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Industrial applicability (IA)</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Claims</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">1-25</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">YES</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Claims</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">_____</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">NO</td> </tr> </table>	Novelty (N)	Claims	1-25	YES		Claims	_____	NO	Inventive step (IS)	Claims	_____	YES		Claims	1-25	NO	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-25	YES		Claims	_____	NO
Novelty (N)	Claims	1-25	YES																						
	Claims	_____	NO																						
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	_____	YES																						
	Claims	1-25	NO																						
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-25	YES																						
	Claims	_____	NO																						
2. Citations and explanations:	<p>Document 1: JP 2004-335692 A (Fuji Photo Film Co., Ltd.), 25 November 2004 Document 2: JP 2005-032909 A (Fuji Photo Film Co., Ltd.), 03 February 2005 Document 3: JP 2001-036088 A (Seiko Epson Corp.), 09 February 2001 Document 4: JP 2004-342633 A (Nikon Corp.), 02 December 2004</p> <p>- Claims 1-3</p> <p>The inventions of claims 1-3 do not appear to involve an inventive step based on documents 1-3 cited in the ISR. Documents 1 and 2 disclose a pattern formation method comprising at least the step of exposing light modulated by light modulating means to form an image on an exposed surface of a photosensitive layer via image forming means and focal point adjusting means, wherein, during the exposure, the light modulated by light modulating means forms an image only on a substantially rectangular region that includes the central portion of the image forming means.</p> <p>Although documents 1 and 2 do not describe the angle formed by an undulation direction of the photosensitive layer and a short-side direction or long-side direction of the substantially rectangular exposure region, document 3 does disclose a method for carrying out exposure by matching a scanning direction of an exposure device to the direction in which undulation and warpage occur in a glass substrate. Therefore, a person skilled in the art could easily conceive of applying such a method to the methods of documents 1 and 2.</p> <p>Also, documents 1 and 2 describe a wedge prism pair as focal point adjusting means.</p> <p>- Claims 4 and 5</p> <p>The inventions of claims 4 and 5 do not appear to involve an inventive step based on documents 1-4 cited in the ISR. Document 4 (see paragraphs 0085 and 0111, Fig. 4) describes adjusting a focal point by using a piezoelectric element to drive, in the optical axis direction, a lens element comprised by a projector optical system. Therefore, a person skilled in the art could easily conceive of adopting such constitution.</p>																								

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Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

Neither claim 1 nor the description recite what is specifically adjusted for setting the orientation of an exposure region, when causing a substantially rectangular exposure region, in which an image is formed on an exposure surface of a photosensitive layer, to be oriented in such a way that the angle formed by an undulation direction of the photosensitive layer and a short-side direction of the exposure region is smaller than the angle formed by the undulation direction of the photosensitive layer and a long-side direction of the exposure region.

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Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.

Continuation of: BOX V

- Claims 6-25

Documents 1 and 2 disclose adopting a semiconductor laser element, a bundle-like fiber light source or the like as light irradiation means.

Also, various materials are well known for compositions of photosensitive layers; therefore, a person skilled in the art could suitably employ such materials.

Supports having various constitutions are well known; therefore, a person skilled in the art could suitably employ such supports.