



US006721065B1

(12) **United States Patent**
Kermani

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 6,721,065 B1**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Apr. 13, 2004**

(54) **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PRINTING IMAGES**

(75) Inventor: **Bahram Ghaffarzadeh Kermani**, San Diego, CA (US)

(73) Assignee: **Lucent Technologies Inc.**, Murray Hill, NJ (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 786 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **09/585,118**

(22) Filed: **Jun. 1, 2000**

(51) **Int. Cl.**⁷ **H04N 1/40**; H04N 1/407; H04N 1/409

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **358/1.9**; 358/3.1; 358/3.26; 358/521; 347/14; 347/15; 347/131; 347/251

(58) **Field of Search** 358/1.9, 3.01, 358/3.02, 3.09, 3.1, 3.26, 501, 502, 521; 347/6, 14, 15, 16, 131, 251; 399/234, 27, 58

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

4,803,558 A	2/1989	Hiratsuka et al.	358/283
5,422,742 A	6/1995	Ostromoukhov et al. ...	358/536
5,604,567 A	2/1997	Dundas et al.	399/39
5,706,414 A	1/1998	Pritchard	395/117
6,049,393 A *	4/2000	Knierim et al.	358/1.9
6,343,846 B1 *	2/2002	Asano	347/14

* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner—Scott Rogers

(57) **ABSTRACT**

The invention is a method and apparatus for printing images intended to appear to be of solid uniform color and intensity while conserving the amount of image-generating medium used to form the image. The method and apparatus form such images by continually reducing the amount of an image-generating medium deposited in a first portion of the image from a predetermined amount at an outer edge of the portion to a lesser amount at an inner edge of the first portion.

19 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets

