

## REMARKS

The specification of this application has been amended and a new sheet of drawings is being submitted to illustrate and describe a conventional roller press within which a die referred to by the applicant in Independent Claim 13 is positioned and moved with a sheet material during a method for cutting out a shape that is printed on the sheet material after a cutting edge which projects from a flat outside border of the die is placed directly against the sheet material so that the shape printed on the sheet material is located entirely within an inside opening surrounded by the flat outside border. It is pointed out that each of Paragraphs 0016, 0017, 0019 and 0020 of the applicant's original specification provides support for the addition of new FIG. 10 as well as the corresponding amendment to the specification which describes the roller press that is shown in the new figure of drawings.

The claims remaining in this patent application following this Amendment continue to be Claims 1-5, 13, 15 and 16. Claims 1-5 are withdrawn as being directed to the non-elected invention. Claim 13 has been amended. No claims have been cancelled or added.

In the applicant's Amendment After Final Rejection filed February 17, 2015, Independent Claim 13 was amended and arguments presented by which to distinguish the applicant's method from the patent to Hagmann. That is, in the final rejection dated November 21, 2014, Independent Claim 13 was rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by the patent to Hagmann (4,796,501). To overcome this rejection, Independent Claim 13 was amended to recite a shape that is printed on a sheet material to be cut out by means of a (first) die that includes a flat outside border having first and opposite faces that surround an inside opening and a cutting

edge that projects from the first face of said flat outside border such that said cutting edge corresponds exactly to the shape that is printed on the sheet material, and wherein said method comprises the steps of:

placing the cutting edge which projects from the first face of the flat outside border of said first die against the sheet material, and looking through the inside opening of said first die so that the shape printed on the sheet material is located entirely within the inside opening of said first die and the cutting edge which projects from the first face of said flat outside border is automatically registered so as to surround the shape to be cut from the sheet material, and applying a force to the opposite face of the flat outside border of said first die after said cutting edge has first been placed against the sheet material for pushing said cutting edge through said sheet material to cut the shape outwardly therefrom (emphases added).

By virtue of the aforementioned amendment, Independent Claim 13 was believed to be patentable over any reasonable interpretation of Hagmann. Nevertheless, in the Advisory Action issued on February 26, 2015 and during a subsequent telephone conversation between the undersigned attorney and the Examiner, it was pointed out by the Examiner that dies are known which include a cutting edge to be laid against a sheet of material so as to cut a shape from the sheet of material in response to a force applied to the cutting die. By way of example, the Examiner referred to the dies in Patent Nos. 2,150,016 and 2,421,809. The undersigned attorney wishes to thank the Examiner for his cooperation and courtesy during their aforementioned telephone conversation.

In reply to the Advisory Action, a Request for Continued Examination is now submitted to enable the applicant to add new FIG. 10 to the drawings, amend the specification to reflect the addition of new FIG. 10 and the roller press shown therein, and to once again amend Independent Claim 13 by which to place this application in condition for allowance. In this case, Independent Claim 13 has further been amended to recite a method for cutting out, by means of a first die, a shape that is printed on a sheet material, comprising the steps of:

positioning said first die and the sheet material having the shape to be cut therefrom within a roller press; and moving said first die and said sheet material through said roller press for causing a force to be applied to the opposite face of the flat outside border of said first die after said cutting edge has first been placed against the sheet material and said first die and said sheet material have been positioned in said roller press for pushing said cutting edge through said sheet material to cut the shape outwardly therefrom (emphasis added).

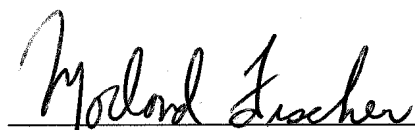
Although it may be, as pointed out by the Examiner, that cutting dies are known having a cutting edge to cut a shape from a sheet material, in no case are the known cutting dies and the sheet material bearing the shape to be cut positioned within a roller press such that the roller press forces the cutting edge of the cutting die through the sheet material to cut the shape outwardly therefrom as is now recited in Independent Claim 13, amended. By way of example, not only is the die that is shown and described in Patent No. 2,421,809 and referred to by the Examiner in the Advisory Action not positioned in a roller press, but such die is not adapted for use with a roller press. That is to say, because the cutting edge 22 shown and described in the '809 patent lacks the flat outside border that surrounds the inside opening of the die, the die in the

'809 patent would be undesirably susceptible to twisting and changing its shape if it were to be subjected to a compressive force like that generated by a roller press. This is exactly one of the problems sought to be avoided by the applicant's method of using a die that has a relatively wide outside border 5 which surrounds an inside opening 7 in the manner described at Paragraph 0019 of the applicant's specification and recited in Independent Claim 13.

Therefore, it is submitted that neither the patent to Hagmann nor the new patents listed by the Examiner in the Advisory Action, nor any combination thereof, shows or suggests a method for cutting out a shape printed on a sheet material by using a die according to the method recited by the applicant in Independent Claim 13, amended. Therefore, it is submitted that Independent Claim 13, amended, is patentable over all of the art that is currently of record. Inasmuch as Independent Claim 13 is believed to be patentable, Claims 15 and 16 which depend therefrom are likewise believed to be patentable.

Accordingly, each of Claims 13, 15 and 16 currently under examination is believed to recite a patentable method. In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the Examiner's final rejection is once again requested, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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April 13, 2015  
Dated