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United States Patent [19]

Wright, IV et al.

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[54] **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR U.P.C./EAN SYMBOLOGY AMBIGUOUS CHARACTER COMPENSATION BY LOCALIZED THERMAL ENERGY DOT ADJUSTMENT**

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[57] ABSTRACT

[51] Int. Cl.⁶ **B41J 05/00**
 [52] U.S. Cl. **400/103; 395/151**
 [58] Field of Search 400/61, 76, 103,
 400/104; 347/107; 395/108, 109, 110, 150,
 151

A method and apparatus is disclosed that can be used to print the U.P.C./EAN symbology in a way that does not suffer poor print quality over a range of ink spread conditions by applying appropriately more or less thermal energy to at least one row of dots on the internal edges of the ambiguous characters. The resultant characters have identical edge-to-edge measurements to those without the compensation; but, the sum of the widths of the bars are beneficially adjusted. The resulting print quality grades and scanning performance are enhanced on thermal printer platforms of moderate to high resolution.

[56] References Cited

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17 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets

