Topics

I Intellectual Property Activities for Digital Label Printing Press

Our AccurioLabel series of digital label printing press enable long-distance printing by transporting continuous paper wound on a roll at a constant tension between the unwinder and the rewinder, and transferring and fixing label images, etc. on the paper at the image forming section.

There is increasing demand for label printing year by year, which is indispensable for daily necessities such as beverages, food, and miscellaneous goods. The AccurioLabel series achieve high productivity with excellent print speed and operability, and meet the demand for shorter delivery times in the expanding market. Furthermore, the adoption of an electrophotographic method using toner enables high-quality image output, and responds to the strict quality needs of the market.



To support business growth and expansion in the strengthening area for Professional Print, we have positioned the roll paper printing-related technology adopted in the AccurioLabel series, including the latest model "AccurioLabel 400", as a key area for building strong patent barriers, and have been working in close collaboration with our development department to intensively file patent applications from the technology development stage.

Trend of the number of registered patents for roll paper printing-related technology and product sales performance

Cumulative Sales

Cumulative Patents (with annual registered patents in CY2016 as 1)

As a result of steadily executing this strategy, as shown in the figure above, the portfolio of registered patents for roll paper printing-related technology has steadily expanded, supporting the robust sales of the AccurioLabel series.

Cumulative Sales (with annual sales units in FY2018 as 1)

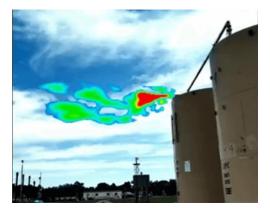
We will continue our efforts to grow and expand the strengthening area for Professional Print by strengthening the patent barriers and optimizing the patent portfolio.

Topics

I Intellectual Property Activities for Gas Leak Inspection Systems

Our gas leak inspection systems apply our core optical and image processing technologies to infrared cameras, making invisible gas "visible." This enables users to quickly, easily and accurately detect the source, amount and concentration of gas leaks. In addition, as plant and factory safety operations become more advanced, inspections can be conducted from a distance, significantly improving the safety of inspection work. Furthermore, the industry's smallest and lightest handheld device enables use in a wide range of environments and situations.

We are promoting activities to establish this new technology of "inspection using gas detection images" as an industry standard and other rules. By popularizing and standardizing this system for inspections of gas storage facilities, where visual inspection was previously mainstream, we will improve safety and efficiency. Through this rulemaking, we are also contributing to creating a new market in the field of inspection of gas storage facilities. In recognition of these efforts, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry selected us as a "company with a high market formation power index". The Ministry is promoting "rulemaking-type market creation," in which companies create new markets by engaging in rulemaking, and our gas leak inspection system business is introduced as one of the success examples. Furthermore, we not only create new markets and revitalize the industry, but also establish a competitive advantage by protecting the value and strength of our unique gas detection technology with patents (e.g.,



Reference Source : Colorado State University METEC

Japanese Patent No. 6245418, US Patent No.10145788B2). With this patent strategy, we will strengthen our presence in the newly created market and drive the resolving of social issues as an industry leader.

【Details of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry news release can be found here - only in Japanese】

In addition, this inspection system received the "2024 ONE Future Awards" Technology of the Year award (Production category) from Our Nation's Energy Future, a coalition of U.S. natural gas companies committed to the reduction of methane emissions, which is a major social issue of global concern. It is highly regarded as an inspection system that can accurately detect gas leak locations and amounts, with high precision and reliability, trusted by many oil and gas operators and government agencies in the United States of America.



With these domestic and international evaluations as momentum, we will nurture "seeds for future growth" that lead to business creation by utilizing technology and intellectual property, and connect them to establishing a foundation for growth.