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(54) **ULTRASONIC MAINTENANCE CAP**

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A maintenance cap is provided for in-situ attachment to a printhead of printing apparatus. The maintenance cap comprises a housing defining at least one chamber for receiving a liquid. An opening in the housing provides a path for the liquid to pass from the chamber into a portion of the printhead when the maintenance cap is engaged with the printhead. The maintenance cap also includes a seal disposed around the opening for engagement with the printhead. A transducer coupled to the housing is used to generate ultrasound acoustic waves in the liquid contained in the chamber and printhead so as to clean the printhead.

20 Claims, 13 Drawing Sheets

