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Patent Public Search | Text View

United States Patent Application Publication

20250256940

Kind Code

A1

Publication Date

August 14, 2025

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RECORDING DEVICE

Abstract

A recording device includes a device main body **20** including a recording section; a placement tray on which a medium M is configured to be placed; and a cassette provided below the recording section and the placement tray and configured to accommodate a medium M. The device main body includes a first path configured to feed medium M placed on the placement tray to the recording section and further to transport the recorded medium and a second path configured to transport medium placed on the placement tray to the cassette.

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Family ID: 1000008575089

Appl. No.: 19/194996

Filed: April 30, 2025

Foreign Application Priority Data

JP	2022-117022	Jul. 22, 2022
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Related U.S. Application Data

parent US continuation 18355149 20230719 parent-grant-document US 12312210 child US 19194996

Publication Classification

Int. Cl.: B65H83/02 (20060101); B65H1/04 (20060101); B65H1/26 (20060101); B65H15/00 (20060101)

U.S. Cl.:

CPC **B65H83/025** (20130101); **B65H1/04** (20130101); **B65H1/266** (20130101); **B65H15/004** (20200801); B65H2301/132 (20130101); B65H2301/1321 (20130101); B65H2301/133 (20130101); B65H2301/42254 (20130101); B65H2301/424 (20130101); B65H2301/43822 (20130101); B65H2301/4482 (20130101); B65H2403/411 (20130101); B65H2405/324 (20130101); B65H2405/332 (20130101); B65H2407/21 (20130101); B65H2511/10 (20130101); B65H2551/20 (20130101); B65H2801/03 (20130101)

Background/Summary

[0001] The present application is a continuation of U.S. application Ser. No. 18/355,149, filed Jul. 19, 2023, which is based on, and claims priority from JP Application Serial Number 2022-117022, filed Jul. 22, 2022, the disclosures of which are hereby incorporated by reference herein in their entirety.

BACKGROUND

1. Technical Field

[0002] The present disclosure relates to a recording device including a cassette that accommodates a medium such as paper and a recording section that performs recording on the medium fed from the cassette.

2. Related Art

[0003] For example, JP-A-2020-120449 discloses a recording device including a cassette (medium accommodation section) that accommodates a medium such as paper and a recording section that performs recording on the medium fed from the cassette. In this type of recording device, when medium in the cassette is consumed, a user performs a refill operation to refill the cassette with medium. In a case where medium of a size desired to be printed is not accommodated in the cassette, the user performs an exchange operation of exchanging the medium accommodated in the cassette with a medium of a different size. Since the recording device including a plurality of cassettes stores setting information that associates the cassette with a size of the medium, and the medium is fed from the cassette corresponding to the size designated by the user at a time of printing, the user does not need to designate the cassette each time printing is performed.

[0004] However, in the related art recording device, there is a possibility that the user erroneously sets a different size medium in the cassette. In this case, printing is performed on the wrong size medium. In recent years, there are cases in which printing is performed using paper printed on one side on which printing has been performed only on one side in consideration of the environment and the like. In this case, there is a possibility that front and back sides may be mistaken for each other when the paper printed on one side is stored in the cassette. In this case, printing may be erroneously performed on a printed surface of the paper printed on one side. When the paper printed on one side is placed in the cassette, there is a case where medium printed on both sides is mixed, and also in this case, printing may be erroneously performed on the printed surface. As described above, when the user refills or exchanges the medium in the cassette, a mistake in front and rear orientation, double-sided printed medium mixed in with the paper printed on one side, medium with defects in the paper printed on one side, or a mistake in the size of the medium that should be in the cassette become major causes of an increase in useless printing.

[0005] In a large-sized recording device such as an office printer, the cassettes are usually arranged at a height lower than waist height of the user. Therefore, it is necessary for the user to perform the refill operation or the exchange operation for the cassette, which is performed by holding a relatively heavy medium bundle, in a bent posture. As a result, the refill operation and the exchange

operation of the medium for the cassette are a heavy work burden for the user.

SUMMARY

[0006] A recording device that solves the above-described problem includes a device main body including a recording section; a placement tray configured to support a medium; and a cassette provided below the recording section and the placement tray and configured to accommodate a medium, wherein the device main body includes a first path configured to feed medium placed on the placement tray to the recording section and further to transport the recorded medium and a second path configured to transport medium placed on the placement tray to the cassette.

Description

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0007] FIG. 1 is a perspective view showing a recording device according to an embodiment.

[0008] FIG. 2 is a perspective view showing the recording device in which a placement tray is in a use state and a cassette is in a drawer state.

[0009] FIG. 3 is a schematic cross-sectional view showing internal configuration of a printer section of the recording device.

[0010] FIG. 4 is a schematic plan view showing a positioning mechanism in the cassette.

[0011] FIG. 5 is a schematic diagram showing setting data relating the cassette and a type of medium.

[0012] FIG. 6 is a block diagram showing an electrical configuration of the recording device.

[0013] FIG. 7 is a schematic diagram showing a menu screen for selecting a medium sort mode.

[0014] FIG. 8 is a schematic diagram showing a selection screen for selecting print priority and sort priority.

[0015] FIG. 9 is a flowchart showing a medium sort process routine.

[0016] FIG. 10 is a flowchart showing an interrupt print control routine.

[0017] FIG. 11 is a schematic cross-sectional view showing a sorting path when the medium is a blank paper.

[0018] FIG. 12 is a schematic cross-sectional view showing the sorting path when the medium is paper printed on one side.

[0019] FIG. 13 is a schematic cross-sectional view showing the sorting path when the medium does not correspond to a determination condition.

[0020] FIG. 14 is a schematic cross-sectional view showing the sorting path when there is a defect in the medium.

DESCRIPTION OF EMBODIMENTS

Configuration of Recording Device 11

[0021] Hereinafter, an embodiment of a recording device will be described with reference to the drawings. In the drawings, it is assumed that a recording device 11 is placed on a horizontal installation surface. An axis orthogonal to the installation surface of the recording device 11 is defined as a Z-axis, and two axes orthogonal to the Z-axis are defined as an X-axis and a Y-axis, respectively. Directions parallel to the X-axis, the Y-axis, and the Z-axis are referred to as an X-axis direction, a Y-axis direction, and a Z-axis direction, respectively. The X-axis direction includes both a +X direction and a -X direction. The Y-axis direction includes both a +Y direction and a -Y direction. The Z-axis direction includes both a +Z direction and a -Z direction. The Z-axis direction, which is parallel to the Z-axis, is also referred to as a vertical direction Z. The X-axis direction is also referred to as a width direction X since it is the width direction of the medium M transported by the recording device 11.

[0022] As shown in FIG. 1, the recording device 11 includes a device main body 20 including a recording section 25, a placement tray 21 on which the medium M such as paper can be placed, and

cassettes **22** that are provided below the recording section **25** and that accommodate the medium **M**.

[0023] As shown in FIG. **1**, the recording device **11** is, for example, a multifunction device. The device main body **20** is a printer section **12**, and a scanner section **13** is arranged on an upper section of the device main body **20**. The recording device **11** may include an operation panel **14** on an upper section of the device main body **20**. The operation panel **14** is provided in the device main body **20** at a height and a position at which a user can easily see and operate the operation panel **14**.

[0024] The operation panel **14** includes a display section **15**. The display section **15** may be a touch panel. In this case, an operation section **16** may be configured by a touch panel function of the display section **15**. The user gives various instructions to the recording device **11** by operating the operation section **16**. Various instructions may include instructions for recording, instructions for scanning, instructions for copying, and the like. The operation section **16** may be an operation switch formed of a mechanical switch.

[0025] The device main body **20** has, for example, a rectangular parallelepiped shape. The device main body **20** has a front surface **20A**, two side surfaces **20B**, **20C**, and a back surface **20D**. A stacker section **24** is arranged at a bottom of a recess between the device main body **20** and the scanner section **13**. The front surface **20A** is a surface on which the operation panel **14** is arranged in the device main body **20**. In a state where the user stands facing the front surface **20A**, the user performs an input operation for giving instructions to the recording device **11**. In addition to accessing the operation panel **14**, the user can access to place the medium **M** on the placement tray **21**, to refill or exchange the medium **M** in the cassettes **22**, and to take out the recorded medium from the stacker section **24**, and the like from the front surface **20A** side of the recording device **11**.

[0026] The placement tray **21** is a tray on which the user places the medium **M** to be fed into the device main body **20**. The placement tray **21** is also referred to as a sheet feeding tray. The medium before recording is placed on the placement tray **21** by the user. The placement tray **21** may be provided on a side section of the device main body **20** so as to be openable and closable. The placement tray **21** may be held in a posture inclined at a predetermined angle to the side section of the device main body **20**. The placement tray **21** may have a multistage configuration in which a length can be changed according to a size of the medium **M** to be placed.

[0027] One or more cassettes **22** are provided. In other words, one or a plurality of cassettes **22** are provided. In an example shown in FIG. **1**, a plurality of cassettes **22** are provided, but only one may be provided. In the example of FIG. **1**, the plurality of cassettes **22** are provided in four stages, but may be provided in two stages, three stages, or five or more stages. A plurality of cassettes **22** may be added according to the user's needs. For example, the number of stages may be two before an addition and three or four after the addition.

[0028] The cassettes **22** are configured to be attachable to and detachable from the device main body **20**. In the example of FIG. **1**, the cassettes **22** are configured to be attachable to and detachable from the front surface of the recording device **11**, but may be configured to be attachable to and detachable from the side section of the device main body **20**.

[0029] The cassettes **22** are capable of accommodating a plurality of sheets of medium **M**. The cassettes **22** are configured to be able to change what size of medium **M** can be accommodated. Therefore, a different type of medium **M** is accommodated in each cassettes **22**. Here, the type of medium **M** includes types related to size and material. Types of sizes include A4 size, A3 size, B5 size, B4 size, postcard size, name card size, and the like. Examples of material include plain paper, photographic paper, matte paper, glossy paper, OHP sheets, and paper printed on one side (miscellaneous paper), and the like. Further, the type of the medium **M** may include a type related to thickness. For example, plain paper and the like may be divided into thick paper, thin paper, and the like according to the type of thickness. When the type of medium **M** is distinguished by size and material, the former may be referred to as "size" and the latter may be referred to as "medium type" in this specification.

[0030] The recording device **11** transports the medium **M** placed on the placement tray **21** along a predetermined path provided in the device main body **20**. The recording device **11** transports the medium **M** accommodated in the cassettes **22** along a predetermined path provided in the device main body **20**. Each of the predetermined paths is formed in a path passing through a recording position facing the recording section **25**. Details of the predetermined paths through which the medium **M** is transported will be described later.

[0031] When the recording device **11** receives a recording instruction, the recording device **11** feeds the medium **M** from the cassette **22** that accommodates the medium **M** of an instructed type (size and material). Therefore, in the recording device **11**, the type of the medium **M** accommodated in the cassette **22** is associated with the cassette **22**. The cassette **22** may be configured to include a plurality of trays on which medium **M** of different sizes can be placed.

[0032] The recording device **11** shown in FIG. **1** may include a connection section **23** on one side section of the device main body **20**, which can be connected to a medium supply device (not shown), which is an external device capable of supplying the medium **M** to the recording device **11**. The connection section **23** serves as a supply port of the medium **M** supplied from the medium supply device. The medium supply device may be, for example, a large-capacity medium supply device including a large-capacity cassette capable of accommodating a larger number of sheets of medium **M** than the cassette **22**.

[0033] The recording section **25** performs recording on the medium **M** in a process in which the medium **M** transported along the predetermined path from the placement tray **21** or the cassette **22** passes through the recording position. The recording section **25** performs recording on the medium **M** using a predetermined recording method. The recording method is, for example, inkjet, but may be another recording method such as electrophotographic, dot impact, or thermal recording. For example, the recording section **25** of an inkjet method includes a nozzle capable of ejecting liquid such as ink and an ejection driving element that generates a driving force for ejecting liquid droplets such as ink droplets from the nozzle. The ejection driving element is driven by any one of piezoelectric, electrostatic, bubble, or other method. The recording section **25** draws a character or an image on the medium **M** with ink dots formed on a surface of the medium **M** by ejecting liquid from nozzles toward the medium **M**.

[0034] As shown in FIG. **1**, the scanner section **13** includes a scanner main body **17** including a document table (not shown) on its upper surface, and a document placement surface cover **18** provided to be openable and closable with respect to an upper surface of the scanner main body **17** (document placement glass surface). An automatic document feeding section **19** (auto document feeder (ADF)) is mounted on an upper section of the document placement surface cover **18**.

[0035] The scanner section **13** has a reading section (not shown) that reads a document set on a document placement glass (not shown) that is exposed when the document placement surface cover **18** is opened. The automatic document feeding section **19** sequentially feeds a plurality of documents set on a document tray **19A** one by one, and sequentially discharges the documents read by the reading section at an intermediate position of the feed path to a stack section **19B**.

[0036] As shown in FIG. **1**, the cassette **22** is provided so as to be insertable into and removable from the device main body **20** from the front surface **20A** side. The placement tray **21** is provided so as to be openable and closable by pivoting around its lower end. The placement tray **21** is used in an open state shown by a two dot chain line in FIG. **1** (a solid line in FIG. **2**), and the user places (sets) the medium **M** thereon. The placement tray **21** may be a manual feed tray on which only one medium **M** can be placed, or may be configured with a hopper function in which a plurality of sheets of medium can be set in a stacked state and the medium **M** can be automatically fed one by one.

[0037] As shown in FIG. **1**, the recording device **11** includes a control section **100** that controls the recording device **11** in a device main body **20**. The control section **100** performs control of the printer section **12** and the scanner section **13**, and display control of the display section **15**.

Configuration of Placement Tray **21** and Cassette **22** in Recording Device **11**

[0038] FIG. **2** shows a state in which the placement tray **21** is arranged in its use state, and a state in which the cassette **22** is drawn out from the device main body **20**. As shown in FIG. **2**, the placement tray **21** includes a placement surface **21A** on which the medium **M** can be placed, and a first positioning mechanism **30** that positions the medium **M** placed on the placement surface **21A** in a width direction **X**. The first positioning mechanism **30** includes a pair of edge guides **31,32** capable of positioning the medium **M** in the width direction **X**. A first edge guide **31** and a second edge guide **32** are positioned so as to face each other in the width direction **X**, and are configured to be slidable so that the interval between them can be changed. A position of the medium **M** placed on the placement surface **21A** in the width direction **X** is determined by the pair of edge guides **31,32**.

[0039] As shown in FIG. **2**, the cassette **22** has a substantially square box shape with an upper section open. The cassette **22** includes an accommodation recess capable of accommodating the medium **M**. The cassette **22** has a predetermined depth capable of accommodating a predetermined number of medium **M** in a stacked state. A second positioning mechanism **33** is mounted in the cassette **22**. The second positioning mechanism **33** includes a pair of edge guides **34, 35** capable of positioning the medium **M** accommodated in the cassette **22** in the width direction **X**. A first edge guide **34** and a second edge guide **35** are positioned so as to face each other in the width direction **X**, and are configured to be slidable so that a facing interval can be changed. The second positioning mechanism **33** includes a third edge guide **36** that positions the medium **M** in the cassette **22** in a direction intersecting the width direction **X** as a feeding direction. When the third edge guide **36** comes into contact with a rear end of a medium bundle, the medium bundle is positioned at a position close to a downstream end side in the feeding direction in the cassette **22**.

Internal Configuration of Printer Section **12**

[0040] Next, detailed configuration of the printer section **12** will be described with reference to FIG. **3**.

[0041] As shown in FIG. **3**, the printer section **12** includes a transport unit **40** that transports the medium **M** placed on the placement tray **21** or the medium **M** accommodated in the cassette **22**. The transport unit **40** includes a transport path **T** that is a path on which the medium **M** is transported.

[0042] The recording section **25** faces the transport path **T** at a recording position **PP** in an intermediate part of the transport path **T**. The recording section **25** includes a recording head **26**. The recording head **26** employs, for example, a line recording method. The recording head **26** is formed of an elongated line head in which a dimension in the width direction **X** orthogonal to a paper surface of FIG. **2** is slightly longer than a width dimension of the maximum width medium **M**. The recording head **26** simultaneously ejects ink droplets in a range across the width direction **X** with respect to the medium **M** being transported. A character, an image, or the like is recorded on the medium **M** by liquid such as ink ejected from the recording head **26** adhering to the medium **M**.

[0043] The recording device **11** of the present embodiment includes a medium sort function of sorting the medium **M** according to the type and transporting the medium **M** to the cassette **22**, in addition to a print transport function of transporting the medium **M** placed on the placement tray **21** for printing. Therefore, the recording device **11** includes a first path **41** capable of transporting the medium **M** from the placement tray **21** to the recording section **25** and a second path **42** capable of transporting the medium **M** from the placement tray **21** to the cassette **22**. The first path **41** and the second path **42** are included in the transport path **T**.

Transport Path **T**

[0044] The transport unit **40** shown in FIG. **3** transports the medium **M** along the transport path **T** (thick line in FIG. **3**). The transport path **T** includes a first feed path **43**, a second feed path **44**, a transport path **45**, a first discharge path **46**, a switchback path **47**, and an inversion path **48** as paths for transporting the medium **M** during printing. Further, the transport path **T** may include a second

discharge path **49** separately from the first discharge path **46** as a path for discharging the recorded medium **M**.

[0045] The first feed path **43** is a path for feeding the medium **M** from the placement tray **21** toward the recording section **25**. The second feed path **44** is a path for feeding from the cassette **22** toward the recording section **25**. In the recording device **11** of the present example including the plurality of cassettes **22**, the second feeding path **44** includes a common path **44A** through which the medium **M** fed from the plurality of cassettes **22** commonly passes, and individual paths **44B** from the cassettes **22** to the common path **44A**. A plurality of individual paths **44B** are connected to the common path **44A**.

[0046] The transport path **45** is a path through which the medium **M** fed from the first feed path **43** or the second feed path **44** is transported in a path passing through the recording position **PP**. The transport path **45** is a path through which the medium **M** on which recording is performed by the recording section **25** is transported.

[0047] The first discharge path **46** is a path for discharging the recorded medium **M** to the stacker section **24**.

[0048] The switchback path **47** is a part of a path for inverting the medium **M** that has been recorded on a first side (front side) during double-sided recording in which recording is performed on both sides of the medium **M**. The medium **M** enters the switchback path **47** from a front end and is introduced into the inversion path **48** from a rear end by a switchback transport.

[0049] The inversion path **48** is a path for inverting front and back sides of the medium **M** after a switchback. The medium **M** introduced into the inversion path **48** from the rear end by the switchback transport is transported along the inversion path **48** so that the front and back sides of the medium **M** are inverted. The medium **M** whose front and back sides have been inverted through the inversion path **48** is re-fed to the transport path **45**. The inversion path **48** merges with the first feed path **43** at a position downstream of the merging position **P1** in a transport direction **Y**.

[0050] The second discharge path **49** is a path for discharging the medium **M** after the recording to outside of the device main body **20**. A supply path **K** to which the medium **M** is supplied from the medium supply device via the connection section **23** is connected to the second feed path **44**.

[0051] The first path **41** of the present embodiment is a path through which the medium **M** is transported for the recording. The first path **41** includes the first feed path **43** and the transport path **45**. The first path **41** may include a first discharge path **46** that discharges the recorded medium **M**. Further, in a case of the recording device **11** including a double-sided recording function, the first path **41** may include the inversion path **48** that inverts the medium **M** in which recording on a first side is completed in an orientation in which a second side, which is a side on an opposite side to the first side, faces the recording section **25** at a time of double-sided recording in which the recording is performed on both sides of the medium **M**. In this case, the first path **41** may include the switchback path **47** and the inversion path **48**. The first path **41** may include a second discharge path **49** separately from the first discharge path **46**.

[0052] The second path **42** is a path for refilling the cassette **22** by transporting the medium **M** placed on the placement tray **21** to the cassette **22**. In other words, the second path **42** is a path from the placement tray **21** to the cassette **22**. The second path **42** may be partially common with the first path **41**. The second path **42** may include at least a part of the first feed path **43**. The second path **42** may include at least a part of the second feed path **44**.

[0053] The second path **42** of the present embodiment may include a bypass path **50** that branches off from an intermediate position of the first feed path **43** and is connected to the second feed path **44**. The bypass path **50** connects the first feed path **43** and the second feed path **44**. The bypass path **50** branches off from the first feed path **43** at a branch position **P2** in the intermediate position of the first feed path **43**, and merges with the second feed path **44** at a connection position **P3** at an intermediate position of the second feed path **44**. The bypass path **50** connects the branch position **P2** and the connection position **P3**. The second path **42** may include a part of the first feed path **43**,

a part of the second feed path **44**, and the bypass path **50**. As described above, the second path **42** is partially common to the first feed path **43** in that the second path **42** includes a part of the first feed path **43** and a part of the second feed path **44**. The second path **42** may include a path that passes through the bypass path **50** and a path that does not pass through the bypass path **50**. For example, a path from the placement tray **21** to the cassette **22** may be switched in accordance with the type of the medium **M**. In this case, the second path **42** may be switched between a path that passes through the bypass path **50** and a path that does not pass through the bypass path **50** in accordance with the type of the medium **M**.

[0054] For example, depending on the type of the medium **M**, it may be necessary to transport the medium **M** to the cassette **22** after inverting the medium **M**. In this case, when the path used for inverting the medium **M** at the time of the double-sided recording is used as a part of the second path **42**, addition of a new path is not necessary. For the medium **M** of a type requiring inversion of the medium **M**, a path including the switchback path **47** and the inversion path **48** is defined as a second path **42** as a path that does not pass through the bypass path **50**. In this case, the second path **42** includes the first feed path **43**, the transport path **45**, the switchback path **47**, a part of the inversion path **48**, and a part of the second feed path **44**. In the example shown in FIG. **3**, the second path **42** includes an auxiliary path **58** that functions as a bypass path connecting the inversion path **48** and the second feed path **44**.

Detailed Configuration of Transport Unit **40**

[0055] Next, a detailed configuration of the transport unit **40** will be described with reference to FIG. **3**.

[0056] As shown in FIG. **3**, the transport unit **40** includes a first feeding section **51**, a second feeding section **52**, a transport section **53**, a first discharging section **54**, a switchback section **55**, a inversion section **56**, and a second discharging section **57** as constituent elements that transport the medium **M** along the transport path **T**.

[0057] The first feeding section **51** includes a feed roller pair **61** that feeds a bundle of medium **M** placed on the placement tray **21** one by one along the first feeding path **43**.

[0058] The second feeding section **52** feeds the medium **M** accommodated in the cassette **22** one by one toward the recording section **25** along the second feed path **44**. The second feeding section **52** includes a feed roller **63** and a separation roller pair **64** that feed the medium **M** from the cassette **22** to the second feeding path **44**. The feed roller **63** is, for example, a pickup roller. In vicinity of the cassette **22**, a remaining amount detection section **62** configured to be capable of detecting a remaining amount of the medium **M** in the cassette **22** is provided for each cassette **22**.

[0059] The feed roller **63** sends the uppermost one of sheets of the medium **M** among the medium bundle in the cassette **22** to the individual path **44B**. The separation roller pair **64** separates the medium **M** fed to the individual path **44B** by the feed roller **63** into one sheet. A plurality of (for example, four) transport roller pairs **65** are arranged along the common path **44A**. The recording device **11** includes a heat roller **67** that heats the medium **M** at a position at an intermediate position of the second path **42**. The heat roller **67** of the present embodiment is positioned on a downstream side of the four individual paths **44B** in a transport direction **TD** in the second feed path **44**. For example, the heat roller **67** may be positioned an upstream of the connection position **P3** in the transport direction **TD** in the second feed path **44**. The recording device **11** transports the medium **M** heated by the heat roller **67** to the cassette **22**.

[0060] The transport section **53** transports the medium **M** fed from the first feeding section **51** or the second feeding section **52** along the transport path **45**. The transport section **53** may include a transport roller pair **68**. The transport roller pair **68** is arranged at a position slightly downstream in the transport direction **TD** from the merging position **P1** of the first feed path **43** and the second feed path **44**.

[0061] Skew of the medium **M** is corrected in a feeding process by abutting the front end of the medium **M** against the transport roller pair **68** which is stopped. The medium **M** after skew

correction is transported to the transport path **45** by a rotation of the transport roller pair **68**. Each feeding section **51, 52** has a function of delivering the medium M to the transport roller pair **68**. Therefore, the feed paths **43, 44** extend to a nip position of the transport roller pair **68**. A path on a downstream side of the nip position of the transport roller pair **68** in the transport direction TD is the transport path **45**.

[0062] As shown in FIG. **3**, the transport section **53** may include a belt transport mechanism **69** arranged at a position facing the recording head **26**. The belt transport mechanism **69** includes an endless transport belt **70** wound around a pair of rollers. The belt transport mechanism **69** employs an electrostatic attraction type in which the medium M is attracted to a charged surface of the transport belt **70** by electrostatic force. The recording head **26** performs the recording on the medium M by ejecting liquid such as ink toward the medium M which is transported at a constant speed in a state in which a constant gap with the recording head **26** is maintained by the belt transport mechanism **69**.

[0063] The first discharging section **54** transports the recorded medium M along the first discharge path **46**. The second discharging section **57** discharges the recorded medium M from the first discharge port **28** to the stacker section **24**.

[0064] The switchback section **55** performs switchback transport of the medium M along the switchback path **47**. The switchback transport includes transport of the medium M toward a downstream in the transport direction TD and reverse transport of the medium M toward an upstream in the transport direction TD. The switchback path **47** is a path for performing switchback transport in which the medium M is reciprocated once in the transport direction TD and a reverse transport direction-TD. The switchback section **55** guides the medium M from the rear end to the inversion path **48** by performing switchback transport of the medium M having finished recording on the first side (front side).

[0065] The inversion section **56** inverts the front and back sides of the medium M by transporting the medium M after the switchback along the inversion path **48**. The inversion path **48** merges with the first feed path **43** at a position on a downstream side of the branch position P2 in the transport direction Y. Therefore, the medium M whose front and back sides are inverted through the inversion path **48** is re-fed to the transport path **45**. As described above, by the switchback section **55** and the inversion section **56**, the medium M on which the first side has been recorded is re-fed to the recording position PP in an orientation in which the second side (back side), which is the side to be recorded on, faces the recording head **26**.

[0066] The second discharging section **57** transports the recorded medium M along the second discharge path **49**. The second discharging section **57** discharges the recorded medium M from a second discharge port **29** to the outside of the device main body **20**.

Configuration of Sorting Mechanism **80**

[0067] Next, with reference to FIG. **3**, a configuration of a sorting mechanism **80** that sorts the medium M according to the type and transports the medium M to the cassette **22** will be described.

[0068] As shown in FIG. **3**, the recording device **11** includes the second path **42** for refilling the cassettes **22** with medium M, and a sorting mechanism **80** for selecting a path of the second path **42** that will transport the medium M to the cassette **22** that corresponds to the information about the medium M. The recording device **11** includes a detection section **85** for detecting information on the medium M. The sorting mechanism **80** sorts the medium M to the cassettes **22** corresponding to the medium M information detected by the detection section **85**.

[0069] The detection section **85** detects the information on the medium M at an intermediate position of the second path **42**. The detection section **85** determines whether or not the medium M is a first medium on which neither side has been unrecorded (for example, blank paper) as information by detecting both front and back sides of the medium M. The recording device **11** may transport the medium M determined as the first medium by the detection section **85** to the cassette **22** via the bypass path **50**.

[0070] The detection section **85** may determine, as information obtained by detecting both the front and back sides of the medium **M**, that a second medium has been recorded on only one side and needs to have the front and back sides inverted before being transported to the cassette **22**. The recording device **11** inverts the medium **M**, which is determined to be the second medium by the detection section **85**, in the inversion path **48** and then transports the medium **M** to the cassette **22**. [0071] The detection section **85** may detect defects of the medium **M** as the information. The recording device **11** may discharge the medium **M** in which the defects have been detected to the discharging sections **54, 57**.

[0072] The discharging sections **54, 57** may include the first discharging section **54** and the second discharging section **57** different from the first discharging section **54**. The recording device **11** may discharge medium **M** with defects and non-corresponding medium **M** that has no cassette specified for its size separately to the first discharging section **54** and to the second discharging section **57**. The first discharging section **54** may include a stacker section **24** provided in the device main body **20**. The second discharging section **57** may include the second discharge port **29** capable of discharging the medium **M** out of the device main body **20**. Non-corresponding medium **M** may be discharged to the stacker section **24**, and medium **M** with defects may be discharged from the second discharge port **29** to a discard section provided outside the device main body **20**. An example of the discard section is a shredder connected to the recording device **11** via the second discharge port **29**. The discard section may be a discarding box or the like that collects medium **M** with defects by discharging it from the second discharge port **29**.

[0073] The sorting mechanism **80** includes the bypass path **50** that branches off from an intermediate section of the first feed path **43** and that is connected to the second feed path **44**, and a first flap **81** as an example of a flap that guides the medium **M** from the first feed path **43** to the bypass path **50**.

[0074] The bypass path **50** branches off from the first feed path **43** at a branch position **P2**, which is upstream in the transport direction **TD** from the merging position **P1**. The branch position **P2** is positioned between the merging position **P1** and a nip position where the feed roller pair **61** nips the medium **M**.

[0075] The bypass path **50** is connected to the second feed path **44** at the connection position **P3** positioned upstream of the merging position **P1** in the transport direction **TD**. That is, the bypass path **50** is a path that connects the first feed path **43** and the second feed path **44** between the branch position **P2** and the connection position **P3**.

[0076] The first flap **81** can guide the medium **M** to the bypass path **50** at the branch position **P2** at an intermediate position of the first feed path **43**. The first flap **81** is driven by power of an actuator such as a motor. When the control section **100** drives and controls the actuator, the first flap **81** pivots between a first position indicated by a solid line in FIG. 3 in which the first path **41** is selected as a path through which the medium **M** is transported and a second position indicated by a two dot chain line in FIG. 3 in which the bypass path **50** is selected. The first flap **81** switches the paths at the branch position **P2**. The first flap **81** may select one of the first path **41** and the second path **42** according to whether a transport of the medium **M** at that time is for a purpose of recording or for a purpose of transporting the medium **M** to the cassette **22**. The medium **M** passing through the bypass path **50** is transported to the second feed path **44**. The first flap **81** may be configured to select the second path **42** that does not pass through the bypass path **50** depending on the type of medium **M** even when the purpose is to transport the medium **M** to the cassette **22**. In other words, even when the purpose is to transport the medium **M** to the cassette **22**, depending on the type of medium **M**, the first flap **81** may be arranged at the first position to select the second path **42** that does not pass through the bypass path **50**.

[0077] The sorting mechanism **80** of the present embodiment includes second flaps **82** that guide the medium **M** from the common path **44A** to the individual paths **44B**. The second flap **82** guides the medium **M** to the individual paths **44B** to the cassette **22** specified in accordance with the type

of the medium M. Since the recording device **11** of the present example includes four cassettes **22** as an example, it includes three second flaps **82** that sort the medium M to the four cassettes **22**. Three second flaps **82** are, for example, a first sorting flap **82A**, a second sorting flap **82B**, and a third sorting flap **82C**. The plurality of sorting flaps **82A** to **82C** are driven by power of actuators such as motors.

[0078] As shown in FIG. 3, the recording device **11** includes a detection section **85** that detects information regarding the medium M at a position at an intermediate position of the second path **42**. The detection section **85** detects the medium M at a position upstream of the branch position P2 in the transport direction TD in the first feed path **43**. The detection section **85** can detect the size of the medium M. The detection section **85** of the present embodiment detects the type of the medium M. Here, at least the size of the medium M is detected as the type of the medium M. The type of the medium M may be configured such that the medium type can be detected in addition to the size. In a case where there is no cassette **22** specified from the size detected by the detection section **85**, the medium M of the size is discharged to the first discharging section **54**. In particular, in the present embodiment, medium M that has no cassette **22** associated with the size and the medium type detected by the detection section **85** in the setting data RD (refer to FIG. 5), as an example of the setting information, is discharged to the first discharging section **54**.

[0079] As shown in FIG. 3, a medium sensor **79** is arranged at a position upstream of the recording head **26** in the transport direction TD. The medium sensor **79** is positioned between the recording section **25** and the transport roller pair **68**. The medium sensor **79** detects the front end or the rear end in the transport direction TD of the medium M fed by the first feeding section **51** and the second feeding section **52**. The control section **100** controls the transport position of the medium M based on a detection position at which the front end or the rear end of the medium M is detected. Then, the control section **100** controls a recording operation by the recording section **25** in accordance with the transport position of the medium M.

[0080] At the time of double-sided recording in which recording is performed on both sides of the medium M, the switchback section **55** and the inversion section **56** invert the front and back sides of the medium M on which recording on the first side (front side) which is one side is completed, and re-feed the medium M to the transport path **45**. Specifically, the medium M for which the recording on the first side has been completed is guided to the switchback path **47** by the path switching mechanism **74**. By performing switchback transport including transport in the transport direction TD and reverse transport in the reverse transport direction-TD along the switchback path **47**, the medium M is guided from the rear end side to the inversion path **48** via the path switching mechanism **75**. At this time, the transport roller pair **76** is rotated in the reverse direction after the forward rotation. The medium M is transported along the inversion path **48** by rotation of a plurality of inversion transport roller pairs **77**. Accordingly, the medium M is transported into the transport path **45** again in a state in which a second side (back side) is inverted to be the record surface. The recording section **25** performs recording on the second side of the medium M. The medium M on which double-sided recording has been performed in this manner is discharged along the first discharge path **46** or the second discharge path **49**. The recording device **11** of the present embodiment includes discharging sections **54**, **57** at intermediate positions of the first path **41** for discharging the medium M recorded on by the recording section **25**. The second discharge path **49** may be used as a discharge path for discarding the medium M with defects.

[0081] As shown in FIG. 3, path switching mechanisms **72**, **74**, **75** for switching to one path at a branch point are provided at a plurality of (for example, three) branch points positioned downstream of the recording position PP in the transport direction TD in the transport path T.

[0082] The transport unit **40** shown in FIG. 3 includes motors **121**, **122**, **123**, **125** as an example of drive sources for rotationally driving roller pairs **61**, **64**, **65**, **68**, **71**, **73**, **76**, **77**, the feed roller **63**, the heat roller **67**, and the like. The first feed roller pair **61** is driven by power of a first feed motor **121** (refer to FIG. 6). The feed roller **63**, the transport roller pair **65**, and the heat roller **67** are

driven by power of a second feed motor **122** (refer to FIG. **6**). The transport roller pair **68**, the discharge roller pair **71**, and the transport roller pairs **76**, **77** are driven by power of a first transport motor **123** (refer to FIG. **6**). Further, the belt transport mechanism **69** shown in FIG. **3** is driven by power of a belt motor **124** (refer to FIG. **6**). The discharge roller pair **73** of the first discharging section **54** and the discharge roller pair **78** of the second discharging section **57** shown in FIG. **3** are driven by power of the second transport motor **125** (refer to FIG. **6**). The belt transport mechanism **69** shown in FIG. **3** is driven by power of the belt motor **124** (refer to FIG. **6**).

Configuration of Second Positioning Mechanism of Cassette **22**

[0083] Next, the second positioning mechanism **33** of the cassette **22** will be described with reference to FIG. **4**. In FIG. **4**, the third edge guide **36** is omitted. As shown in FIG. **4**, the second positioning mechanism **33** as an example of a positioning mechanism includes a pair of edge guides **34**, **35** slidable in the width direction X. The pair of edge guides **34**, **35** are configured to be able to approach and separate from each other by the same amount in the width direction X. The second edge guide **35** includes an operation section **35A**. When the user operates the operation section **35A** to release lock, the second edge guide **35** becomes movable, and thereafter, when the operation section **35A** is released at the movement destination position, the second edge guide **35** is locked at that position.

[0084] A hopper **37** is arranged in a region where the medium M is placed in the cassette **22**. The medium M that is positioned by the pair of edge guides **34**, **35** is placed on the hopper **37**. The hopper **37** has a predetermined shape (for example, an H-shape) which can be tilted without interfering with the edge guide **34**, **35** and the like. In a state where the cassette **22** is attached to the device main body **20**, the hopper **37** lifts the medium M and presses it against the feed roller **63** (refer to FIG. **3**).

[0085] As shown in FIG. **4**, the second positioning mechanism **33** includes a rack and pinion mechanism **93** that slides the pair of edge guides **34**, **35** in conjunction with each other. The rack and pinion mechanism **93** includes a first rack **94**, a second rack **95**, and a pinion **96**.

[0086] The first rack **94** is fixed to a bottom of the first edge guide **34**, and extends in the width direction X toward the second edge guide **35**. The second rack **95** is fixed to a bottom of the second edge guide **35**, and extends in the width direction X toward the first edge guide **34**. The first rack **94** and the second rack **95** includes gear sections **94A**, **95A** on their side surfaces facing each other. The pinion **96** is positioned at a width center between the first edge guide **34** and the second edge guide **35** in the width direction X, and is positioned between the first rack **94** and the second rack **95** in the transport direction Y. The gear section **96A** of the pinion **96** meshes with both the gear section **94A** of the first rack **94** and the gear section **95A** of the second rack **95**.

[0087] As shown in FIG. **4**, the first edge guide **34** includes a first guide surface **34B** that guides one side edge of the medium M. The second edge guide **35** includes a second guide surface **35B** that guides the other side edge of the medium M. The first edge guide **34** includes a first bottom plate section **34C** extending from its base section in the +X direction. The second edge guide **35** includes a second bottom plate section **35C** extending from its base section in the -X direction. The pinion **96** is supported in a rotatable state about a shaft section **98** provided on a bottom plate section of the cassette **22**.

[0088] As shown in FIG. **4**, the second positioning mechanism **33** may include a guide motor **90** as a drive source that moves the pair of edge guides **34**, **35**, which are capable of positioning the medium M at least in the width direction X, in the positioning direction (width direction X). An aligning operation is performed in which the pair of edge guides **34**, **35** hit side ends on both sides of a bundle of the medium M that was transported to a cassette **22**.

[0089] The pinion **96** is configured to be capable of forward and reverse rotation by a power of a guide motor **90** via a gear mechanism (not shown). When the cassette **22** is attached to the device main body **20**, the pinion **96** and the guide motor **90** are connected via the gear mechanism so as to be able to transmit the power. By the control section **100** driving the guide motor **90** in forward and

reverse directions, it is possible to control the approach/separation position of the pair of edge guides **34**, **35**. For example, when the control section **100** drives the guide motor **90** in the forward direction, the pair of edge guides **34**, **35** separate from each other, and when the guide motor **90** is driven in the reverse direction, the pair of edge guides **34**, **35** approach each other. Thus, the pair of edge guides **34**, **35** are automatically moved so that an interval between them can be changed. The control section **100** may drive and control the guide motor **90** to adjust the interval between the pair of edge guides **34**, **35** to an interval corresponding to the size of the medium **M**. The control section **100** may perform the alignment operation of reducing a deviation of the bundle of the medium **M** in the width direction **X** by performing the drive control of the guide motor **90** and performing an operation of hitting the side edges on both sides of the bundle of the medium **M** by the pair of edge guides **34**, **35**.

Electrical Configuration of Recording Device **11**

[0090] Next, an electrical configuration of the recording device **11** will be described with reference to FIG. **6**.

[0091] The recording device **11** includes the control section **100**. An operation section **16**, a plurality of rotary encoders **86** to **89**, a medium sensor **79**, a detection section **85**, first to fourth remaining amount detection sections **62A** to **62D** (**62**), and the like are electrically connected to the control section **100** as input systems. The control section **100** receives a print job PD from a host device **110** communicably connected to the recording device **11**. The recording device **11** may generate the print job PD based on a print condition, print image data, and the like selected by the user using the operation section **16**.

[0092] The print job PD includes various commands necessary for print control, print condition information designated by the user, and print image data. The control section **100** controls the various motors **121** to **125** and the like based on a print command and controls the recording head **26** based on the print image data to record a character or an image based on the print image data on the medium **M**. In a case where the recording head **26** is, for example, an inkjet type, the recording head **26** draws the character or the image on the medium **M** with liquid dots such as ink dots by ejecting liquid such as ink from nozzles based on the print image data.

[0093] A display section **15**, a first feed motor **121**, a second feed motor **122**, a first transport motor **123**, a belt motor **124**, a second transport motor **125**, which constitute the transport unit **40**, and a recording section **25** are electrically connected to the control section **100** as output systems.

[0094] The control section **100** performs display control to display various menu screens on the display section **15**. A control section (not shown) of the host device **110** can cause a display section **111** to display various menu screens similar to the display section **15**. Since basic display contents of the menu screen and the like displayed on the display sections **15**, **111** are the same, an example of the menu screen displayed on the display section **15** of the operation panel **14** will be described below.

[0095] Further, the first flap **81**, the plurality of second flaps **82** and the third flap **83** constituting the sorting mechanism **80** are electrically connected to the control section **100** as output systems. The plurality of second flaps **82** correspond to the first to third sorting flaps **82A** to **82C** (refer to FIG. **3**).

[0096] The heat roller **67** and the guide motor **90** as output systems are electrically connected to the control section **100** shown in FIG. **6**. The control section **100** heats the heat roller **67** to a set heating temperature by applying a set current value to a heater (not shown) built in the heat roller **67**. The set heating temperature may be determined depending on the type of medium **M**. Here, a medium **M** having a thin thickness tends to wrinkle more easily than a medium **M** having a thick thickness. The medium **M** recorded on one surface tends to have more wrinkles than the medium **M** not recorded on either side (for example, blank paper).

[0097] For example, in a case of a first medium having a first thickness, the control section **100** may set heating temperature of the heat roller **67** higher than that in a case of a second medium

having a second thickness larger than the first thickness. For example, in a case of a second medium which is recorded on only one side, the control section **100** may set the heating temperature of the heat roller **67** higher than that in a case of a first medium which is not recorded on either side. Here, the first medium may be, for example, plain paper that is not recorded on either side, and the second medium may be, for example, paper printed on one side.

[0098] The recording device **11** may include a humidity detection section that detects humidity around the device. The control section **100** may change the heating temperature of the heat roller **67** according to a detection result of the humidity. For example, the control section **100** may set the heating temperature of the heat roller **67** to be higher at a first humidity than at a second humidity lower than the first humidity.

[0099] The control section **100** controls the positioning mechanism **33** in the cassette **22** by controlling the guide motor **90**. The control section **100** controls the interval between at least the pair of edge guides **34, 35** by controlling the guide motor **90**. The control section **100** may control the position of the third edge guide **36** by controlling a drive source such as a motor that moves the third edge guide **36**.

[0100] The detection section **85** detects information related to the medium M fed from the placement tray **21** at least at a time of medium sort. The information on the medium M includes the type of the medium M. The type of medium M includes at least the size among the size and the medium type. The control section **100** specifies the cassette **22** to which the medium M is to be introduced based on the information relating to the medium M that was detected by the detection section **85**. The detection section **85** may be, for example, an image sensor or an optical sensor of a light reflection type or a light transmission type. In a case where the detection section **85** is an image sensor, the control section **100** detects the type of the medium M by performing image processing or the like based on an image read by the detection section **85**. The type of medium is specified by detecting, using an image layer process, a difference in texture due to a difference in the medium type. In a case where the detection section **85** is an optical sensor, the control section **100** detects the type of the medium M based on a detection signal from the optical sensor. For example, the size may be specified from a side end position of the medium M detected by the optical sensor. The medium type may be specified in accordance with an amount of light received by the optical sensor.

[0101] The control section **100** acquires information on the remaining amount of the medium M accommodated in the cassette **22** detected by the remaining amount detection section **62**. In the present embodiment, the control section **100** acquires information on the remaining amount in each cassette **22** from the first to fourth remaining amount detection sections **62A** to **62D** that detect the remaining amount in each of the four cassettes **22**. In a case where the remaining amount of the cassette **22** to be a transport destination specified from the setting data RD is equal to or greater than a threshold, the control section **100** does not transport the medium M from the placement tray **21** to the cassette **22**. The threshold may be changed by the user operating the operation section **16**.

[0102] The rotary encoders **86** to **89** detect rotation of each of the first feed motor **121**, the second feed motor **122**, the first transport motor **123**, and the second transport motor **125**. Each of the rotary encoders **86** to **89** outputs an encoder signal including a number of pulses proportional to rotation amount of the corresponding the motors **121** to **123, 125** whose rotation is to be detected to the control section **100**.

[0103] The control section **100** also includes a computer **101**. The computer **101** is configured to include a central processing unit (CPU), a read only memory (ROM), a random access memory (RAM) and a storage (none of which are shown). The control section **100** controls a transport of the medium M in the recording device **11** and a printing operation of information on the medium M by the recording section **25**. Specifically, the control section **100** is not limited to performing software processing for all processing executed by the control section **100** itself. For example, the control section **100** may include a dedicated hardware circuit (for example, an application specific

integrated circuit (ASIC)) that performs hardware processing for at least a part of processing executed by the control section **100** itself. That is, the control section **100** can be configured as circuitry including one or more processors that operate according to a computer program (software), one or more dedicated hardware circuits that execute at least a part of various processes, or a combination thereof. The processor includes a CPU and a storage section **102** such as a RAM and a ROM, and the storage section **102** stores a program code or a command configured to cause the CPU to execute a process. The storage section **102** or computer readable medium includes any available media that can be accessed by a general purpose or special purpose computer.

[0104] As shown in FIG. **6**, the storage section **102** stores a program PR. The computer **101** executes the program PR to perform various kinds of control including a medium sort control shown in a flowcharts of FIGS. **9** and **10**.

[0105] Further, the storage section **102** stores the setting data RD that associates the cassette **22** with the type of medium M to be accommodated in the cassette **22**. The user operates the operation section **16** to perform a setting operation for associating the cassette **22** with the type of the medium M. This setting content is stored in the storage section **102** as the setting data RD. Here, the type of the medium M in the setting data RD includes the size and the medium type. The type of the medium M may include at least the size from among the size and the medium type.

[0106] At a time of printing (at a time of a print mode), the control section **100** specifies the cassette **22** corresponding to the type of the medium M by referring to the setting data RD based on information of the type of the medium M included in the print condition information. The control section **100** feeds the medium M from the specified cassette **22**. Specifically, the control section **100** feeds the medium M from the cassette **22** by driving the second feed motor **122** corresponding to the specified cassette **22**. In a case where the placement tray **21** is designated as the feed source by the print condition information, the control section **100** feeds the medium M placed on the placement tray **21**.

[0107] The control section **100** specifies the cassette **22** to be the transport destination of the medium M by referring to the setting data RD based on the information of the type of the medium M detected by the detection section **85** at a time of medium sort (at a time of a medium sort mode). At this time, the information of the medium M used for specifying the cassette **22** may include at least the information of the size among the size and the medium type constituting the type of the medium M. The control section **100** transports the medium M to the specified cassette **22**.

[0108] The computer **101** includes a first counter **103** and a second counter **104**. The first counter **103** counts, for example, a number of pulse edges of encoder signals input from the rotary encoders **86** to **89** that detect the rotation of the motors **121** to **123**, **125** of the transport system during printing. A count value of the first counter **103** indicates a transport position of the medium M transported from the placement tray **21** or the cassette **22** along the first path **41**.

[0109] The second counter **104** counts, for example, a number of pulse edges of encoder signals input from the rotary encoders **86** to **89** that detect the rotation of the motors **121** to **123**, **125** of the transport system. A count value of the second counter **104** indicates a transport position of the medium M transported from the placement tray **21** toward the cassette **22** along the second path **42**.

[0110] At the time of printing, the control section **100** performs recording control of the recording section **25** and control of the path switching mechanism **72**, **74**, **75** (refer to FIG. **3**) according to the transport position of the medium M obtained from the count value of the first counter **103**. The counting start position of the first counter **103** is based on a time when the medium M reaches a predetermined position on the transport path T. For example, the first counter **103** may be reset when the medium sensor **79** detects the front end of the medium M. The first counter **103** and the second counter **104** may include a plurality of counters including different counting start positions on the transport path T.

[0111] In the sort mode, the control section **100** performs sort control for sorting the medium M into the cassette **22** specified based on the information of the medium M detected by the detection

section **85**. This sort control is performed by the computer **101** executing the program **PR**. In the sort control, the control section **100** determines the second path **42** according to the information of the detected medium **M**. The control section **100** guides the medium **M** so as to be transported along the determined second path **42** by controlling each of the flaps **81** to **83** according to the transport position of the medium **M** acquired from the count value of the second counter **104**. [0112] When the print job **PD** is received during execution of a sort process of sorting the medium **M** from the placement tray **21** to the cassette **22**, then the control section **100** executes a print process based on the print job **PD**, giving it priority over the sort process.

[0113] Next, the setting data **RD** will be described with reference to FIG. **5**. The setting data **RD** is, for example, table data indicating a correspondence relationship between the cassette **22** and the type of the medium **M**. The type of medium **M** is set for each cassette **22**. The type of the medium **M** in the setting data **RD** includes at least the size from among the medium type and the size. In the example shown in FIG. **5**, the type of medium **M** includes the medium type and the size. Examples of the medium type include plain paper, paper printed on one side, photographic paper, glossy paper, matte paper, and the like. The size includes, for example, A4 size, B5 size, A3 size, L size, 2L size, post card size, business card size, and the like.

[0114] In an example shown in FIG. **5**, the first cassette **22A** is associated with the plain paper of B5 size. The second cassette **22B** is associated with the plain paper of A4 size. The third cassette **22C** is associated with the paper printed on one side of A4 size. The fourth cassette **22D** is associated with the plain paper of A3 size. The user operates the operation section **16** to set the type of medium **M** (for example, the medium type and the size) for the cassettes **22**. The contents set by the user are stored in the storage section **102** as the setting data **RD**.

Display Screen

[0115] Next, a display screen displayed on the display section **15** of the recording device **11** will be described with reference to FIGS. **7** and **8**.

[0116] FIG. **7** shows a menu screen **130** displayed on the display section **15**. The menu screen **130** is configured so that one of a plurality of selection items can be selected. As one of the selection items, a selection item **131** of “medium sort” is prepared. The user operates the operation section **130A** on the menu screen **130** as necessary to scroll a menu, thereby displaying a desired selection item on the screen. The user selects the selection item **131** of “medium sort” and then operates an OK button **132** to instruct the recording device **11** to perform a medium sort process. A cancel button **133** is operated to cancel input information.

[0117] When the control section **100** receives an operation signal of the OK button **132**, it displays a selection screen **140** for the medium sort process shown in FIG. **8** on the display section **15**. The selection screen **140** is provided with a first selection button **141** for selecting an item “print priority” and a second selection button **142** for selecting an item “sort priority”. An execution button **143** is an operation button for instructing execution of process in a selected priority mode. A cancel button **144** is operated to cancel input information on the selection screen **140**.

[0118] The recording device **11** includes display sections **15**, **111** that display the selection screen **140** capable of selecting one of the sort process and the print process to be prioritized, and operation sections **16**, **112** that are operated when the one to be prioritized is selected on the selection screen **140**. The first selection button **141** and the second selection button **142** are configured so as to be operable via the operation sections **16**, **112**.

[0119] In a state where the one to be prioritized of the selection buttons **141**, **142** is selected on the selection screen **140**, the user operates the execution button **143** to instruct the recording device **11** to set the priority mode. Here, the “print priority” mode is a mode in which when the print job **PD** is received during a sort operation, the print process is preferentially executed by interrupt. When a sort job is received during the print process, the print process is continued, and when the print process is finished, the sort process is started. The “sort priority” mode is a mode in which the sort operation is continued even when the print job **PD** is received during the sort operation, and the

print process is executed after the sort operation is completed. In a case where the sort job is received during the print process, the printing may be interrupted at a timing of a division between pages, and the sort process may be preferentially executed by interrupt. The control section **100** gives priority to the one process that was selected by operating the operation section **16**, **112** on the selection screen **140**. An interrupt print control when the print job PD is received during the sort operation in the print priority mode is performed by the control section **100** executing program shown in a flowchart in FIG. **9**.

Operations of Embodiment

[0120] Next, operations of the recording device **11** will be described.

[0121] The user instructs the print job PD to the recording device **11** by operating the operation section **112** of the host device **110** or the operation section **16** of the recording device **11**. The print job PD includes a print command, print condition information, print image data, and the like. The control section **100** specifies the cassette **22** of the feed source by referring to the setting data RD based on the information of the size and the medium type included in the print condition information. When the placement tray **21** is specified as the feed source in the print condition information, the placement tray **21** is set as the feed source. The control section **100** controls the transport unit **40** in accordance with the print command included in the print job PD and controls the recording section **25** based on the print image data. The transport unit **40** feeds the medium M from the cassette **22** or the placement tray **21** as the feed source. The transported medium M is transported along the first path **41**. For example, the recording section **25** performs recording on the medium M that is transported from the placement tray **21** along the first feed path **43** and the transport path **45**. The recording section **25** performs recording on the medium M that is transported from the cassette **22** along the second feed path **44** and the transport path **45**. The recording section **25** records characters or images based on print image data on the medium M. The medium M after recording is discharged to the stacker section **24** by being transported along the first discharge path **46**. In the case of double-sided recording, the medium M on which recording on a first side has been completed is inverted by passing through the switchback path **47** and the inversion path **48**. The recording section **25** performs recording on a second side of the medium M that is transported on the transport path **45** again after inversion. The medium M after double-sided recording is discharged to the stacker section **24** by being transported along the first discharge path **46**.

[0122] On the other hand, when the recording device **11** is caused to perform medium sort, the user selects the item of “medium sort” on the menu screen **130** displayed on the display section **15** and then operates the OK button **132**. Then, the selection screen **140** shown in FIG. **8** is displayed. Next, on the selection screen **140**, whichever of the print process and the sort process to be prioritized is selected. That is, the user operates the first selection button **141** to prioritize the print process, and operates the second selection button **142** to prioritize the sort process. Then, the bundle of the medium M to be sorted is placed on the placement tray **21**. In a case where the bundle of the medium M is paper printed on one side or paper that is mixed with paper printed on one side, the medium M is placed on the placement surface **21A** with an unrecorded blank surface facing downward. Then, the user operates the execution button **143**. When the sort job is received, the control section **100** executes the medium sort process shown in the flowchart of FIG. **9**.

Hereinafter, with reference to FIG. **9**, the medium sort process executed by the computer **101** of the control section **100** will be described. Note that each of the first flap **81** to the third flap **83** is in the first position.

[0123] First, in step S**11**, the control section **100** feeds the medium M. That is, the control section **100** drives the first feed motor **121** to feed one sheet among the medium M on the placement tray **21**.

[0124] In step S**12**, the control section **100** detects information on the medium M. Specifically, the detection section **85** detects both front and back sides of the medium M. For example, a downward

side of the medium M is referred to as a “front side” and an upward surface is referred to as a “back side”. In a case where the detection section **85** is, for example, an image sensor, the control section **100** acquires information relating to a size, information relating to blank paper (neither surface recorded), information relating to a printed surface (recorded surface), information relating to a medium type (material), information relating to a defect such as a tear, and the like as information of the medium M based on images of both front and back sides read by the detection section **85**. For example, when the medium M is paper, the medium type is specified by a texture such as a surface form of paper fibers in an image. In a case where the detection section **85** is an optical sensor, information on the medium M is acquired on a basis of a detection signal thereof. Information such as size, medium type, blank paper (no recorded surfaces), and printed surface (recorded surface) is specified from differences in an amount of light received when the optical sensor receives the light reflected on a surface of the medium M. As the size information, for example, information such as A4 size, B5 size, and A3 size is acquired. As the information on the medium type, for example, information on plain paper, paper printed on one side, photographic paper, glossy paper, matte paper, or the like is acquired. The information on the type of the medium M may be information on only the size from among the size and the medium type. In this case, the detection section **85** may be a sensor capable of detecting the size. Since information on blank paper and information on the printed surface are information for evaluating presence or absence of recording and presence or absence of contamination, only one set of information may be acquired based on the same detection information. The front side of the medium M is a side that, after the medium M has been introduced into the cassette **22**, will face the recording section **25** when fed toward the recording section **25**.

[0125] In step **S13**, the control section **100** determines whether or not the front and back sides are blank and also have no defects. When the front and back sides are blank and also have no defects, the process proceeds to step **S14**. On the other hand, when at least one of the front and back sides (one side) has been recorded, or when there are defects such as tears, the process proceeds to step **S18**.

[0126] In step **S14**, the control section **100** determines whether or not there is a cassette corresponding to the type of medium M. Here, the type of the medium M includes both the size and the medium type set in the setting data RD. The control section **100** specifies the cassette **22** corresponding to the type of the medium M by referring to the setting data RD based on the information of the type (the size and the medium type) of the medium M. When there is a cassette **22** corresponding to the type of the medium M, the process proceeds to step **S15**. On the other hand, when there is no cassette **22** corresponding to the type of the medium M, the process proceeds to step **S24**. The type of the medium M may be at least the size among the size and the medium type. For example, it may be determined whether or not there is a cassette **22** corresponding to the size by referring to the setting data RD based on the information of the size.

[0127] In step **S15**, the control section **100** determines whether or not the remaining amount of the cassette **22** is equal to or greater than a threshold. The control section **100** uses the remaining amount detection section **62** to detect the remaining amount of the cassette **22** that was specified as the transport destination, and determines whether or not the detected remaining amount is equal to or greater than the threshold. When the remaining amount of the cassette **22** is not equal to or greater than the threshold (that is, when it is less than the threshold), the process proceeds to step **S16**. On the other hand, if the remaining amount of the cassette **22** is equal to or greater than the threshold, the process proceeds to step **S24**.

[0128] In step **S16**, the control section **100** guides the medium M to the bypass path **50** using the first flap **81**. The control section **100** drives the actuator to rotate the first flap **81** from the first position to the second position. As a result, the medium M is guided to the bypass path **50** using the first flap **81** and is transported to the second feed path **44**.

[0129] In step **S17**, the control section **100** places the medium M into the corresponding cassette **22**

using the second flap **82**. Specifically, before the transport position of the medium M, which is based on the count value of the second counter **104**, reaches the branch position to the transport destination cassette **22**, the control section **100** causes the second flap **82** that corresponds to the transport destination cassette **22** to pivot from the first position to the second position. As a result, the medium M that is transported backwards along the second feed path **44** in the reverse transport direction-TD is guided by the second flap **82** located at the second position, and is placed in the transport destination cassette **22**. In other words, the medium M is deposited in the transport destination cassette **22**.

[0130] In this manner, the type of medium M, the fact that the front and back sides are blank, and the fact that there is no defect are detected as information on the medium M by the detection section **85**. The second cassette **22B** is specified referring to the setting data RD based on the type of medium M (for example, A4 size plain paper). When the medium M is blank on the front and back sides and also it has no defects, the medium M is transported in the reverse direction along the bypass path **50** and the second feed path **44** along the path indicated by the thick line in FIG. **11**. Then, the medium M is guided using the second flap **82** (second sorting flap **82B**) at the second position, and is placed in the second cassette **22B** in the second stage. The second cassette **22B** is a cassette in which A4 size plain paper is set as shown in the setting data RD in FIG. **5**. In the present embodiment, the control section **100** periodically drives the guide motor **90** in forward and reverse directions to reciprocate the pair of edge guides **34**, **35** a plurality of times in small increments. The side ends on both sides in the width direction X of the bundle of the medium M are hit by the pair of edge guides **34**, **35** to align the bundle of the medium M so as to be aligned in the width direction X.

[0131] Note that the edge guides **34**, **35** may stand by in a state in which the pair of edge guides **34**, **35** are spaced apart from each other by an interval slightly longer than a width dimension of the medium M so that the medium M is reliably placed between the pair of edge guides **34**, **35** when the medium M is transported into the cassette **22**. At the time of the sort process, the medium M may be drawn into the cassette **22** by rotating the feeding roller **63** in a direction opposite to that of feeding out the medium M in a state in which the hopper **37** is raised. Further, in a state where the hopper **37** is lowered, the medium M may be caused to flow into the cassette **22** by using a transporting force and its own weight. Then, the aligning operation of hitting both side edges of the bundle of the medium M by the pair of edge guides **34**, **35** may be performed each time one or a plurality of sheets of medium M are carried in, so that the bundle of the medium M is in an aligned state when used to refill the cassette **22**.

[0132] On the other hand, when it is determined in step **S13** that the front and back sides are not blank and are not without defects (that is, there are defects), the process proceeds to step **S18** and the next process is performed.

[0133] In step **S18**, the control section **100** determines whether or not one side is a printed surface and also without defects. Here, a surface which has been recorded on is referred to as a printed surface. A surface that has not been recorded on is a blank surface. Therefore, the process of step **S18** can be said to be a process of determining whether or not only one side is blank and is also without defects. When one side is a printed surface and is also without defects, the process proceeds to step **S19**. On the other hand, if one side is not a printed surface and also not without defects, the process proceeds to step **S23**. That is, when there are defects, then the process proceeds to step **S23**, and when both sides are printed surfaces, then the process proceeds to step **S23** even if there are no defects.

[0134] In step **S19**, the control section **100** determines whether or not there is a cassette corresponding to the type of medium M. This determination process is the same as step **S14**. When there is a cassette **22** corresponding to the type of medium M, the process proceeds to step **S20**. On the other hand, when there is no cassette **22** corresponding to the type of the medium M, the process proceeds to step **S24**.

[0135] In step S20, the control section **100** determines whether or not the printed surface is the front side. In a case where the printed surface is the front side, when the cassette **22** is filled with the medium M via the bypass path **50** and then afterward the medium M is fed from the cassette **22**, then the printed surface of the medium M will be the surface on the side facing the recording head **26**. In other words, the image will be printed on the printed surface. For this reason, the control section **100** transports medium M whose printed surface is the front side to the corresponding cassette **22** after inverting the front and back sides. In this determination process, when the printed surface is the front side, the process proceeds to step S21. On the other hand, when the printed surface is not the front side (that is, when the printed surface is the back side), the process proceeds to step S15.

[0136] In step S21, the control section **100** inverts the front and back sides of the medium M. Specifically, after the medium M is transported along the first feed path **43** and the transport path **45**, the medium M is switched back and transported in the switchback path **47**, and thus the medium M is inverted by being transported along the inversion path **48** from the rear end side.

[0137] In step S22, the control section **100** guides the medium M to the second feed path **44** using the third flap **83**. Specifically, the control section **100** causes the third flap **83** to pivot from the first position to the second position before the inversion of the medium M ends. The inverted medium M is transported to the second feed path **44** via the auxiliary path **58** using the third flap **83**.

[0138] In step S17, the control section **100** places the medium M into the corresponding cassette **22** using the second flap **82**. Specifically, the control section **100** pivots the second flap **82** corresponding to the cassette **22** of the transport destination specified from the type of the medium M from the first position to the second position. As a result, the medium M reversely transported along the second feed path **44** is guided by the second flap **82** at the second position, and is placed in the cassette **22** at the destination. In other words, the medium M is deposited in the transport destination cassette **22**.

[0139] In this way, in a case where the medium M is paper printed on one side that needs to be inverted, the detection section **85** detects, as the information of the medium M, the type of the medium M, the fact that the front side (one side) is a printed surface and the back side (the other side) is a blank surface, and the fact that there are no defects. The third cassette **22C** is specified by referring to the setting data RD based on the type of the medium M (for example, A4 size paper printed on one side).

[0140] According to the information of the medium M, when the medium M is paper printed on one side and inversion is necessary for refilling the cassette **22**, the medium M is transported along a path in the order of (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), and (6) shown by thick line in FIG. **12**. After inversion, the medium M is reversely transported through the second feed path **44**, and is guided by the second flap **82** (third sorting flap **82C**), which is located at the second position along the path, whereupon it is placed into the third cassette **22C** at the third stage. As shown in the setting data RD shown in FIG. **5**, the third cassette **22C** is a cassette in which A4 size paper that was printed on one side is set. By being inverted, the medium M is placed in the cassette **22** in such a manner that the printed surface faces upward and the blank surface faces downward. Therefore, after that, recording is performed on the blank surface of paper printed on one side fed from the cassette **22**.

[0141] On the other hand, in step S18, when the control section **100** determines that one side is a printed surface and also has defects, the process proceeds to step S23.

[0142] In step S23, the control section **100** determines whether or not there are defects. When there is no defect, the process proceeds to step S24. On the other hand, when there are defects, the process proceeds to step S25.

[0143] In step S24, the control section **100** discharges the medium M from the first discharge port **28** to the stacker section **24**. Mainly in a following three cases, the medium M is discharged to the stacker section **24**. Specifically, in a case where there is no cassette **22** corresponding to the type of the medium M (negative determination in steps S14 and S19), the medium M is discharged to the

stacker section **24**. In a case where the remaining amount of the cassette **22** is equal to or greater than the threshold (affirmative determination in step **S15**), the medium **M** is discharged to the stacker section **24**. In a case where the medium **M** is without defects but has no blank surface (negative determination in Step **S23**), the medium **M** is discharged to the stacker section **24**. The medium **M** is discharged from the first discharge port **28** after being transported along the first feed path **43**, the transport path **45**, and the first discharge path **46**. The medium **M** discharged from the first discharge port **28** is stacked on the stacker section **24**. In this way, medium **M** with defects, medium **M** when the remaining amount of the transport destination cassette **22** is equal to or greater than the threshold, and medium **M** without a blank surface are transported along the path indicated by thick line in FIG. **13** and then discharged onto the stacker section **24**.

[0144] In step **S25**, the control section **100** discards the medium **M** from the second discharge port **29**. For example, the second discharge port **29** of the recording device **11** is connected to a shredder (not shown), and the discharged medium **M** with defects is shredded by the shredder. Alternatively, a discarding box (not shown) is arranged below the discharge side of the second discharge port **29**, and the discharged medium **M** with defects is discarded in the discarding box. In this way, medium **M** without a cassette **22** with its specified size or medium **M** with defects is transported along a path indicated by the thick line in FIG. **14** and discarded to the outside of the device main body **20**.

[0145] Next, a process performed when print priority is selected on the selection screen **140** shown in FIG. **8** will be described. When a print job **PD** is received during execution of the medium sort process in the print priority mode, the control section **100** executes the interrupt print control routine shown in FIG. **10**. Hereinafter, the interrupt print control when the control section **100** receives the print job **PD** during a medium sort process will be described.

[0146] In step **S31**, the control section **100** determines whether or not a print job **PD** has been received. When no print job **PD** has been received, the routine ends. On the other hand, when a print job **PD** is received, the process proceeds to step **S32**.

[0147] In step **S32**, the control section **100** interrupts sorting.

[0148] In step **S33**, the control section **100** continues the sort operation until the medium **M** being sorted is sorted.

[0149] In step **S34**, the control section **100** determines whether or not the sorting being performed has been completed. When the sorting is completed, the process proceeds to step **S35**. On the other hand, when the sorting is not completed, the process returns to step **S33** and the sorting operation is continued until sorting is completed.

[0150] In step **S35**, the control section **100** executes the print job **PD**. In other words, even when a print job **PD** is received, the medium **M** waits without executing the print job **PD** while the medium **M** being sorted is on the transport path **T**.

[0151] In step **S36**, the control section **100** feeds the medium **M** from the specified cassette **22**. A medium **M** is fed from the designated cassette **22** specified by referring to the setting data **RD** based on the information of the size and the medium type included in the print condition information.

[0152] In step **S37**, the control section **100** executes printing. The control section **100** controls the recording section **25** based on the print image data to cause the recording section **25** to record a character or an image based on the print image data.

[0153] In step **S38**, the control section **100** performs shift discharge. During sorting, there is a possibility that sorted medium **M** exists on the stacker section **24**. In this case, when recorded medium **M** is stacked at the same position on the stacker section **24**, there is a possibility that the sorted medium **M** and the recorded medium **M** printed by interrupt will coexist. Therefore, the first discharging section **54** performs a shift process in which the sorted medium **M** and the recorded medium **M** on which printing has been performed by interrupt are discharged with their positions shifted in the width direction **X**. As a result of this shift process, the sorted medium **M** and the recorded medium **M** printed by interrupt are stacked on the stacker section **24** at different positions

in the width direction X so that they can be distinguished from each other.

[0154] In step **S39**, the control section **100** determines whether or not the print job PD has been completed. When the print job PD is, for example, a continuous print process for a plurality of sheets, there are still remaining prints after one sheet has been printed. When there is remaining print and the print job PD is not completed, the process returns to step **S36**, and the remaining print is executed. That is, feeding, printing, and shift discharge are performed for each of the remaining sheets to be printed.

[0155] In step **S40**, the control section **100** determines whether or not there is a subsequent print job PD. When there is a subsequent print job PD, the process returns to step **S35** and the subsequent print job PD is executed. On the other hand, when there is no next print job PD, the process proceeds to step **S41**.

[0156] In step **S41**, the control section **100** resumes the sort operation.

[0157] As described above, in the print priority mode, when a print job PD is received during a sort operation, the print process is prioritized over the sort process by executing printing by interrupt.

[0158] On the other hand, in the sort priority mode, the control section **100** continues the sort operation even when a print job PD is received. When all sort operations are completed, the print job PD is executed. In this case, once the sort process is started, printing is not performed until the sort process is completed.

[0159] For example, the sort priority mode is selected during a time period in which the printing is not performed after the end of working hours. In this case, since frequency of receiving a print job PD is low, by giving priority to the sort process over the print process, a delay in the sort process due to interruption of another process or the like is suppressed.

Effects of Embodiment

[0160] According to the embodiment, the following effects can be obtained.

[0161] (1) A recording device **11** includes a device main body **20** including a recording section **25**; a placement tray **21** configured to support a medium M; and a cassette **22** provided below the recording section **25** and the placement tray **21** and configured to accommodate a medium M.

[0162] The device main body **20** includes a first path **41** configured to transport the medium M placed on the placement tray **21** to the recording section **25** and further to transport the recorded medium and a second path **42** configured to transport medium placed on the placement tray **21** to the cassette **22**.

[0163] According to this configuration, recording is performed on the medium M by the recording section **25** by transporting the medium M placed on the placement tray **21** along the first path **41**. When a medium bundle is placed on the placement tray **21**, the medium M is transported from the placement tray **21** to the cassette **22** along the second path **42**. Therefore, even when a user does not directly accommodate (set) a medium bundle in the cassette **22**, the medium M can be used to refill the cassette **22** by placing the medium bundle on the placement tray **21**. In a large-sized recording device **11** such as an office printer, the cassette **22** is arranged at a height lower than a waist of the user. Therefore, it is necessary for the user to perform a refill operation or an exchange operation for the cassette **22**, which is performed by holding a relatively heavy bundle of medium M, in a bent posture. As a result, the refill operation and the exchange operation of the medium M become a heavy workload for the user. On the other hand, according to the recording device **11** of the present embodiment, when the bundle of medium M is placed on the placement tray **21** at a higher position than the cassette **22**, the recording device **11** automatically refills the cassette **22** with the medium M on the placement tray **21**. Therefore, the workload of the user can be reduced.

[0164] (2) The second path **42** is partially common with the first path **41**.

[0165] According to this configuration, it is possible to transport the medium M from the placement tray **21** to the cassette **22** using a part of the first path **41** that transports the medium M from the placement tray **21** to the recording section **25** as the second path **42**. Therefore, the size of the newly added second paths **42** can be reduced. For example, an increase in a size of the

recording device **11** can be suppressed.

[0166] (3) The recording device **11** includes a first feed path **43** configured to feed the medium **M** from the placement tray **21** toward the recording section **25**; a second feed path **44** configured to feed the medium **M** from the cassette **22** toward the recording section **25**; and a bypass path **50**.

[0167] The bypass path **50** branches off from an intermediate position of the first feed path **43** and is connected to the second feed path **44**.

[0168] The recording device **11** includes a first flap **81** configured to guide the medium **M** from the first feed path **43** to the bypass path **50**.

[0169] According to this configuration, it is possible to transport the medium **M** from the placement tray **21** to the cassette **22** through the bypass path **50** that connects the first feed path **43** and the second feed path **44**. The length of the transport path from the placement tray **21** to the cassette **22** can be shortened compared to the configuration in which the medium **M** is transported to the cassette **22** via a merging position of the first feed path **43** and the second feed path **44**.

[0170] (4) The recording device **11** includes a detection section **85** that detects information on the medium **M** at a position at an intermediate position of the second path **42**.

[0171] The recording device **11** sorts the medium **M** placed on the placement tray **21** based on the information.

[0172] According to this configuration, the medium **M** placed on the placement tray **21** can be sorted based on the information detected at the intermediate position of the second path **42**. Here, a sorting includes a sorting between a plurality of cassettes **22** and a sorting between a cassettes **22** and other than a cassette **22**. For example, the cassettes **22** may be sorted according to a size as an example of the information. Further, as an example of the information, the cassette **22** and other than the cassette **22** may be sorted according to whether or not the size is set, whether or not there are defects, or the like. The information is not limited to size, and may be any information as long as the information can be used for sorting, such as a medium type, applicable/non-applicable, and presence or absence of defects. Furthermore, since the recording device **11** refills the cassette **22** with the medium **M** of a type as set, it is possible to reduce frequency of occurrence of a refill error, an exchange error, or the like in which a type and combination of the cassette **22** and the medium **M** are different from a setting, compared to a case in which the user directly refills or exchanges the medium **M** in the cassette **22**.

[0173] (5) The detection section **85** determines the size of the medium **M**.

[0174] According to this configuration, the medium **M** transported from the placement tray **21** to the cassette **22** can be sorted according to their sizes.

[0175] (6) The recording device **11** includes a storage section **102** configured to store setting data **RD** associating the cassette **22** with the size of the medium **M** to be accommodated in the cassette **22**.

[0176] The recording device **11** transports the medium **M** to the cassette **22** specified by referring to the setting data **RD** based on the information of the size detected by the detection section **85**.

[0177] According to this configuration, the medium **M** can be transported to the cassette **22** specified based on the information of the size detected by the detection section **85**.

[0178] (7) The recording device **11** includes discharging sections **54**, **57** to which the recorded medium **M** recorded by the recording section **25** at an intermediate position of the first path **41** is discharged.

[0179] When there is no cassette **22** specified from the size detected by the detection section **85**, the recording device **11** discharges the medium **M** of the size to the discharging sections **54**, **57**.

[0180] According to this configuration, when there is no cassette **22** specified by the size detected by the detection section **85**, the medium **M** can be discharged to the discharging sections **54**, **57**. For example, when there is no cassette **22** specified by the size detected by the detection section **85**, it is possible to avoid an inappropriate process in which an operation of refilling the cassette **22** with the medium **M** is interrupted or a medium **M** of an inappropriate size is used to refill the

cassette **22**.

[0181] (8) The recording device **11** includes a plurality of cassettes **22**.

[0182] The recording device **11** includes a sorting mechanism **80** that sorts the medium **M** into the cassette **22** according to the information of the medium **M** detected by the detection section **85**.

[0183] According to this configuration, the sorting mechanism **80** can sort the medium **M** into the cassette **22** according to the information of the medium **M** detected by the detection section **85**.

[0184] (9) The second feed path **44** includes a common path **44A** through which the medium **M** fed from the plurality of cassettes **22** commonly pass, and an individual path **44B** from the plurality of cassettes **22** to the common path **44A**.

[0185] The sorting mechanism **80** includes second flaps **82** that guide the medium **M** from the common path **44A** to the individual paths **44B**.

[0186] According to this configuration, the sorting mechanism **80** can sort the medium **M** to the corresponding cassette **22** by guiding the medium **M** from the common path **44A** to the individual path **44B** by the second flap **82**.

[0187] (10) The recording device **11** includes a heat roller **67** configured to heat the medium **M** at a position at an intermediate position of the second path **42**.

[0188] The recording device **11** transports the medium **M** heated by the heat roller **67** to the cassette **22**.

[0189] According to this configuration, it is possible to refill the cassette **22** with the medium **M**, which heated by the heat roller **67** to eliminate or reduce wrinkles.

[0190] (11) The recording device **11** includes a detection section **85** that detects information on the medium **M** at a position at an intermediate position of the second path **42**.

[0191] The detection section **85** detects both front and back sides of the medium **M** to determine whether or not the medium **M** is a first medium in which both sides are unrecorded as the information.

[0192] The recording device **11** transports the medium **M** determined as the first medium by the detection section **85** to the cassette **22** via the bypass path **50**.

[0193] According to this configuration, it is possible to transport the medium **M** of which both sides are unrecorded to the cassette **22** through a path having a short path length via the bypass path **50**. Normally, the medium **M** accommodated in the cassette **22** is the first medium of which both sides are unrecorded (for example, both surfaces are blank surfaces) in many cases. Such a first medium **M** can be quickly used to refill from the placement tray **21** to the cassette **22** through a short path.

[0194] (12) The first path **41** includes an inversion path for inverting the medium **M** in which recording on a first side is completed in an orientation in which a second side, which is a side on an opposite side to the first side, faces the recording section **25** during double-sided recording for recording on both sides of the medium **M**.

[0195] The detection section **85** determines a second medium in which only one side has been recorded as the information for detecting both front and back sides of the medium **M** and which needs to be inverted the front and back sides before being transported to the cassette **22**. The recording device **11** transports the medium **M** determined as the second medium by the detection section **85** to the cassette **22** after inverting the medium in the inversion path.

[0196] According to this configuration, by inverting the second medium **M** which has been recorded on only one side and needs to be inverted in the inversion path, the second medium **M** can be used to refill the cassette **22** with the correct front and back orientation.

[0197] (13) The detection section **85** detects a defect in the medium **M** as the information.

[0198] The recording device **11** discharges the medium **M** in which the defect is detected to the discharging sections **54**, **57**.

[0199] According to this configuration, the medium **M** with the defect can be discharged without being used to refill the cassette **22**.

[0200] (14) The discharging sections **54, 57** include a first discharging section **54** and a second discharging section **57** different from the first discharging section **54**.

[0201] The recording device **11** separately discharges the medium **M** with the defect and the non-corresponding medium without the cassette **22** specified from the detected information (for example, size) to the first discharging section **54** and the second discharging section **57**.

[0202] According to this configuration, the medium **M** with the defect and the non-corresponding medium without the cassette **22** to be a transfer destination are discharged to separate discharging sections **54, 57** while avoiding refill of the cassette **22**. Therefore, it is possible to prevent a plurality of different types of medium **M** from being mixed at a discharge destination.

[0203] (15) The first discharging section **54** includes a stacker section **24** provided in the device main body **20**.

[0204] The second discharging section **57** includes a second discharge port **29** which is an example of a discharge port through which the medium **M** is configured to be discharged to outside of the device main body **20**.

[0205] The recording device **11** discharges the non-corresponding medium **M** to the stacker section **24** and discards the medium **M** with the defect from the second discharge port **29** to the outside of the device main body **20**.

[0206] According to this configuration, the non-corresponding medium **M** without a cassette **22** to be refilled and the medium **M** with the defect can be discharged separately.

[0207] (16) The recording device **11** includes a remaining amount detection section **62** configured to detect a remaining amount of the medium **M** accommodated in the cassette **22**.

[0208] The recording device **11** does not transport the medium **M** from the placement tray **21** to the cassette **22** when the remaining amount in the cassette **22** of the transport destination is equal to or greater than a threshold.

[0209] According to this configuration, it is possible to avoid that the medium **M** is used to refill the cassette **22** in which the remaining amount is equal to or greater than the threshold. For example, it is possible to prevent the cassette **22** from being refilled with an excessive amount of sheets of medium **M**, such as exceeding the maximum number of medium **M** accommodated in the cassette **22** or a specified number of medium **M**.

[0210] (17) The cassette **22** includes a positioning mechanism **33** including a pair of edge guides **34, 35** configured to position the medium **M** at least in a width direction.

[0211] The positioning mechanism **33** includes a guide motor **90** as an example of a power source that moves the pair of edge guides **34, 35** in a positioning direction (width direction **X**).

[0212] The recording device **11** causes the pair of edge guides **34, 35** to hit side ends on both sides of a bundle of the medium **M** transported to a cassette **22**.

[0213] According to this configuration, it is possible to refill using a bundle of medium **M** that was transported to the cassette **22** in an aligned state with little deviation in the positioning direction.

[0214] (18) When the recording device **11** accepts the print job **PD** during execution of the sort process for sorting the medium **M** from the placement tray **21** to the cassette **22**, the recording device **11** executes print process based on the print job with priority over sort process.

[0215] According to this configuration, when the print job **PD** is received during the sort process, the print process is executed prior to the sort process. Therefore, it is possible to suppress waiting until all of the sort process is completed.

[0216] (19) The recording device **11** includes a display section **15** configured to display a selection screen **140** selectable one of the sort process and the print process with one priority and an operation section **16** to be operated when the one priority is selected on the selection screen **140**.

[0217] The recording device **11** gives priority to one process selected by operating the operation section **16** on the selection screen **140**.

[0218] According to this configuration, it is possible to select one of the sort process and the print process to be prioritized. Since one to be prioritized can be selected according to a time zone or the

like, usability for the user is improved.

Modifications

[0219] The present embodiment can be modified as follows. The present embodiment and the following modifications can be implemented in combination with each other within a range that is not technically contradictory.

[0220] The detection section **85** may not be provided. For example, the user may specify the type of the medium **M** and the cassette **22** as a sorting destination by operating the operation section **16**. The control section **100** recognizes that the medium **M** on the placement tray **21** is a specified type, and transports the medium **M** to a specified cassette **22**. The control section **100** may store setting data **RD** that associates the specified cassette **22** with the type of the medium **M**.

[0221] At least one of the bypass path **50** and the auxiliary path **58** may not be provided. For example, the medium **M** may be guided from the rear end to the second feed path **44** by the switchback transport in which the medium **M** is transported from the placement tray **21** to the transport path **45** and then reversely transported through the transport path **45**. A configuration may be adopted in which the medium **M** inverted via the inversion path **48** is once guided to the transport path **45**, and thereafter, the medium **M** is guided from the rear end to the second feed path **44** by switchback transport in which the medium **M** is reversely transported on the transport path **45**. In a case where the medium **M** is guided from the rear end to the second feed path **44**, the placement direction of the medium **M** on the placement tray **21** may be the opposite to the front and back orientation of the embodiment. In these cases, all of the second path **42** may have the same configuration as that of the first path **41**.

[0222] When the user instructs the sort process after changing the setting data **RD**, in a case where the remaining amount detection section **62** detects that the medium **M** having a size different from a new setting remains in the cassette **22**, the control section **100** may notify the user of the fact using the display sections **15**, **111** or a speaker. Further, after the notification, a selection screen may be displayed on the display sections **15**, **111** so that the user can select whether or not to perform a process of discharging a remaining medium **M** from the cassette **22**. When the user selects execution of a medium discharge process on the selection screen, the control section **100** may perform the discharge process of discharging the medium **M** from the cassette **22**. In this case, the remaining medium **M** is discharged from the first discharging section **54** onto the stacker section **24**, for example.

[0223] Although the medium **M** is used to refill the cassette **22** in the sort process of the above-described embodiment, the medium **M** in the cassette **22** may be exchanged. First, the control section **100** discharges the medium **M** in the cassette **22** to the stacker section **24**. When the cassette **22** becomes empty, next, the control section **100** transports the medium **M** on the placement tray **21** to the cassette **22** by the sort process and refills the cassette **22**. At this time, when the size of the medium **M** is the same before and after the exchange and the medium type is different, an interval between the pair of edge guides **34**, **35** and a position of the third edge guide **36** may be left as they are. When the exchange is accompanied by a change in size, the control section **100** may control the guide motor **90** of the drive source to change the interval between the pair of edge guides **34**, **35**. It is preferable that a drive source (not shown) such as a motor is also provided for the third edge guide **36**, and that the position of the third edge guide **36** can be changed by controlling the drive source by the control section **100**.

[0224] A reservation function may be provided in which the control section **100** automatically starts the sort process when the remaining amount of the cassette **22** becomes less than or equal to a threshold. In the reservation function, the control section **100** starts the sort operation when the remaining amount, which is a result of the detection by the remaining amount detection section **62**, becomes less than the threshold. The reservation function may start the sort process at a point in time when a set time elapses from a time of reservation, or may start the sort process at a point in time when a specified time specified by the user is reached. As the set time of the reservation

function, the user may select one from a plurality of predetermined set times, or the user may input and specify a desired time as a numerical value within a range of the maximum time.

[0225] When the remaining amount of the cassette **22** becomes empty, the cassette **22** may be refilled using the bundle of medium **M** prepared in advance on the placement tray **21**. For example, in a case where the printing is performed on a larger number of sheets than the maximum number of sheets that can be accommodated in the cassette **22**, when the cassette **22** becomes empty, the printing is interrupted, and subsequently, using the medium **M** from the placement tray **21** to refill an empty cassette **22** is automatically performed. For example, the control section **100** may be configured to automatically restart an interrupted printing at a time point when the medium **M** is refilled to an amount equal to or greater than a threshold. The threshold at this time may be the number of sheets required for remaining printing or the number of sheets obtained by adding a small margin to this number of sheets.

[0226] In the embodiment, in a case where the sort process is interrupted because it is determined that the medium **M** in the cassette **22** is equal to or greater than a threshold (upper limit threshold) from the detection result of the remaining amount detection section **62**, the sort process may be started at a time point when the medium **M** is consumed from the cassette **22** and the remaining amount becomes less than a threshold (refill start threshold).

[0227] The recording device **11** may include a sort function of sorting the medium bundles placed on the placement tray **21** for each type and stacking the medium **M** on the stacker section **24** by shifting a position for each type by a shift function of the first discharging section **54**. For example, a medium bundle in which different types of medium **M** are mixed is placed on the placement tray **21**. The recording device **11** transports the medium **M** to the first discharging section **54** while determining the type of the medium **M** transported from the placement tray **21** by the detection section **85**, and stacks the medium **M** on the stacker section **24** by shifting a position in the width direction **X** for each type by the shift function of the first discharging section **54**.

[0228] The medium **M** may be used to refill the cassette **22** by transporting the medium **M** supplied from the large-capacity medium supply device to the recording device **11** via the connection section **23** to the cassette **22**.

[0229] A configuration may be adopted in which a path through which the medium **M** is transported from the placement tray **21** to the cassette **22** is a path that passes through the recording position **PP**, the recording section **25** records a standard design, ruled lines, a standard sentence, or the like on the medium **M** passing through the recording position **PP**, and then the medium **M** after recording is transported to the cassette **22**. By performing recording on the medium **M** in the process of using the medium **M** from the placement tray **21** to refill the cassette **22** in this manner, the medium **M** on which recording has been performed may be used to refill the cassette **22** in an orientation in which the record surface thereof is the front side (surface to be recorded).

[0230] The present disclosure may be applied to a recording device **11** including only one cassette **22**. For example, the present disclosure may be applied to a recording device **11** smaller than an office printer. The recording device **11** does not store the setting data **RD**. The user inputs information on the size of the medium **M** to be used to refill the cassette **22** by operating the operation section **16**. When the size of the medium **M** detected by the detection section **85** is the same as the specified size, the control section **100** transports the medium **M** to the cassette **22**, and when the sizes are different, the control section **100** discharges the medium **M** to the discharging section **54** without transporting the medium **M** to the cassette **22**.

[0231] The medium **M** with defects may be discharged to the stacker section **24**. In this case, the medium **M** with defects and the medium **M** of the type that is not associated with the cassette **22** may be stacked on the stacker section **24** by shifting positions in the width direction **X** by the shift function of the first discharging section **54**.

[0232] The recording device **11** is not limited to a serial printer or a line printer, but may be a page printer. In a case where the recording device **11** is a line printer, the recording section **25** does not

include a carriage, and includes a recording head capable of simultaneously printing a range longer than the maximum width of the medium M. The recording head **26** performs printing on the medium M which is transported at a predetermined speed by the transport section **53**. In this case, the recording head **26** may be an ejection head (ejection section) that ejects liquid such as ink. The recording section **25** includes a carriage that supports the recording head **26**, and the recording head **26** performs recording on the medium M in a process in which the carriage reciprocates in the scanning direction.

[0233] The recording device **11** is not limited to an ink jet printer, but may be an electrophotographic printer such as a laser printer. The recording device **11** may be a dot impact type printer or a thermal transfer type printer.

[0234] The recording device **11** is not limited to a multifunction device, and may be a printer without the scanner section **13**.

[0235] Hereinafter, a technical idea derived from the above-described embodiment and the modifications and its effects will be described.

[0236] (A) A recording device includes a device main body including a recording section; a placement tray configured to support a medium; and a cassette provided below the recording section and the placement tray and configured to accommodate a medium, wherein the device main body includes a first path configured to transport medium placed on the placement tray to the recording section and further to transport the recorded medium and a second path configured to transport medium placed on the placement tray to the cassette.

[0237] According to this configuration, recording is performed on the medium by the recording section by transporting the medium placed on the placement tray along the first path. When a medium bundle is placed on the placement tray, the medium is transported from the placement tray to the cassette along the second path. Therefore, even when a user does not directly place the medium bundle in the cassette, the user can refill the cassette with the medium by placing the medium bundle on the placement tray.

[0238] (B) In the above recording device the second path may be partially common to the first path.

[0239] According to this configuration, it is possible to transport the medium from the placement tray to the cassette by using a part of the first path that transports the medium from the placement tray to the recording section as the second path. Therefore, a number of newly added second path can be reduced. For example, an increase in a size of the recording device can be suppressed.

[0240] (C) The above recording device may include a first feed path configured to feed the medium from the placement tray toward the recording section; a second feed path configured to feed the medium from the cassette toward the recording section; a bypass path branched off from an intermediate portion of the first feed path and connected to the second feed path; and a first flap configured to guide the medium from the first feed path to the bypass path.

[0241] According to this configuration, it is possible to transport the medium from the placement tray to the cassette through the bypass path that connects the first feed path and the second feed path. The length of the transport path from the placement tray to the cassette can be shortened compared to the configuration in which the medium is transported to the cassette via a merging position of the first feed path and the second feed path.

[0242] (D) The above recording device may include a detection section that detects information of the medium at an intermediate position of the second path, wherein the recording device may sort the medium placed on the placement tray based on the information.

[0243] According to this configuration, the medium placed on the placement tray can be sorted based on the information detected at the intermediate position of the second path. Here, sorting is not limited to sorting between a plurality of cassettes, but also includes sorting between a cassette and other than a cassette. For example, sorting may be to cassettes according to size as an example of information, or sorting may be to a cassette and to somewhere besides a cassette according to a set size or a non-set size. The information is not limited to size, and may be any information as

long as the information can be used for sorting, such as a medium type, applicable/non-applicable, and presence or absence of defects.

[0244] (E) In the above recording device, the detection section may determine a size of the medium.

[0245] According to this configuration, it is possible to sort the medium transported from the placement tray to the cassette according to the size.

[0246] (F) The above recording device may include a storage section configured to store setting information associating the cassette with the size of the medium to be accommodated in the cassette, wherein the above recording device may transport the medium to the cassette specified by referring to the setting information based on the information of the size detected by the detection section.

[0247] According to this configuration, it is possible to transport the medium to the cassette specified based on the information of the size detected by the detection section.

[0248] (G) The above recording device may include a discharging section to which is discharged the recorded medium recorded by the recording section at an intermediate position of the first path, wherein when there is no cassette specified from the size detected by the detection section, the above recording device may discharge the medium of the size to the discharging section.

[0249] According to this configuration, in a case where there is no cassette specified from the size detected by the detection section, it is possible to discharge the medium to the discharging section. For example, in a case where there is no cassette specified from the size detected by the detection section, it is possible to avoid interruption of an operation of refilling the cassette 22 with the medium M or using a medium of an inappropriate size to refill the cassette.

[0250] (H) The above recording device may include a plurality of the cassettes and the above recording device may include a sorting mechanism that sorts the medium into the cassettes according to the information of the medium detected by the detection section.

[0251] According to this configuration, it is possible to sort the medium into the cassette according to the information of the medium detected by the detection section by the sorting mechanism.

[0252] (I) In the above recording device, the above recording device may include a common path through which the medium fed from the plurality of cassettes toward the recording section commonly passes and individual paths from the plurality of cassettes to the common path and the sorting mechanism may include second flaps that guide the medium from the common path to the individual paths.

[0253] According to this configuration, the sorting mechanism can sort the medium into the corresponding cassettes by guiding the medium from the common path to the individual paths by the second flaps.

[0254] (J) The above recording device may include a heat roller configured to heat the medium at an intermediate position of the second path, wherein the recording device may transport the medium heated by the heat roller to the cassette.

[0255] According to this configuration, it is possible to refill the cassette with the medium, which heated by the heat roller to eliminate or reduce wrinkles.

[0256] (K) The above recording device may include a detection section that detects information of the medium at an intermediate position of the second path, wherein the detection section may detect both front and back sides of the medium to determine whether or not the medium is a first medium in which both sides are unrecorded as the information and the recording device may transport the medium determined as the first medium by the detection section to the cassette via the bypass path.

[0257] According to this configuration, it is possible to transport the medium of which both sides are unrecorded to the cassette through a path having a short path length via the bypass path.

[0258] (L) In the above recording device, the first path may include an inversion path for inverting the medium in which recording on a first side is completed in an orientation in which a second side,

which is a side on an opposite side to the first side, faces the recording section during double-sided recording for recording on both sides of the medium, the detection section may determine a second medium in which only one side has been recorded as the information for detecting both front and back sides of the medium and which needs to be inverted front and back sides before being transported to the cassette, and the recording device may transport the medium determined as the second medium by the detection section to the cassette after inverting the medium in the inversion path.

[0259] According to this configuration, by inverting the second medium which has been recorded on only one side and needs to be inverted in the inversion path, the second medium can be used to refill the cassette with the correct front and back orientation.

[0260] (M) The above recording device may include a discharging section to which the recorded medium recorded by the recording section at an intermediate position of the first path is discharged, wherein the detection section may detect a defect in the medium M as the information and the above recording device may discharge the medium in which the defect is detected to the discharging section.

[0261] According to this configuration, the medium with the defect can be discharged without being used to refill the cassette.

[0262] (N) In the above recording device, the discharging section may include a first discharging section and a second discharging section different from the first discharging section and the recording device may discharge the medium with the defect and the non-corresponding medium without the cassette specified from the information separately to the first discharging section and the second discharging section.

[0263] According to this configuration, medium with a defect and non-corresponding medium without a cassette as a transfer destination are discharged to separate discharging sections, while avoiding that they are used to refill a cassette. Therefore, it is possible to prevent a plurality of different types of medium M from being mixed at a discharge destination.

[0264] (O) In the above recording device, the first discharging section may include a stacker section provided in the device main body, the second discharging section may include a discharge port through which the medium is configured to be discharged to outside of the device main body, and the recording device may discharge the non-corresponding medium to the stacker section and discard the medium with the defect from the discharge port to outside of the device main body.

[0265] According to this configuration, non-corresponding medium without a cassette to refill and medium with defects can be discharged separately.

[0266] (P) The above recording device may include a remaining amount detection section configured to detect a remaining amount of medium accommodated in the cassette, wherein the above recording device may not transport the medium from the placement tray to the cassette when the remaining amount in the transport destination cassette is equal to or greater than a threshold.

[0267] According to this configuration, it is possible to prevent the medium from being used to refill the cassette in which the remaining amount is equal to or greater than the threshold. For example, it is possible to prevent the cassette from being refilled with an excessive amount of sheets of medium, such as exceeding the maximum number of medium accommodated in the cassette or a specified number of medium.

[0268] (Q) In the above recording device, the cassette may include a positioning mechanism including a pair of edge guides configured to position the medium at least in a width direction and the positioning mechanism may include a power source that moves the pair of edge guides in a positioning direction, and may perform an aligning operation in which the pair of edge guides hits both side edges of a bundle of medium transported to the cassette.

[0269] According to this configuration, it is possible to refill using a bundle of medium that was transported to the cassette in an aligned state with little deviation in the positioning direction.

[0270] (R) When the recording device accepts the print job during execution of the sort process for

sorting the medium from the placement tray to the cassette, the above recording device may execute print process based on the print job with priority over sort process.

[0271] According to this configuration, when the print job is received during the sort process, the print process is executed prior to the sort process. Therefore, it is possible to suppress waiting until all of the sort process is completed.

[0272] (S) The above recording device may include a display section configured to display a selection screen enabling selection of one of the sort process and the print process to prioritize and an operation section to be operated when the one to prioritize is selected on the selection screen, wherein the above recording device may give priority to one process selected by operating the operation section on the selection screen.

[0273] According to this configuration, it is possible to select one of the sort process and the print process to be prioritized. Since one to be prioritized can be selected according to a time zone or the like, usability for the user is improved.

Claims

1. A recording device comprising: a device main body including a recording section; a placement tray configured to support a medium; a feed roller configured to feed the medium placed on the placement tray, and a cassette provided below the recording section and the placement tray and configured to accommodate the medium, a detection section that detects information of the medium, the detection section being provided between the feed roller and the recording section, a discharging section, wherein the recorded medium recorded by the recording section is discharged to the discharging section at an intermediate position of a first path, wherein: the detection section detects a defect in the medium as the information, the recording device discharges the medium in which the defect is detected to the discharging section, the discharging section includes a first discharging section that includes a stacker section provided in the device main body, the discharging section includes a second discharging section that includes a discharge port configured so that the medium is discharged to outside of the device main body, and the recording device discharges a non-corresponding medium to the stacker section and discards the medium with the defect from the discharge port to the outside of the device main body.
2. The recording device according to claim 1, further comprising: a first feed path configured to feed the medium from the placement tray to the recording section; a second feed path configured to feed the medium from the cassette to the recording section; a bypass path branched off from an intermediate portion of the first feed path and connected to the second feed path; and a first flap configured to guide the medium from the first feed path to the bypass path.
3. The recording device according to claim 1, wherein the detection section determines a size of the medium.
4. The recording device according to claim 3, further comprising: a storage section configured to store setting information associating the cassette with the size of the medium to be accommodated in the cassette, wherein the recording device transports the medium to the cassette specified by referring to the setting information based on the information of the size detected by the detection section.
5. The recording device according to claim 1, wherein the recording device discharges the medium in which the defect is detected to the discharging section.
6. The recording device according to claim 1, wherein the first discharging section is different from the second discharging section, and the recording device discharges the medium with the defect and the non-corresponding medium without the cassette specified from the information separately to the first discharging section and the second discharging section.
7. The recording device according to claim 1, further comprising: a remaining amount detection section configured to detect a remaining amount of medium accommodated in the cassette, wherein

the recording device does not transport the medium from the placement tray to the cassette when the remaining amount in the cassette of a transport destination is equal to or greater than a threshold.

8. The recording device according to claim 1, wherein the cassette includes a positioning mechanism including a pair of edge guides configured to position the medium at least in a width direction, and the positioning mechanism includes a power source that moves the pair of edge guides in a positioning direction, and performs an aligning operation in which the pair of edge guides hits both side edges of a bundle of medium transported to the cassette.

9. The recording device according to claim 1, further comprising: a discard section that includes a shredder connected to the recording device via the second discharge port.

10. The recording device according to claim 1, further comprising: a discard section that includes a discarding box that collects the medium with defects by discharging the medium with defects from the second discharge port.
