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(12) **United States Patent**
Samei

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(54) **FIXING DEVICE AND IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS INCORPORATING SAME**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

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A fixing device includes a first rotator, a second rotator pressed against the first rotator, and a heater to heat the first rotator. The heater includes an elongated substrate extending in an axial direction of the first rotator, a heat generator disposed on a surface of the substrate facing the first rotator, at a position downstream in a rotational direction of the first rotator, a plurality of first conduction paths connected to the heat generator and grounded downstream of the heat generator in the rotational direction of the first rotator, and a second conduction path on which the plurality of first conduction paths are grounded. The heat generator has a heat-generating area divided into a plurality of sub-heat-generating areas in the axial direction of the first rotator. The plurality of sub-heat-generating areas are grounded on the second conduction path via the plurality of first conduction paths.

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CPC **G03G 15/2053** (2013.01); **G03G 2215/2035** (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
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USPC 399/330, 335
See application file for complete search history.

10 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets

