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**Ahler et al.**

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(54) **INTERMEDIATE SLEEVE**  
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CPC .. **B41F 27/14** (2013.01); **B41N 6/00** (2013.01)

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

An intermediate sleeve is provided which is adapted to be mounted on a print cylinder. The intermediate sleeve includes a base layer, a reinforcing layer, a barrier layer, and a surface layer. The sleeve further includes at least one air channel extending longitudinally, circumferentially, or spirally along the interior of the sleeve, at least one air passageway extending from an inner surface of the sleeve into the air channel, and a plurality of orifices extending radially outward from the air channel to an outer surface of the sleeve. The air channel, air passageway, and orifices are in communication such that pressurized air can be supplied from the interior of the print cylinder to the outer surface of the sleeve for mounting a printing sleeve on the intermediate sleeve.

**12 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet**

