

EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CPC NOTICE OF CHANGES 1203

DATE: JANUARY 1, 2022

PROJECT DP0239

The following classification changes will be effected by this Notice of Changes:

| <u>Action</u> | <u>Subclass</u> | <u>Group(s)</u> |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| DEFINITIONS: | | |
| Definitions Modified: | G03B | Subclass |

No other subclasses/groups are impacted by this Notice of Changes.

This Notice of Changes includes the following [Check the ones included]:

1. CLASSIFICATION SCHEME CHANGES

- A. New, Modified or Deleted Group(s)
- B. New, Modified or Deleted Warning(s)
- C. New, Modified or Deleted Note(s)
- D. New, Modified or Deleted Guidance Heading(s)

2. DEFINITIONS

- A. New or Modified Definitions (Full definition template)
- B. Modified or Deleted Definitions (Definitions Quick Fix)

3. REVISION CONCORDANCE LIST (RCL)

4. CHANGES TO THE CPC-TO-IPC CONCORDANCE LIST (CICL)

5. CHANGES TO THE CROSS-REFERENCE LIST (CRL)

2. A. DEFINITIONS (modified)

G03B

Definition statement

Replace: The existing Definition statement with the updated one below:

Details not specific to the following types of photographic apparatus: cameras, projectors, or printers

- Film-strip handling
- Focusing arrangements
- Adjustment of optical system relative to image or object surface, other than for focusing

Details of cameras

- Control of exposure by setting shutters, diaphragms, or filters separately or conjointly, in particular remote control
- Exposure-making shutters
- Diaphragms
- Filters or other obturators specially adapted for photographic purposes
- Optical viewfinders
- Devices used in connection with camera focusing, including focusing aids or autofocus systems
- Special procedures or apparatus for taking photographs

Photographic apparatus

- Cameras
- Projectors or projection-type viewers, or their details
- Devices for changing pictures in viewing apparatus or projectors
- Viewers giving motion-picture effects by persistence of vision
- Photographic printing apparatus, or their details
- Combinations of cameras, projectors, or photographic printing apparatus with nonphotographic non-optical apparatus

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- Camera modules (i.e. integrated lens and imaging units), specially adapted for embedding in other devices

Photographic techniques and processes

Processes – and solely those processes – characterised by the use or manipulation of apparatus classifiable in this subclass, in particular

- Associated working of cameras or projectors with sound-recording or -reproducing means
- Colour photography, other than mere exposure or projection of a colour film
- Stereoscopic photography
- Panoramic or wide-screen photography
- Photographing extended surfaces
- Photographing internal surfaces
- High-speed photography
- Other special photographic techniques
- Obtaining records using waves other than optical waves, or visualising such records by using optical means
- Testing correct operation of photographic apparatus or parts thereof

Relationships with other classification places

Replace: The existing Relationships with other classification places section text and images with the updated text and images below.

Photographic processes are covered by subclass **G03B** when the process relates to the exposure of the photosensitive medium, in order to generate the latent image, whereas subclass **G03C** covers the photographic processes that involve a chemical transformation of the photosensitive medium, such that the latent image is transformed into a visible and permanent record.

The printing of a record obtained via the processes or apparatus of subclass **H04N** is classified in class **B41** if the only chemical processing involved consists in the after-treatment of ink applied to the recording surface but is classified in subclass **G03B** if a latent image is produced.

Subclass **H04N** covers the electronic image capturing apparatus or processes where an electronic image sensor converts an optical image into electrical signals, e.g. by controlling the electronic image sensor or by processing the electrical signals.

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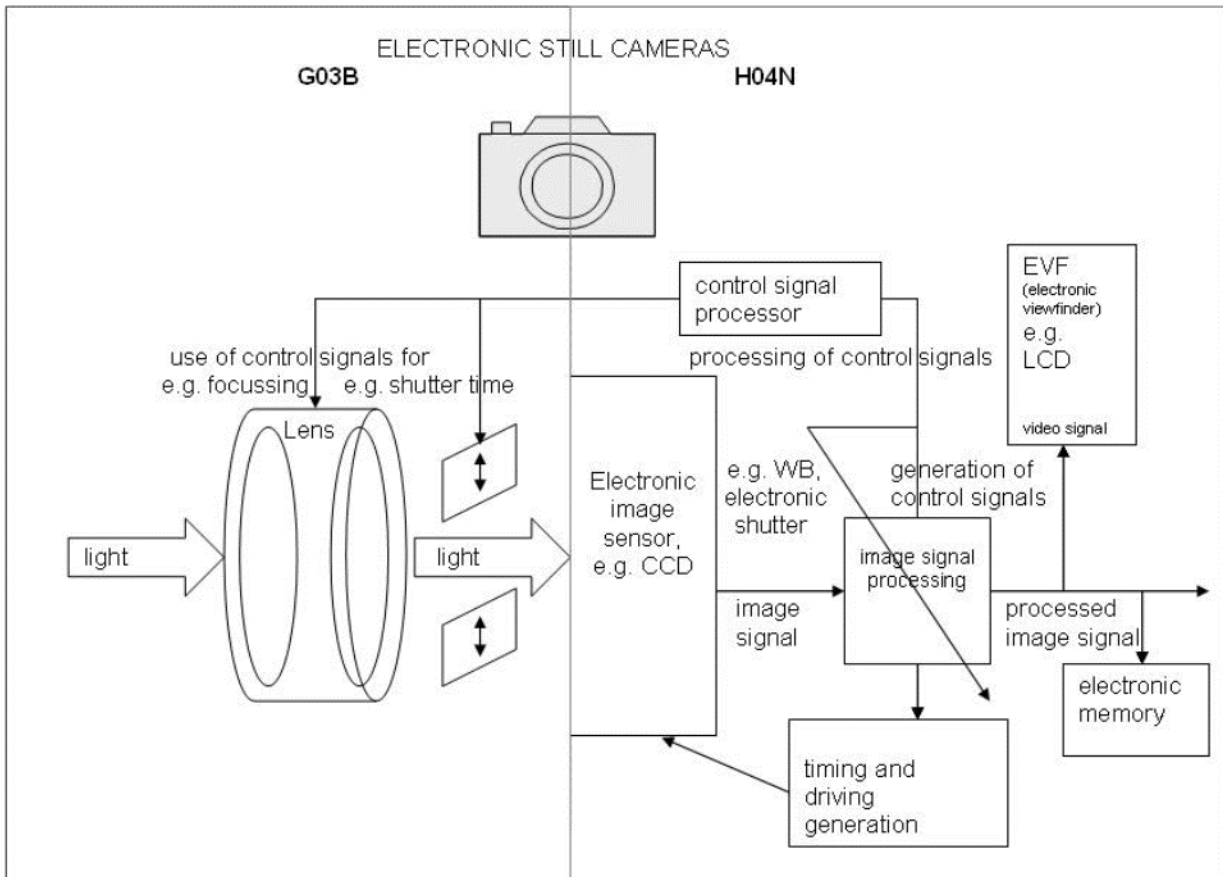
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Subclass H04N covers the electronic image projection apparatus or processes where an electronic image modulator converts electrical signals into an optical image, e.g. by controlling the electronic image modulator or by processing the electrical signals.

Therefore, when the following subject matter is classified in this subclass, it is desirable to also classify it in subclass H04N, when some aspects are considered of interest for search purposes:

- Digital still cameras, or their details
- Projectors or projection-type viewers using an electronic spatial light modulator, or their details
- Video cameras, CCTV cameras, surveillance cameras and camcorders, or details thereof

The following diagrams are intended to illustrate the relationship between H04N and G03B.

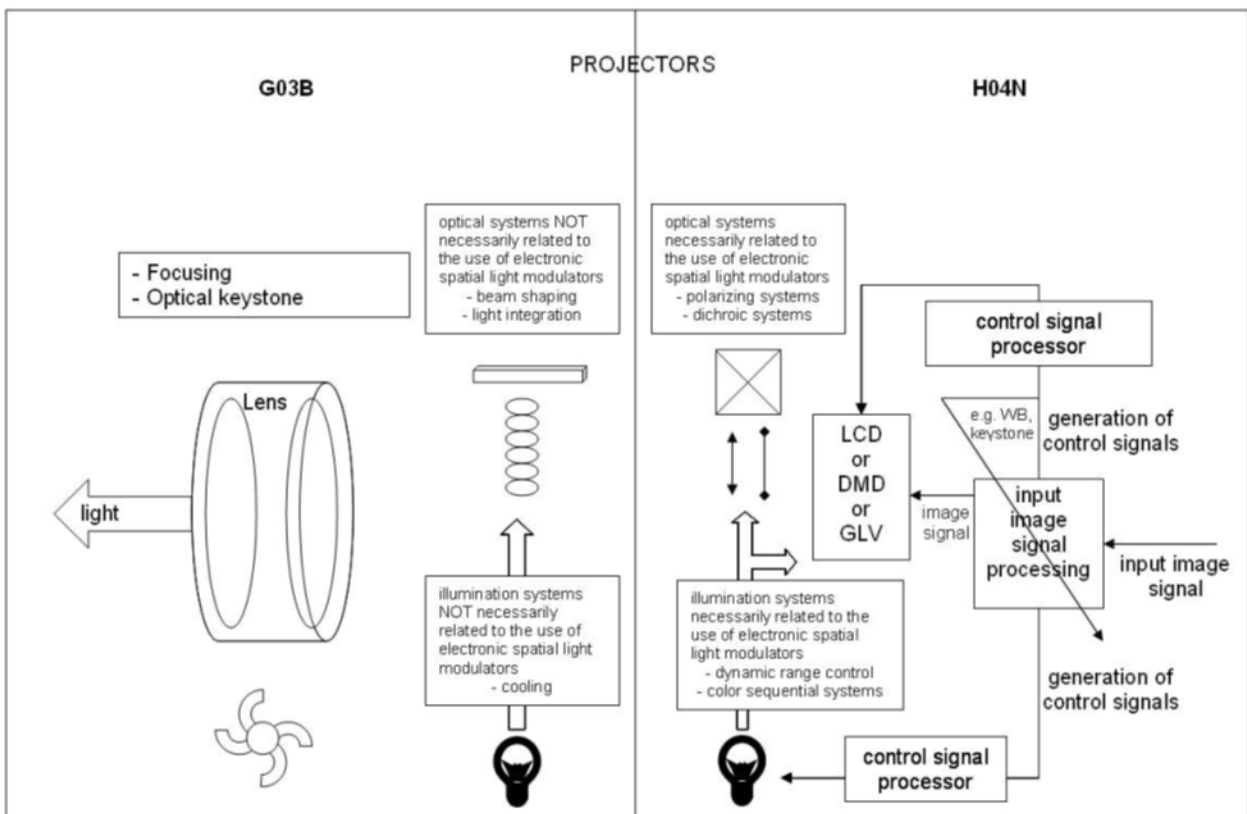


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In the above image, elements on the left side correspond to G03B (e.g. light, use of control signals for focusing and shutter time). Elements on the right side correspond to H04N (e.g. control signal processor, processing of control signals, electronic image sensor, electronic shutter, generation of control signals, image signal processing, timing and driving generation, EVF, LCD, processed signal memory, and electronic memory).

Thus, in G03B aspects of apparatus or methods for taking photographs using an electronic image sensor [EIS] for image capture are classified insofar as they correspond to those of said apparatus or methods for taking photographs using light sensitive film, i.e. insofar not peculiar to the presence or use of the EIS, e.g. mounting of optical elements or flashes, and their related controls insofar they are not peculiar to the presence of the EIS, e.g. exposure, focus, (opto-) mechanical motion blur (anti-shake);



In G03B, aspects of apparatus or methods for projecting or viewing images using an electronic spatial light modulator [ESLM] are classified insofar as they correspond to those of said apparatus or methods for projecting or viewing images using film stock, photographic film or slides, i.e. insofar as not peculiar to the presence of the ESLM, e.g. mounting of optical elements not peculiar to the presence of the ESLM, and their

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related controls not peculiar to the presence of the ESLM, e.g. cooling, beam shaping, optical keystone correction.

As far as processes are concerned, only processes characterised by the use or manipulation of apparatus are classified in [G03B](#).

References

Application-oriented references:

Replace: The existing Application-oriented references table with the updated one below:

| | |
|--|---|
| Instruments for performing medical examinations of the interior of cavities or tubes of the body by photographic inspection | A61B 1/00 |
| Objective-type instruments for examining the eyes specially adapted for eye photography | A61B 3/14 |
| Photographic composing devices | B41B 13/00 - B41B 23/00 |
| Photogrammetry; Photographic surveying | G01C 11/00 |
| Recording indications of measuring instruments by photographic means | G01D 9/42 |
| Indicating the weight by photographic recording | G01G 23/35 |
| Photometry using photographic effects | G01J 1/52 |
| Measuring linear or angular speed using photographic means; Measuring differences of linear or angular speeds using photographic means | G01P 3/38 |
| Photographic dosimeters | G01T 1/08 |
| Microscopes arranged for photographic purposes or projection purposes | G02B 21/36 |
| Arrangements for producing a permanent visual presentation of the output data by photographic printing | G06K 15/12 |
| Photographic arrangements structurally combined with discharge tubes or lamps | H01J 5/16 |

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| | |
|--|---|
| Photographic arrangements structurally combined with cathode-ray tubes or electron-beam tubes | H01J 29/89 |
| Photographic arrangements structurally combined with discharge tubes with provision for introducing objects or material to be exposed to the discharge | H01J 37/22 |
| Particle spectrometers or separator tubes with detection performed by photographic film | H01J 49/00 |
| Video cameras; Digital still cameras | H04N 5/225 |
| Projectors or projection-type viewers using an electronic spatial light modulator | H04N 5/74 , H04N 9/31 |

Informative references:

Delete: The following row from the Informative references section:

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Television cameras | H04N 5/225 |
|--------------------|----------------------------|

Glossary of terms

Replace: The existing Glossary of terms with the updated one below:

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Photography | Process of recording pictures by means of capturing light on a light-sensitive medium, e.g. silver halide based chemical or an electronic image sensor. Light patterns reflected or emitted from objects expose such a light sensitive medium during a timed exposure, usually through a photographic lens in a device known as a camera |
| Camera | Apparatus or arrangements for taking photographs |
| Projector | Device displaying image information by projection of light patterns, usually through an optical lens, wherein the light patterns are generated by illuminating an image, e.g. film or slide, or by converting an electric image signal into an optical signal using an electronic spatial light modulator |
| EIS | Electronic image sensor: optoelectronic transducer, converting optical image information into an electrical signal susceptible of being processed, stored, transmitted or displayed |
| Additional sensor | Sensor, other than the electronic image sensor, used for controlling a camera |

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| | |
|---------|--|
| ESLM | Electronic spatial light modulator: optoelectronic transducer converting electric signals representing image information into optical image information |
| Record | Photographs or any other kind of latent, directly-visible or permanent storage of pictorial information, which consist of an imagewise distribution of a quantity, e.g. an electric charge pattern, recorded on a carrier member |
| Optical | Applies to visible light but also to ultra-violet radiation or infra-red radiation |

Synonyms and keywords

Replace: The existing Synonyms and keywords section with the updated one below:

In patent documents the following abbreviations are often used:

| | |
|------|-----------------------------------|
| AE | Automatic Exposure |
| AF | Auto Focus |
| APS | Advanced Photographic System |
| DEP | Double Exposure Prevention |
| DSLR | Digital Single Lens Reflex Camera |
| EVF | Electronic Viewfinder |
| OVF | Optical Viewfinder |
| SLR | Single Lens Reflex Camera |