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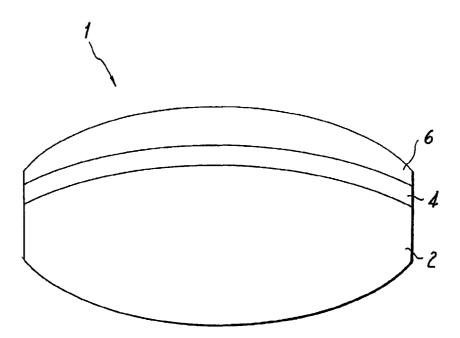
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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

— as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: PLASMA DEPOSITED AMORPHOUS SILICON NITRIDE INTERLAYER ENABLING POLYMER LAMINATION TO GERMANIUM



(57) Abstract: An optical component (1) comprising an IR transmissive substrate (2) and a method for manufacturing the component (1). The substrate (2) is coated with an IR transmissive adhesive (4) comprising a hydrogenated amorphous silicon nitride film (a:SiN:H). The adhesive (4) is coated with a top laminate (6), whereby the optical component (1) obtains a predetermined shape.

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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where ap	ppropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 2002/0176158 A1 (MINAMI et al) 28 November	2002 (28.11.2002), [0010], [0011],	1-35
Y	[0017], [0089]. US 5,422,756 A (WEBER) 06 June 1995 (06.06.1995), column 1, lines 13-32, column 3, lines 63-68, column 4, lines 1-9, column 5, lines 22-32, and column 7, lines 24-39.		1-35
Y	US 5,559,634 A (WEBER) 24 September 1996 (24.09.1996), column 1, lines 14-32, column 3, lines 11-24, column 4, lines 19-29, column 5, lines 56-67, and column 6, lines 1-		1-35
Y	US 3,951,523 A (NISHIMOTO) 20 April 1976 (20.04.1976), column 3, lines 46-65.		6, 9, 18, 23, 26 and 35
Y	Y US 5,843,321 A (KAMIHARA et al) 01 December 1998 (01.12.1998), column 1, lines 60-64.		6, 9, 18, 23, 26 and 35
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