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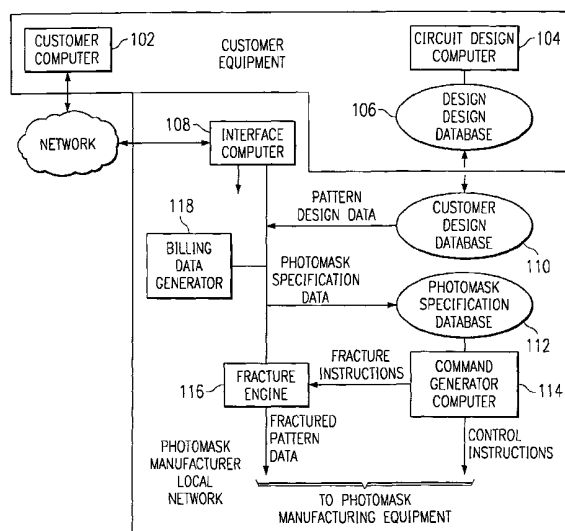
- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for all designations
- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations

Published:

- with international search report

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: NETWORK-BASED PHOTOMASK DATA ENTRY INTERFACE AND INSTRUCTION GENERATOR FOR MANUFACTURING PHOTOMASKS



(57) Abstract: A computer network for generating instructions for photomask manufacturing equipment, based on photomask specification data input by a customer. A series of order entry screens are downloaded to a remote customer's computer, typically via an internet connection. The customer is prompted to enter photomask specification data, which is delivered to computing equipment on the manufacturer's local network. The manufacturer's computing equipment validates the photomask specification data, and uses this data to generate fracturing instructions and equipment control instructions. The fracturing instructions, together with pattern design data from the customer, are delivered to a fracture engine, which provides fractured pattern data. The control instructions and the fractured pattern data may then be electronically delivered to the manufacturing equipment.



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— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G06F G03F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

INSPEC, EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 933 350 A (FUJIMOTO SHINICHI ET AL) 3 August 1999 (1999-08-03) column 1, line 15 -column 2, line 24 column 2, line 63 - line 67 column 6, line 43 -column 7, line 32 --- -/--	1-26



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>PELTIER J ET AL: "Low cost, prototype ASIC and MCM fabrication and assembly from the MOSIS service"</p> <p>PROCEEDINGS. 1997 IEEE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MICROELECTRONIC SYSTEMS EDUCATION, MSE'97. 'DOING MORE WITH LESS IN A RAPIDLY CHANGING ENVIRONMENT' (CAT. NO.97TB100127), PROCEEDINGS OF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MICROELECTRONIC SYSTEMS EDUCATION,, pages 68-69, XP002199595</p> <p>1997, Los Alamitos, CA, USA, IEEE Comput. Soc. Press, USA</p> <p>ISBN: 0-8186-7996-4</p> <p>page 1 -page 2</p> <p>---</p>	1-26
X	<p>EP 1 003 087 A (D APPLIC COMP IND)</p> <p>24 May 2000 (2000-05-24)</p> <p>column 1, line 53 -column 3, line 5;</p> <p>figure 1</p> <p>column 3, line 19 -column 4, line 16</p> <p>column 5, line 20 -column 6, line 16</p> <p>---</p>	1-26
A	<p>US 5 950 201 A (MUELLER JOSEPH LAWRENCE ET AL) 7 September 1999 (1999-09-07)</p> <p>column 2, line 47 -column 3, line 57</p> <p>column 6, line 54 - line 67</p> <p>column 9, line 40 -column 13, line 22</p> <p>column 27, line 33 - line 51</p> <p>column 28, line 10 - line 39</p> <p>---</p>	1-26
A	<p>LUO R C ET AL: "Desktop rapid prototyping system with supervisory control and monitoring through Internet"</p> <p>IEEE/ASME TRANSACTIONS ON MECHATRONICS, DEC. 2001, IEEE, USA,</p> <p>vol. 6, no. 4, pages 399-409, XP002199596</p> <p>ISSN: 1083-4435</p> <p>page 399, left-hand column, paragraph 3</p> <p>-page 401, right-hand column, paragraph 1;</p> <p>figures 1-3</p> <p>page 403, left-hand column, paragraph 4</p> <p>-page 404, left-hand column, paragraph 1</p> <p>-----</p>	1-26

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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