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Declaration under Rule 4.17:

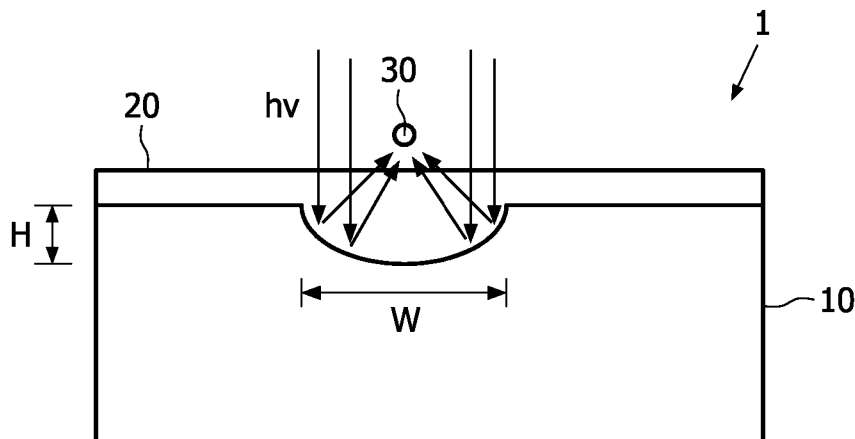
— as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))

Published:

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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

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
29 May 2008

(54) Title: ANALYSIS DEVICE WITH AN ARRAY OF FOCUSING MICROSTRUCTURES



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a device comprising a first material (10) and a second material. (20) whereby the first and the second material are so provided towards each other as to form at least one focusing microstructure with a focal point (30) located outside of the first material.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/IB2006/054882

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. G03F7/20 G01N21/01 B01L3/00 G03F9/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

G03F G01N B01L H01L

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)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, INSPEC, IBM-TDB

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 585 939 B1 (DAPPRICH JOHANNES [US]) 1 July 2003 (2003-07-01) column 3, lines 44-55 column 4, lines 4-12 column 12, lines 22-31, 47-61 figure 9	1-8, 11
X	US 6 953 695 B1 (LANGOWSKI JORG [DE]) 11 October 2005 (2005-10-11) column 1, lines 47-51 column 2, lines 19-30 figures 1, 2	1-8, 11
A	EP 0 998 977 A (GRIFOLS GRUPO SA [ES]) 10 May 2000 (2000-05-10) column 2, lines 21-23 figure 4	1-8, 11

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☒ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/IB2006/054882

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers allsearchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search reportcovers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

see annex

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-8,11

Prior art features - US 6 585 939 B1 - Polymer microstructures comprising a molded PDMS body having a concave reflective surface coated with a reflecting material.

Special technical features of suitably amended claims - A particular arrangement of a focusing microstructure. Problem solved by these special technical features - To provide an alternative focusing microstructure for improving the signal to noise ratio of optical measurements for biological assays.

2. claims: 9,10

Prior art features - A generally known method of characterising the performance of a lithography apparatus involving the use of a resist coated "send ahead" wafer.

Special technical features - Provision of a plurality of focal microstructures on wafer used in the testing of an IC production means.

Problem solved by these special technical features - Improves the accuracy of the calibration of said IC production means.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/IB2006/054882

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 800 075 A (COMMISSARIAT ENERGIE ATOMIQUE [FR]) 8 October 1997 (1997-10-08) column 5, lines 38-56 figure 3 -----	1-8,11
X	JP 2004 333654 A (SEIKO EPSON CORP) 25 November 2004 (2004-11-25) abstract; figures 1-4 -----	1-7
X	DE 44 16 826 A1 (SCHULZE STEFFEN DIPL ING [DE]; FAHRENWALD RENE [DE]; ZACHEJA JOHANNES) 23 November 1995 (1995-11-23) column 3, lines 11-20 figure 1 -----	1
E	WO 2007/069221 A (KONINKL PHILIPS ELECTRONICS NV [NL]; KOLESNYCHENKO ALEKSEY [NL]; DIRKS) 21 June 2007 (2007-06-21) the whole document -----	1-8,11

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/IB2006/054882

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6585939	B1	01-07-2003	NONE
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DE 4416826	A1	23-11-1995	NONE
WO 2007069221	A	21-06-2007	NONE