Title: CARRIER MONITORING AND FAB-WIDE CARRIER MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Abstract: A system is disclosed capable of monitoring a plurality of performance characteristics of a wafer carrier on a load port (28), and to a system for managing carrier operation on a fab-wide basis.
Published:
— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC(7) : G06F 19/00, 11/30, 15/00; B65G 1/133, 49/07
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)

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 practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>US 5,382,127 A (GARRIC et al) 17 January 1995 (17.01.1995), col. 28 lines 30-34 and lines 60-68, col. 29 lines 17-21, col. 45 lines 32-41, col. 46 lines 3-9, col. 47 lines 37-50, col. 48 lines 28-37 and lines 49-60.</td>
<td>1-5, 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>A US 5,754,451 A (WILLIAMS) 19 May 1998 (19.05.98).</td>
<td>1-8</td>
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<td>A</td>
<td>A US 5,668,803 A (CHEN) 09 February 1999 (09.02.1999).</td>
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<td>A, P</td>
<td>A US 6,123,120 A (YOTSUMOTO et al) 26 September 2000 (26.09.00).</td>
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<tr>
<td>A, P</td>
<td>A US 6,152,099 B1 (MORITA et al) 28 November 2000 (28.11.00).</td>
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<td>A, P</td>
<td>A US 6,208,909 B1 (KATO et al) 27 March 2001 (27.03.01).</td>
<td>1-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>A, P</td>
<td>A US 6,240,335 B1 (WEHRUNG et al) 29 May 2001 (29.05.01).</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search: 30 January 2002 (30.01.2002).

Date of mailing of the international search report: 19 MAR 2002

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Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1998)
Continuation of Item 4 of the first sheet:
PCT Rule 4.3 states that the title of the invention shall be short and precise.

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