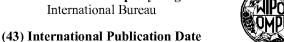
(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization

2 February 2012 (02.02.2012)





(10) International Publication Number WO 2012/015993 A3

(51) International Patent Classification: C23C 14/35 (2006.01) **H01L 21/203** (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2011/045644

(22) International Filing Date:

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:

61/369,347 30 July 2010 (30.07.2010) US 13/189,992 25 July 2011 (25.07.2011) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): AP-PLIED MATERIALS, INC. [US/US]; 3050 Bowers Avenue, Santa Clara, California 95054 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): LIU, Zhendong [CA/US]; 1607 Mission Springs Circle, San Jose, California 95131 (US). CAO, Yong [CN/US]; 5406 Duesenberg Drive, San Jose, California 95123 (US). TANG, Xianmin [CN/US]; 4758 Williams Road, San Jose, California 95129 (US). GANDIKOTA, Srinivas [US/US]; 2727 Monroe Street, Santa Clara, California 95051 (US). NGUYEN, Thanh [US/US]; 3126 Villa East Hills Court,

San Jose, California 95127 (US). RASHEED, Muhammad [US/US]; 3894 Timberline Drive, San Jose, California 95121 (US).

- (74) Agent: TABOADA, Alan; Moser Taboada, 1030 Broad Street, Suite 203, Shrewsbury, NJ 07702 (US).
- 28 July 2011 (28.07.2011) (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.
 - (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: MAGNET FOR PHYSICAL VAPOR DEPOSITION PROCESSES TO PRODUCE THIN FILMS HAVING LOW RESISTIVITY AND NON-UNIFORMITY

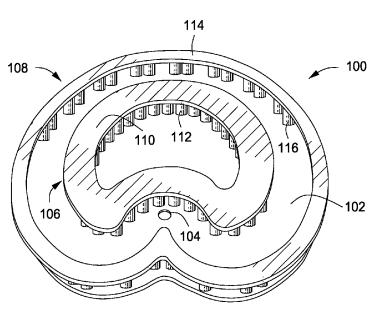


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: Methods and apparatus for depositing thin films having high thickness uniformity and low resistivity are provided herein. In some embodiments, a magnetron assembly includes a shunt plate, the shunt plate rotatable about an axis, an inner closed loop magnetic pole coupled to the shunt plate, and an outer closed loop magnetic pole coupled the shunt plate, wherein an unbalance ratio of a magnetic field strength of the outer closed loop magnetic pole to a magnetic field strength of the inner closed loop magnetic pole is less than about 1. In some embodiments, the ratio is about 0.57. In some embodiments, the shunt plate and the outer close loop magnetic pole have a cardioid shape. A method utilizing RF and DC power in combination with the inventive magnetron assembly is also disclosed.



Published:

(88) Date of publication of the international search report: $$10{\rm\ May}\ 2012$

— with international search report (Art. 21(3))

 before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))

International application No. **PCT/US2011/045644**

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

H01L 21/203(2006.01)i, C23C 14/35(2006.01)i

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)

H01L 21/203; C23C 14/35; H01L 21/4763

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Korean utility models and applications for utility models

Japanese utility models and applications for utility models

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) eKOMPASS(KIPO internal) & Keywords: PVD, sputter, magnetron, closed loop, unbalance

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.	
X Y	US 6440282 B1 (WADA, Y. et al.) 27 August 2002 See columns 9-18, column 23, lines 1-14; and figures 1-7,9,17.	1-4,6-10 5,11-15	
Y	US 7186319 B2 (YANG, H. S. et al.) 06 March 2007 See figure 2.	5	
Y	US 2010-0105203 A1 (FU, X. et al.) 29 April 2010 See paragraphs [0026] and [0035].	11-15	

*	Special categories of cited documents:	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority
"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered		date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand
	to be of particular relevance		the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E"	earlier application or patent but published on or after the international	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be
	filing date		considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive
"L"	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is		step when the document is taken alone
	cited to establish the publication date of citation or other	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be
	special reason (as specified)		considered to involve an inventive step when the document is
"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other		combined with one or more other such documents, such combination
	means		being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later	"&"	document member of the same patent family
	than the priority date claimed		

Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report	
14 MARCH 2012 (14.03.2012)	15 MARCH 2012 (15.03.2012)	

Name and mailing address of the ISA/KR



Korean Intellectual Property Office Government Complex-Dacjeon, 189 Cheongsa-ro, Seo-gu, Dacjeon 302-701, Republic of Korea

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

Facsimile No. 82-42-472-7140

Authorized officer

Lee Seok Joo

Telephone No. 82-42-481-8681

See patent family annex.



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

Information on patent family members			PCT/US2011/045644	
Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date	
US 6440282 B1	27.08.2002	EP 1067577 A2 JP 04680352 B2 JP 04680353 B2 JP 2001-073134 A JP 2001-077052 A JP 4680352 B2 JP 4680353 B2 KR 10-0786713 B1 TW 526275 A TW 526275 B	10.01.2001 10.02.2011 10.02.2011 21.03.2001 23.03.2001 11.05.2011 11.05.2011 21.12.2007 01.04.2003 01.04.2003	
US 7186319 B2	06.03.2007	CN 1997768 A CN 1997768 B KR 10-2007-0106917 A TW 1327742A US 2006-0144703 A1 WO 2006-074013 A1	11.07.2007 27.04.2011 06.11.2007 21.07.2010 06.07.2006 13.07.2006	
US 2010-0105203 A1	29.04.2010	US 7807568 B2 W0 2010-048364 A2 W0 2010-048364 A3 W0 2010-048364 A3	05.10.2010 29.04.2010 05.08.2010 29.04.2010	
		WO 2010-048364 A3	05.08.2010	