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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER ALIGNMENT

(57) Abstract: The invention provides, in some aspects, a wafer alignment system comprising an image acquisition device, an illumination source, a rotatable wafer platform, and an image processor that includes functionality for mapping coordinates in an image of an article (such as a wafer) on the platform to a "world" frame of reference at each of a plurality of angles of rotation of the platform.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US07/18752

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC: **G06K 9/00**(2006.01)

 USPC: 382/144
 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)
 U.S. : 382/144

 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

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,978,081 A (MICHAEL et al) 2 November 1999 (02.11.1999) whole document	1-15,21
Y	US 5,982,132 A 9 November 1999 (09.11.1999), whole document	1-15, 21
X	US 5,978,081 A (MICHAEL et al) 2 November 1999 (02.11.1999) whole document	16-20

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

* Special categories of cited documents:	
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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

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