

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
22 June 2006 (22.06.2006)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
WO 2006/065778 A3

(51) International Patent Classification:

**B08B 7/00** (2006.01)      **B08B 3/02** (2006.01)  
**B08B 7/04** (2006.01)      **B08B 3/04** (2006.01)  
**B08B 3/00** (2006.01)

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(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2005/044987

(22) International Filing Date:

13 December 2005 (13.12.2005)

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

60/635,524      13 December 2004 (13.12.2004)      US  
11/239,000      30 September 2005 (30.09.2005)      US

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(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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Published:

— with international search report

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

11 June 2009

(54) Title: TECHNIQUE FOR REDUCING BACKSIDE PARTICLES

(57) Abstract: A technique for reducing backside particles is disclosed. In one particular exemplary embodiment, the technique may be realized as an apparatus for reducing backside particles. The apparatus may comprise a delivery mechanism configured to supply a cleaning substance to a platen, wherein the platen is housed in a process chamber. The apparatus may also comprise a control unit configured to cause the process chamber to reach a first pressure level, cause the cleaning substance to be supplied to a surface of the platen, and cause the process chamber to reach a second pressure level, thereby removing contaminant particles, together with the cleaning substance, from the surface of the platen.



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**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No.

PCT/US05/44987

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

IPC: B08B 7/00( 2006.01),7/04( 2006.01),3/00( 2006.01),3/02( 2006.01),3/04( 2006.01)

USPC: 134/7,34,36,902,94.1,95.3

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. : 134/7, 34, 36, 902, 94.1, 95.3

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)

EAST search terms: platen, carbon dioxide, gas, ionized, wafer, distanse, water, mist, alcohol

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2004/0029494 A1 (BANERJEE et al) 12 February 2004 (12.02.2004), entire document, especially Figure 2 and parts [0012]-[0021], [0033]-[0035].	1-12, 17-29, 34 and 35
X	US 6,508,258 B1 (LORIMER) 21 January 2003 (21.01.2003), entire document, especially Figures 4, 6, 7a and the related description.	1, 4, 13-16, 18, 20-22 and 30-34

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:		"T"
"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	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
"E"	earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"X"
"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)	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
"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"Y"
"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	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

05 May 2008 (05.05.2008)

Date of mailing of the international search report

21 MAY 2008

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