-4 MAR 2004

ELECTRONIC COMPONENT AND METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING THE SAME

TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates to a SAW (Surface Acoustic Wave) device or the like electronic component that houses electronic device chip in the package. The present invention relates also to a method for manufacturing the electronic components.

BACKGROUND ART

FIG. 5 shows a plan view of a conventional SAW device, while FIG. 6 shows the cross sectional view. As shown in these drawings, a conventional SAW device is manufactured by first stacking a first ceramic frame body 101 on one of the surfaces of a ceramic substrate 100, and a second ceramic frame body 102 on the first ceramic frame body 101, and these frame bodies together with the substrate are fired to form an integrated package 103. An internal contact electrode 104 and a shield electrode 105 are formed on certain predetermined areas of the package 103, and a seam ring 110 is provided on the upper-end surface of the package by means of silver brazing. And then, the internal contact electrode 104, the shield electrode 105 and the seam ring 110 are gold plated on the surface.

A SAW chip 107 is comprised of comb-formed electrodes for input/output formed on a piezoelectric substrate (not shown), and reflector electrodes and contact electrodes coupled with the comb-formed electrodes provided at both sides of the comb-formed electrode. The SAW chip 107 is mounted on the bottom surface of a cavity of the package 103; namely, it is mounted on the shield electrode 105 provided on the surface of ceramic substrate 100, with an adhesion layer 106 interposed in between. Next, a

-4 MAR 2004

pattern recognition is conducted from above the package 103, namely from the seam ring 110 side towards the SAW chip 107, for detecting boundaries between the second ceramic frame body 102 and the first ceramic frame body 101, and between the internal contact electrode 104 and a non-internal contact electrode portion 108a,108b.

A location for bonding a wire 109 on the internal contact electrode 104 is determined based on the two boundaries detected through the above procedure as well as the dimensional particulars of the package 103.

In accordance with the location determined as above, the SAW chip 107 and the internal contact electrode 104 are interconnected by the wire 109, and then a lid 111 is welded on the seam ring 110 of package 103.

In the above-described conventional technology, however, it is extremely difficult to establish the location at a high accuracy level, because of a displacement which occurs when silver-brazing the seam ring 110.

If a location thus determined is not accurate enough, the wire 109, for example, could be connected erroneously with the shield electrode 105, or an defective connection between the wire 109 and the internal contact electrode 104 might arise.

The present invention aims to offer an electronic component, in which an electronic device chip can be aligned to a certain specific location at a high accuracy level and an accurate location is established at a high accuracy level for bonding a wire on the internal contact electrode. A method for manufacturing the electronic components is also offered by the present invention.

DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION

In accordance with a first aspect of the invention, there is provided an electronic component comprising a package having a cavity, a chip mounted on a shield electrode disposed on an inner bottom surface of said cavity, a stepped level-difference in an inner wall of the cavity, a plurality of internal contact electrodes provided on an upper end-surface of said stepped level-difference in the inner wall, and a plurality of wires connecting the chip and said internal contact electrodes; wherein at least one non-shield-electrode region of the inner bottom surface of the cavity, devoid of shield electrode formation, is provided, which at least one region is used for determining the location for at least one of mounting said chip on said inner bottom surface and bonding said wires to said internal contact electrodes.

-4 MAR 2004

In accordance with a second aspect of the invention, there is provided an electronic component comprising a ceramic substrate; a first ceramic frame body formed on one of the surfaces of said ceramic substrate; a second ceramic frame body formed on said first ceramic frame body; steps formed by said ceramic substrate and said first ceramic frame body and by said first ceramic frame body and said second ceramic frame body; a plurality of internal contact electrodes formed on the main surface of said first ceramic frame body at the same side as a junction formed by said first ceramic frame body and said second ceramic frame body, which internal contact electrodes extend as far as the other surface of said ceramic substrate covering the side faces of said first ceramic frame body and said ceramic substrate; a shield electrode formed on said one surface of said ceramic substrate for having a chip mounted thereon, the chip is being mounted on said shield electrode; and a plurality of wires for connecting said chip and said internal contact electrodes; wherein at least one non-shield-electrode region of said one surface of said ceramic substrate, devoid of shield electrode formation, is provided in a portion not covered by said first ceramic frame body, which at least one region is used for determining the location for at least one of mounting said chip on said ceramic substrate and bonding said wires to said internal contact electrodes.

In accordance with a third aspect of the invention, there is provided a method for manufacturing an electronic component, using a package body, the package body having a cavity, with a shield electrode disposed on an inner bottom surface of said cavity, a stepped level-difference in an inner wall of the cavity, a plurality of internal contact electrodes provided on an upper end-surface of said stepped level-difference in the inner wall, and at least one non-shield-electrode region of the inner bottom surface of the cavity, devoid of shield electrode formation, at the side edge of one or more of said internal contact electrodes, the method comprising the steps of:

mounting a chip on the shield electrode in the package body;

detecting a boundary formed by said stepped level-difference and the inner bottom surface of said package for at least two times, and determining, based on results of the detection, wire bonding spots on said internal contact electrodes and said chip;

electrically connecting said chip and said internal contact electrodes with a plurality of wires; and

sealing the cavity of said package with a lid.

In accordance with a fourth aspect of the invention, there is provided a method for manufacturing an electronic component, using a package body, the package body having a cavity, with a shield electrode disposed on an inner bottom surface of said cavity, a stepped level-difference in an inner wall of the cavity, a plurality of internal contact electrodes provided on an upper end-surface of said stepped level-difference in the inner wall, and at least one non-shield-electrode region of the inner bottom surface of the cavity, devoid of shield electrode formation, at the side edge of one or more of said internal contact electrodes, the method comprising the steps of:

detecting a boundary, as viewed from above the cavity of the package body, formed between said stepped level-difference and said inner bottom surface, for at least two times, and determining, based on the results of the detection , a place for mounting a chip in the package;

mounting said chip on the inner bottom surface of said package;

electrically connecting said chip and said internal contact electrodes with a plurality of wires; and

sealing said opening of said package with a lid.

Thus an electronic component of the present invention may be provided with a pattern suitable for aligning a SAW device chip or the like electronic device chip and an interconnection wire accurately to certain specified places of a package of the electronic component.

A method for manufacturing the electronic components of the present invention uses a package provided with a stepped level-difference on the inner wall of cavity, and aligning of at least either said device chip or interconnection wire to a certain specified location may be effected after detecting the boundary formed by the stepped level-difference and the inner bottom surface of said package at a high accuracy level.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a plan view of a SAW device, in accordance with exemplary embodiments 1 through 3 of the present invention, before the package is sealed with a lid.

FIG. 2 is a cross sectional view of the SAW device, in accordance with exemplary embodiments 1 through 3.

FIG. 3 is a plan view of a SAW device, in accordance with other exemplary embodiments of the present invention.

FIG. 4 is a cross sectional view of the SAW device, in accordance with the other exemplary embodiments.

FIG. 5 is a plan view of a conventional SAW device, before it is sealed with a lid.

FIG. 6 is a cross sectional view of the conventional SAW device.

-4 MAR 2004

BEST MODE FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION

(Embodiment 1)

FIG. 1 shows a SAW device in accordance with a first exemplary embodiment of the present invention, as viewed from the above, or the lid side, before it is sealed with a lid. FIG. 2 shows a cross sectional view of the SAW device of FIG. 1, sectioned at the line A - B.

The first embodiment of the present invention is described in the

following with reference to the drawings. On one of the surfaces of a ceramic substrate 10, namely the surface on which a SAW chip 17 is mounted, a first ceramic frame body 11 and a second ceramic frame body 12 whose size being different from the first ceramic frame body 11, are stacked in the order to form a package 13, which package having a cavity provided with a stepped level-difference 26.

An internal contact electrode 14 is formed covering one of the surfaces of the first ceramic frame body 11 (upper surface), the side faces of the ceramic substrate 10 and the first ceramic frame body 11, and part of the other surface (bottom surface) of the ceramic substrate 10.

A shield electrode 15 is formed on the upper surface of the ceramic substrate 10, on which the SAW chip 17 is mounted via an adhesion layer 16. Non-shield electrode portion 18a, 18b are provided on the inner bottom surface of package 13 at the sides facing the stepped level-difference 26. The SAW chip 17 is disposed on said shield electrode at a certain area that is specified by connecting said two non-shield electrode portion 18a, 18b.

A first thing for manufacturing the electronic components of the present invention is to provide a plating under-layer on the upper surface, the bottom surface and the side face of ceramic substrate 10 in such areas where the shield electrode 15 and the internal contact electrode 14 are to be formed. Next, on the upper surface of the ceramic substrate 10, a first ceramic frame body 11 is formed. The plating under-layer is provided also on the upper surface and the side face of the first ceramic frame body 11 for an area of the same shape as the internal contact electrode 14, which is to be formed later thereon.

And then, on the first ceramic frame body 11, a second ceramic frame body 12, which has the same dimensions in the outer circumference and narrower in the body width relative to those of the first ceramic frame body 11, is provided to create the stepped level-difference 26 inside the package 13. These are fired together to form an integrated package 13 consisting of the

-4 MAR 2004

ceramic substrate 10, and the first and the second ceramic frame bodies 12, 13. The plating under-layer is provided also on the upper surface of the second ceramic frame body 12.

The ceramic substrate 10, the first ceramic frame body 11 and the second ceramic frame body 12 have been manufactured mainly of aluminum oxide, and the plating under-layer has been formed mainly of tungsten material.

The package 13 is plated with nickel over the plating under-layer, and a seam ring 20, thermal expansion coefficient of which being the same or identical to that of the package 13, is formed by means of silver brazing on the upper surface of the second ceramic frame body 12.

It undergoes nickel plating again, and then gold plating for forming the internal contact electrode 14 and the shield electrode 15.

As FIG. 1 illustrates, the internal contact electrode 14 is provided on each of the upper surface of the stepped level-differences 26 formed on the inner wall of package 13 (the upper surface of the first ceramic frame body 11) for a plurality of pieces extending as far as edge of the inner circumference; respective sides of the internal contact electrode being in parallel with respective sides of the package 13 (sides of the first ceramic frame body 11). Consequently, the internal contact electrode 14 assumes a substantially rectangular shape, or a square shape.

Also, respective sides of the non-shield electrode portion 18a, 18b provided on the inner bottom surface of package 13 are in parallel with respective sides of the package 13, and the region is reaching the bottom end of the first ceramic frame body 11 at the inner circumference. Namely, the region 18a, 18b assumes a substantially rectangular shape, or a square shape, with the internal contact electrode 14 and the region 18a, 18b being disposed in an arrangement substantially rectangular to each other.

Non-shield electrode portion 18a, 18b is provided for two at both sides of the SAW chip 17 so that it is disposed immediately next to the internal

contact electrode 14, as viewed, in FIG. 2, from above the package 13, or from the seam ring 20 side towards the SAW chip 17.

A SAW chip 17 comprises comb-formed electrodes 22 for input/output formed on the substrate and a plurality of contact electrodes 24, which being coupled with the reflector electrode 23 and the comb-formed electrode 22, provided at both sides of the comb-formed electrode 22.

The SAW chip 17 is mounted on the shield electrode 15 of the package 13, with an adhesion layer 16 interposed in between. Contact electrode 24 of the SAW chip 17 is substantially on the same level as the internal contact electrode 14 in the height. As viewed from above the package 13, the non-shield electrode portion 18a, 18b is disposed between the internal contact electrode 14 and the contact electrode 24 of SAW chip 17.

The package 13 undergoes a pattern recognition procedure from the above. A point of boundary formed by the non-shield electrode portion 18a, 18b and the internal contact electrode 14 is detected at each of the opposing stepped level-differences 26, and the middle point is established on a straight line connecting the two points. Using the middle point as reference, and based on various dimensional particulars of the package 13, a spot for bonding the interconnection wire 19 on the internal contact electrode 14 is determined. Pattern of electrodes such as the comb-formed electrode 22, contact electrode 24, etc. formed on the surface of SAW chip 17, is also recognized, and, based on which, a spot for bonding the interconnection wire 19 on the contact electrode 24 is determined. And then, the interconnection wire 19 is bonded at one end on the internal contact electrode 14, while the other end on the contact electrode 24 of SAW chip 17, for electrical connection. A lid 21 is welded on a seam ring 20 provided around the upper surface of package 13 to have the SAW chip 17 sealed in the package 13.

(Embodiment 2)

Embodiment 2 relates to the procedure of determining a location for mounting a SAW chip 17, and the description is made with reference to FIG. 2.

-4 MAR 2004

In the same way as in embodiment 1, a package 13 having an internal contact electrode 14 and a shield electrode 15, as well as a SAW chip 17, are prepared as the first step. The SAW chip 17 is mounted on the shield electrode 15 via an adhesion layer 16. A pattern recognition is conducted on the package 13 from the above to detect a cross point formed by the non-shield electrode portion 18a, 18b and the internal contact electrode 14. The middle point is established in a straight line connecting the corresponding two cross points. Using the middle point as reference, and based on various dimensional particulars of the package 13, a place for mounting a SAW chip 17 is determined.

In other words, the non-shield electrode 18a, 18b is provided for at least two, and a SAW chip 17 is placed somewhere in a straight line connecting the two. And the SAW chip 17 is mounted at the location on the shield electrode 15 of package 13 via an adhesion layer 16.

Next, after the contact electrode 24 of SAW chip 17 and the internal contact electrode 14 are connected using an interconnection wire 19, a lid 21 is welded on a seam ring 20 provided around the upper surface of package 13 to have the SAW chip 17 sealed in the package 13.

(Embodiment 3)

Embodiment 3 relates to the procedure of determining a place for bonding an interconnection wire 19 on an internal contact electrode 14. Description is made referring to FIG. 3; where, portions designated by the same numerals as in FIG. 1 represent that they perform the same functions respectively. In the following, only the points of difference from embodiment 1 are described. In embodiment 1, the is disposed immediately next to the internal contact electrodes 14, as viewed from above the package 13. However, in the present embodiment 3, the region 18a, 18b is not disposed at a place where it has an immediate contact with the internal contact electrodes 14.

Therefore, when a pattern recognizing procedure is conducted on the

package 13 from the above, a cross point formed by the extension of a side of the non-shield electrode 18a, 18b, which side facing the stepped level-difference 26, and the extension of a side of the internal contact electrode 14, which side facing the inner bottom surface of package 13, is detected, and then the middle point is established in a straight line connecting the corresponding two cross points. Using the middle point as reference, and based on various dimensional particulars of the package 13, a spot for bonding the interconnection wire 19 on the internal contact electrode 14 is determined.

And then, the interconnection wire 19 at one end is bonded on the internal contact electrode 14, while the other end on the contact electrode 24 of SAW chip 17 for electrical connection.

A lid 21 is welded on the seam ring 20 provided around the upper surface of package 13 to have the SAW chip 17 sealed in the package 13.

Now in the following, points of significance with the present embodiment 3 are described.

(1) In the present embodiment, a pattern recognition procedure is applied on the package 13 from the above to detect a boundary point between the inner bottom surface of package 13 and the internal contact electrode 14, for determining a place for mounting the SAW chip 17 or a spot for bonding the interconnection wire 19 on the internal contact electrode 14. The reason for the above is as follows:

In order to reduce the possible recognition errors to a minimum, it is preferred to make a distance between recognition points as long as possible. In this point of view, a boundary point between the seam ring 20 and the first ceramic frame body 11, as viewed from above the package 13, may be detected. However, since the seam ring 20 is fixed on the upper surface of the second ceramic frame body 12 by means of silver brazing 25 the placement accuracy can easily be displaced. On the other hand, the amount of displacement is smaller with the first ceramic frame body 11, which is shaped through a punching process, as compared with that of seam ring 20.

Furthermore, besides the case where a package 13 is sealed by welding a lid 21 using the seam ring 20, the upper end-surface of the second ceramic frame body 12 needs to be provided with a plated layer even when it is sealed with solder. In this case, the accuracy in the shape is inferior to that of the first ceramic frame body 11. Therefore, it is preferred to use a boundary formed by the first ceramic frame body 11 and the inner bottom surface of package 13.

(2) Since the internal contact electrode 14 and the shield electrode 15 have been formed with the same gold plating, it is difficult for the pattern recognition conducted from above the package 13 to distinguish one from the other. When a non-shield electrode 18a, 18b is provided next to the internal contact electrode 14, the location aligning can be made at a higher accuracy level by taking advantage of a contrast generated by difference in the color between the two.

The non-shield electrode 18a, 18b may be provided instead in other layout arrangement, where corners of the region 18a, 18b and the internal contact electrode 14 are adjacent, as viewed from above the package 13 like in FIG. 1.

(Embodiment 4)

Embodiment 4 is described also referring to FIG. 3; where, portions designated by the same numerals as in FIG. 1 represent that they perform respectively the same functions as those described in embodiments 1 and 2. So, description of such portions are eliminated.

In the following, only the points of difference as compared with embodiments 1 and 2 are described. In embodiment 4, the non-shield electrode 18a, 18b is not disposed at a place where it has an immediate contact with the internal contact electrodes 14; like the layout of embodiment 3. However, one of the sides of the region 18a, 18b and one of the sides of the internal contact electrode 14 coincide on the boundary line formed by the stepped level-difference 26 and the inner bottom surface.

-4 MAR 2004

Therefore, a pattern recognition procedure is applied from above the package 13 for detecting, in each of the stepped level-differences 26 opposing to each other, a point at which the extension of one of the sides of the non-shield electrode 18a, 18b and the extension of the internal contact electrode 14's other side cross at a right angle. In a straight line connecting the two corresponding cross points, the middle point is established to be used as reference. Using the middle point, and based on various dimensional particulars of the package 13, a place for mounting the SAW chip 17 is determined.

(Embodiment 5)

A point of significance with embodiment 5 is in the shape of a first ceramic frame body 11. The present embodiment 5 is described referring to FIG. 4; where, portions designated by the same numerals as in FIG. 1 represent that they perform respectively the same functions as those described in embodiment 1. So, detailed description of such portions are eliminated.

In the following, only the points of difference as compared with embodiment 1 are described. In the first ceramic frame body 11 in embodiment 1, the inner side wall and the upper surface cross to form a right angle; whereas, it is an acute angle in the present embodiment 5. Thereby, clearance between the opposing stepped level-differences 26 becomes greater in the lower part than in the upper part.

The first ceramic frame body 11 in embodiment 5 may be provided by first punching a ceramic sheet to a certain predetermined shape and then providing the inner side wall with a tapered form, for example. When the inner side wall and the upper surface of the ceramic frame body 11 form an acute angle, a rectangular cross point formed by one of the sides of the non-shield electrode 18a, 18b, or the extension, and one of the sides of the internal contact electrode 14, or the extension, can be detected at a higher accuracy level during a pattern recognition procedure conducted from above

the package 13.

The same applies also to the SAW chip 17 in the earlier embodiments 2 through 4.

Now the points of significance in embodiments 1 through 5 are briefed as follows:

(1) In embodiments 1 and 3, it is recited that, as viewed from above the package 13, a rectangular cross point formed by one of the sides of the non-shield electrode 18a, 18b, or the extension, and one of the sides of the internal contact electrode 14, or the extension, is detected at a pattern recognition, and the contact electrode 24 of SAW chip 17 and the internal contact electrode 14 are reliably connected by means of interconnection wire 19.

In embodiments 2 and 4, it is recited that, prior to mounting a SAW chip 17 in the package 13, a rectangular cross point formed by one of the sides of the non-shield electrode 18a, 18b, or the extension, and one of the sides of the internal contact electrode 14, or the extension, is detected at a pattern recognition as viewed from above the package 13, for determining a place for mounting the SAW chip 17.

Thus, a place for mounting the SAW chip 17 and a spot for bonding the interconnection wire 19 on the internal contact electrode 14 can be specifically determined when the non-shield electrode 18a, 18b and the internal contact electrode 14 are disposed in an arrangement where, as viewed from above the package 13, one of the sides, or the extensions, of the above two forms cross at substantially a right angle. In manufacturing one SAW device, the pattern recognition may of course be conducted for twice; namely, for determining a place for mounting a SAW chip 17 and a point for bonding the interconnection wire 19 on the internal contact electrode 14.

(2) In embodiments 1 and 3, where the pattern recognition is conducted for determining a spot for bonding the interconnection wire 19 on the internal contact electrode 14, a non-shield electrode 18a, 18b whose

-4 MAR 2004

width is broader than that of the focus shift margin of a lens used for the pattern recognition contributes to avoid possible recognition errors.

(3) In a configuration where the upper surfaces of SAW chip 17 and the internal contact electrode 14 are on substantially the same plane, both of the SAW chip 17 and the internal contact electrode 14 can be contained in a focussed scope at the pattern recognition. Thus, the rectangular cross point formed by one of the sides of the non-shield electrode 18a, 18b, or the extension, and one of the sides of the internal contact electrode 14, or the extension, and electrode patterns on the SAW chip 17, such as contact electrodes, comb-formed electrodes, can be recognized at once.

(4) Furthermore, in embodiments 1 and 2, where a cross point formed by one of the sides of the non-shield electrode 18a, 18b and one of the sides of the internal contact electrode 14 is detected, a boundary between the package 13 and the inner bottom surface can be surely recognized. On the other hand, what is detected in embodiments 3 and 4 is a rectangular cross point formed by the extension of one of the sides of the non-shield electrode 18a, 18b and the extension of one of the sides of the internal contact electrode 14. Therefore, if there is a displacement taken place with the package 13, for example, the location recognition accuracy in embodiments 3 and 4 may become slightly inferior to that in embodiments 1 and 2.

Therefore, it is preferred to dispose the non-shield electrode 18a, 18b to be adjacent, as viewed from above the package 13, to the internal contact electrode 14, like in embodiments 1 and 2. In order to avoid a possible consequence that may result from a slightly displaced formation of the region 18a, 18b, it is preferred to form the region 18a, 18b so that the length of a side facing the internal contact electrode 14 is greater than the value of a clearance between the internal contact electrodes 14 formed on the same stepped level-difference 26.

(5) The point of significance with embodiment 5 is in the shape of a first ceramic frame body 11. Namely, the inner side-wall and the upper

surface of the first ceramic frame body 11 form an acute angle. Thereby, distance between the opposing stepped level-differences 26 becomes greater in the lower section than in the upper section. With this configuration, a rectangular cross point formed by one of the sides of the non-shield electrode 18a, 18b, or the extension, and one of the sides of the internal contact electrode 14, or the extension, can detected at a high accuracy level in a pattern recognition conducted from above the package 13. The above-described configuration with the ceramic frame body 11 may be introduced in all the embodiments 1 through 4.

(6) The non-shield electrode 18a, 18b has been provided, in the above-described embodiments, facing each of the opposing stepped level-differences 26. Instead, the above two regions 18a, 18b may be provided altogether in a side facing one of the stepped level differences 26 for detecting a rectangular cross point formed by one of the sides of the non-shield electrode 18a, 18b, or the extension, and one of the sides of the internal contact electrode 14, or the extension, for the purpose of location aligning. In order to recognize the point at a higher accuracy level, it is preferred to provide the non-shield electrode 18a, 18b at both sides of a SAW chip 17 disposed on the bottom of the package 13.

(7) A boundary, as viewed from above the package 13, between the stepped level-difference 26 and the bottom surface can be recognized in accordance with the present invention at a high accuracy level for determining a location of mounting a SAW chip 17. As a result, the inside dimensions of the package 13 can be reduced to a minimum required for mounting a SAW chip 17 therein. Thus the present invention offers a compact SAW device.

Among the devices of the present invention, a shield electrode 15 of greater area provides the greater shielding effects. Further, the non-shield electrode 18a, 18b may be provided for three or more; however, two such regions are sufficient for determining a place for mounting the SAW chip 17.

-4 MAR 2004

Although the above exemplary embodiments have been described using a SAW device as an example, the present invention offers the same advantage also to such other electronic component containing a chip within the package which is provided with electrodes on the upper surface and the bottom surface.

INDUSTRIAL APPLICABILITY

In accordance with the present invention, such electronic components can be made available in which a spot for bonding the interconnection wire on the internal contact electrode is determined at a high accuracy level. A method for manufacturing the electronic components is also contained in the present invention.

-4 MAR 2004

CLAIMS

1. An electronic component comprising a package having a cavity, a chip mounted on a shield electrode disposed on an inner bottom surface of said cavity, a stepped level-difference in an inner wall of the cavity, a plurality of internal contact electrodes provided on an upper end-surface of said stepped level-difference in the inner wall, and a plurality of wires connecting the chip and said internal contact electrodes; wherein

at least one non-shield-electrode region of the inner bottom surface of the cavity, devoid of shield electrode formation, is provided, which at least one region is used for determining the location for at least one of mounting said chip on said inner bottom surface and bonding said wires to said internal contact electrodes.

2. An electronic component comprising a ceramic substrate; a first ceramic frame body formed on one of the surfaces of said ceramic substrate; a second ceramic frame body formed on said first ceramic frame body; steps formed by said ceramic substrate and said first ceramic frame body and by said first ceramic frame body and said second ceramic frame body; a plurality of internal contact electrodes formed on the main surface of said first ceramic frame body at the same side as a junction formed by said first ceramic frame body and said second ceramic frame body, which internal contact electrodes extend as far as the other surface of said ceramic substrate covering the side faces of said first ceramic frame body and said ceramic substrate; a shield electrode formed on said one surface of said ceramic substrate for having a chip mounted thereon, the chip is being mounted on said shield electrode; and a plurality of wires for connecting said chip and said internal contact electrodes; wherein

at least one non-shield-electrode region of said one surface of said ceramic substrate, devoid of shield electrode formation, is provided in a portion not covered by said first ceramic frame body, which at least one region is used for determining the location for at least one of mounting said chip on said ceramic substrate and bonding said wires to said internal contact electrodes.

3. The electronic component of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein at least two non-shield-electrode regions, devoid of shield electrode formation, are provided, and said chip is disposed on said shield electrode in a place connecting said at least two regions.

-4 MAR 2004

4. The electronic component of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the or a non-shield-electrode region is rectangular and said internal contact electrodes together make up a rectangular form, and the sides of the internal contact electrode rectangular form are substantially parallel with respective sides of the rectangular non-shield-electrode region.

5. The electronic component of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the or a non-shield-electrode region is rectangular and said internal contact electrodes together make up a rectangular form, and one of the sides of said internal contact electrode rectangular form and one of the sides of the rectangular non-shield-electrode region, or an extension thereof, cross at substantially a right angle, as viewed from the above.

6. The electronic component of claim 1, wherein the distance between opposing sides of the package's inner wall surface is less at the top of the step, where the stepped level-difference is, than at the bottom of the step.

7. The electronic component of claim 2, wherein the distance between two opposing sides of the first ceramic frame is greater at the top of the first ceramic frame than at the base of the first ceramic frame.

8. The electronic component of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the upper surfaces of the internal contact electrodes and the chip are substantially on the same plane.

9. The electronic component of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the length of the or a non-shield-electrode region in a direction connecting an internal contact electrode and the chip is greater than the value of focus shift margin of a lens used for recognizing a boundary between said internal contact electrodes and the at least one non-shield-electrode region.

10. The electronic component of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein a side of the or a non-shield-electrode region, facing an internal contact electrode, has a length that is greater than the value of a gap between the internal contact electrodes.

-4 MAR 2004

11. A method for manufacturing an electronic component, using a package body, the package body having a cavity, with a shield electrode disposed on an inner bottom surface of said cavity, a stepped level-difference in an inner wall of the cavity, a plurality of internal contact electrodes provided on an upper end-surface of said stepped level-difference in the inner wall, and at least one non-shield-electrode region of the inner bottom surface of the cavity, devoid of shield electrode formation, at the side edge of one or more of said internal contact electrodes, the method comprising the steps of:

mounting a chip on the shield electrode in the package body;

detecting a boundary formed by said stepped level-difference and the inner bottom surface of said package for at least two times, and determining, based on results of the detection, wire bonding spots on said internal contact electrodes and said chip;

electrically connecting said chip and said internal contact electrodes with a plurality of wires; and

sealing the cavity of said package with a lid.

12. A method for manufacturing an electronic component, using a package body, the package body having a cavity, with a shield electrode disposed on an inner bottom surface of said cavity, a stepped level-difference in an inner wall of the cavity, a plurality of internal contact electrodes provided on an upper end-surface of said stepped level-difference in the inner wall, and at least one non-shield-electrode region of the inner bottom surface of the cavity, devoid of shield electrode formation, at the side edge of one or more of said internal contact electrodes, the method comprising the steps of:

detecting a boundary, as viewed from above the cavity of the package body, formed between said stepped level-difference and said inner bottom surface, for at least two times, and determining, based on the results of the detection , a place for mounting a chip in the package;

mounting said chip on the inner bottom surface of said package;

electrically connecting said chip and said internal contact electrodes with a plurality of wires; and

sealing said opening of said package with a lid.

13.A method according to claim 12, wherein

said internal contact electrodes together make up a rectangular form, and one of the sides of the or a non-shield electrode region, or an extension thereof, crosses with one of the sides of the internal contact electrode rectangular form, or an extension thereof, at a right angle as viewed from above the opening of said package; and

in the chip mounting spot determining step, a place for mounting the chip is determined by detecting a cross point formed by one of the sides of said non-shield-electrode region, or the extension thereof, and one of the sides of said internal contact electrode rectangular form, or the extension thereof, for at least two times.

14. A method according to claim 12 or 13, further comprising, prior to the connecting step, the steps of:

detecting a boundary, as viewed from above the cavity of said package, formed by said stepped level-difference and the inner bottom surface of said package for at least two times, and determining, based on results of the detection, wire bonding spots on said internal contact electrodes and said chip.

15. A method according to claim 11 or 14, wherein

said internal contact electrodes together make up a rectangular form, and one of the sides of the or a non-shield-electrode region, or an extension thereof, crosses with one of the sides of the internal contact electrode rectangular form, or an extension thereof, at a right angle as viewed from above the opening of said package; and

in the wire bonding spots determining step, the wire bonding spots are determined by detecting a cross point formed by one of the sides of said non-shield-electrode region, or an extension thereof, and one of the sides of said internal contact electrode

16. A method according to any one of claims 11 to 15, wherein the length of the or a non-shield-electrode region in a direction connecting an internal contact electrode and the chip is greater than the value of focus shift margin of a lens used for recognizing a boundary between said internal contact electrodes and the at least one non-shield-electrode region.

-4 MAR 2004

SUMMARY

An electronic component, in which a chip can be mounted on a certain predetermined place of the package at a high accuracy level, which package having a stepped level-difference in the inner wall of a cavity. The package 13 is provided with a stepped level-difference 26 in the inner wall surface, and an internal contact electrode 14 formed on the upper surface of the stepped level-difference 26. At the bottom of the package 13 is a shield electrode 15, on which a chip 17 is mounted via an adhesion layer 16. The chip 17 and the internal contact electrode 14 are electrically connected by an interconnection wire 19. Location aligning for the chip 17 and the interconnection wire 19, at least either one of these, is conducted by making use of a region 18a, 18b, which is non-electrode portion, provided on the inner bottom surface of the package 13.