

PATENT APPLICATION

FOR:

**Process and apparatus for treating metal surfaces by
dry means**

in the name of:

**L'AIR LIQUIDE, SOCIETE ANONYME POUR L'ETUDE ET
L'EXPLOITATION DES PROCEDES GEORGES CLAUDE**

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ABSTRACT

In this process for the surface treatment, by dry means, of at least one metal surface portion, in which the portion is treated at a pressure close to atmospheric pressure by a flow of a treatment gas comprising excited or unstable species, the pressure of the treatment gas on the metal surface portion is increased locally so as to force the chemical species to move in a direction approximately perpendicular to the surface.

Application to the wave soldering of electronic components on printed-circuit boards.

Fig. 3 to be reproduced.