

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



ULTRA HIGH PURITY GAS DISTRIBUTION COMPONENT WITH
INTEGRAL VALVED COUPLING AND METHODS FOR ITS USE

Abstract of the Disclosure

Valved couplers 20 and gas processing components particularly suitable for ultra-high purity gas distribution for use in semiconductor manufacturing. In the couplers, a valve stem/bullnose 34 seals the aperture of the coupler 56 immediately adjacent the exterior of the coupler, so that only a minimal amount of the wetted surface of the coupler is exposed to the external environment. A gas processing component (e.g., a filter 120), or an entire integrated gas stick assembly 12, may be sealed from the exterior environment at both its inlet and outlet sides, by these valved couplers. As a result, the entire device can be purged after manufacture and left in a controlled environment during shipment and installation, reducing the need for purging after installation.

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