

ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Disclosed herein is a processing apparatus including a processing unit. The processing unit includes a spindle, a spindle housing having an air bearing for rotatably supporting the spindle by using air, and a tool mounted on the front end of the spindle. The spindle housing has an air supply passage for supplying the air to the air bearing, an air supply port connected to the air supply passage, an air discharge passage for discharging the air from the air bearing, and an air discharge port connected to the air discharge passage. The air supply port is connected through an air supply line to an air source. The air supply line is provided with a pressure gauge and a flowmeter. A first allowable value is previously set for the pressure to be detected by the pressure gauge, and a second allowable value is previously set for the flow rate to be detected by the flowmeter.

(Figure 2)