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(54) Title: LASER PROCESSING APPARATUS FACILITATING DIRECTED INSPECTION OF LASER-PROCESSED WORKPIECES AND METHODS OF OPERATING THE SAME

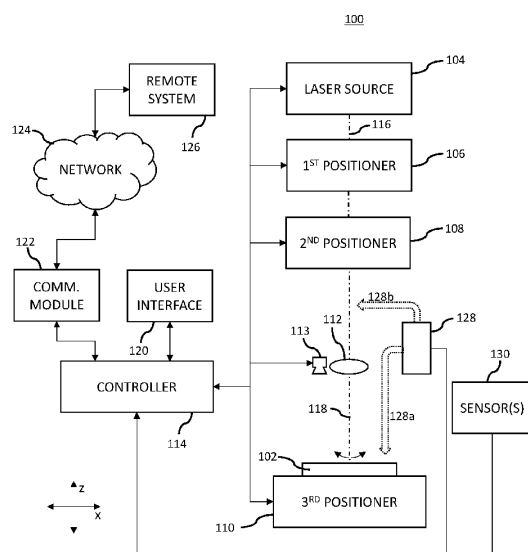


FIG. 1

(57) **Abstract:** A laser-processing apparatus for forming features in a workpiece includes at least one sensor for generating process control data representing a) at least one characteristic of the apparatus either before, during or after the workpiece is processed to form a set of features, b) at least one characteristic of the workpiece either before, during or after the workpiece is processed to form a set of features, and/or c) at least one characteristic of an ambient environment in which the apparatus is located either before, during or after the workpiece is processed to form a set of features. A controller executes, or facilitate execution of, a candidate feature selection process whereby process control data is processed to estimate whether any of the features formed in the workpiece are defective and the location of any feature estimated to be defective is identified.

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