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(54) Title: A METHOD OF PRODUCING A LAYER OF CAVITIES.

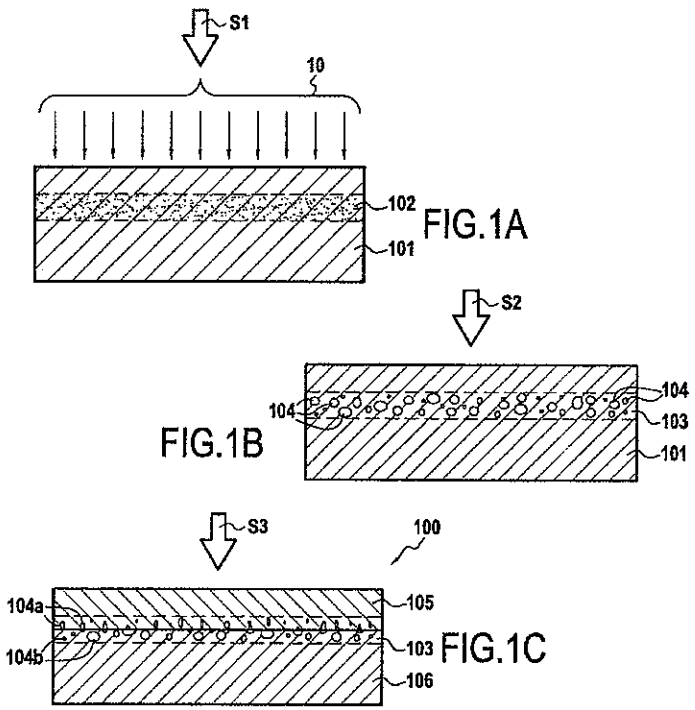


FIG.1A

FIG.1B

FIG.1C

(57) Abstract: A method of producing a layer of cavities in a structure (100) comprises at least one substrate (101) formed from a material that can be oxidized or nitrided, the method comprising the following steps: implanting ions (10) into said substrate (101) in order to form an implanted ion concentration zone (102) at a predetermined mean depth; heat treating the implanted substrate to form a layer of cavities (103) at the implanted ion concentration zone (102); and forming an insulating layer (105) in said substrate by thermochemical treatment from one surface of said substrate, said insulating layer that is formed extending at least partially into the layer of cavities (103).

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