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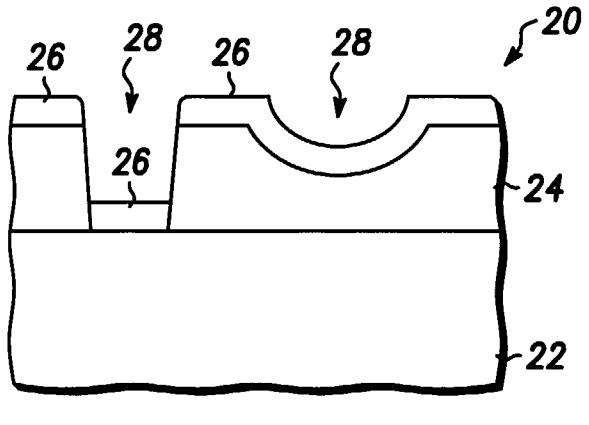
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(54) Title: REMOVING AN AMORPHOUS OXIDE FROM A MONOCRYSTALLINE SURFACE



(57) Abstract: A method of removing an amorphous oxide (24) from a surface of a monocrystalline substrate (22) is provided. The method includes depositing a passivation material (26) overlying the amorphous oxide. The monocrystalline substrate is then heated so that the amorphous oxide layer decomposes into at least one volatile species that is liberated from the surface.

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