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(71) Applicant: LAM RESEARCH CORPORATION [US/US]; 4650 Cushing Parkway, Fremont, CA 94538-6470 (US).

(72) Inventors: DE LARIOS, John, M.; 941 Loma Verde, Palo Alto, CA 94303 (US). GARCIA, James, P.; 1251 Santa Clara Street, Apt. 1, Santa Clara, CA 95050 (US). WOODS, Carl; 333 Village Creek Road, Aptos, CA 95004 (US). RAVKIN, Mike; 1215 West Knickerbocker Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94087 (US). REDEKER, Fritz; 1801 Sioux Drive, Fremont, CA 94539 (US). BOYD, John; 8730 Sierra Vista Road, Atascadero, CA 93422 (US). NICKHOU, Afshin; 6516 Plainview Court, San Jose, CA 95120 (US).

(74) Agents: PENILLA, Albert, S. et al.; Martine & Penilla, LLP, 710 Lakeway Drive, Suite 170, Sunnyvale, CA 94085 (US).

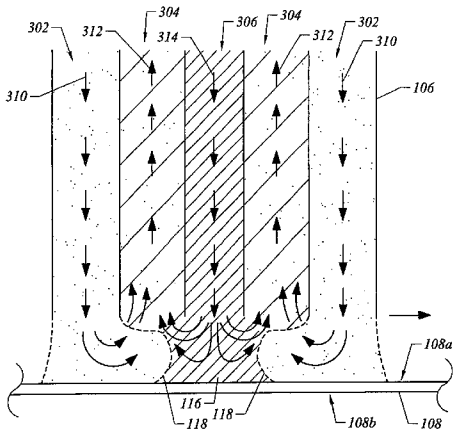
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DRYING SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER SURFACES USING A PLURALITY OF INLETS AND OUTLETS HELD IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE WAFER SURFACES



(57) Abstract: One of many embodiments of a substrate preparation system is provided which includes a head having a head surface where the head surface is proximate to a surface of the substrate. The system also includes a first conduit for delivering a first fluid to the surface of the substrate through the head, and a second conduit for delivering a second fluid to the surface of the substrate through the head, where the second fluid is different than the first fluid. The system also includes a third conduit for removing each of the first fluid and the second fluid from the surface of the substrate where the first conduit, the second conduit and the third conduit act substantially simultaneously. In an alternative embodiment, a method for processing a substrate is provided that includes generating a fluid meniscus on a surface of the substrate and applying acoustic energy to the fluid meniscus. The method also includes moving the fluid meniscus over the surface the substrate to process the surface of the substrate.

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