

ABSTRACT**EXTERIOR SERVICING APPARATUS**

5 A gondola is supported on cables (18) from a rail-driven support platform (14).
The gondola (20) is located at a site on a building's exterior where a servicing operation
is to be performed. Four anchoring devices (33), at corners of an outer cage (30), are
then operated to firmly fix the gondola (20) to the exterior surface. The anchoring
devices (33) are independently controllable to cope with uneven surfaces. An inner
10 frame (38) is capable of y-axis and z-axis motion, while a workpiece mounting platform
(46) is controlled in x-axis motion.

In this way, a workpiece can be precisely located at a servicing site and
manoeuvre over uneven surfaces. A workpiece drive mechanism (54) provides further
15 degrees of freedom to negotiate the workpiece over irregular surfaces in performing the
servicing operation.

(Figure 2)