

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
15 November 2007 (15.11.2007)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2007/130986 A1**

(51) International Patent Classification:  
*H01L 21/324* (2006.01) *H01L 21/477* (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/US2007/067945

(22) International Filing Date: 1 May 2007 (01.05.2007)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
11/417,269 2 May 2006 (02.05.2006) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **ELECTRO SCIENTIFIC INDUSTRIES, INC.** [US/US];  
13900 NW Science Park Drive, Portland, Oregon 97229 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **WILE, Donald, E.** [US/US]; 8990 SW 172nd Place, Beaverton, Oregon 97007 (US). **JOHANSEN, Brian, C.** [US/US]; 5911 NW Oelrich Road, Hillsboro, Oregon 97124 (US).

(74) Agent: **ANGELLO, Paul, S.**; Stoel Rives, LLP, 900 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 2600, Portland, Oregon 97204 (US).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

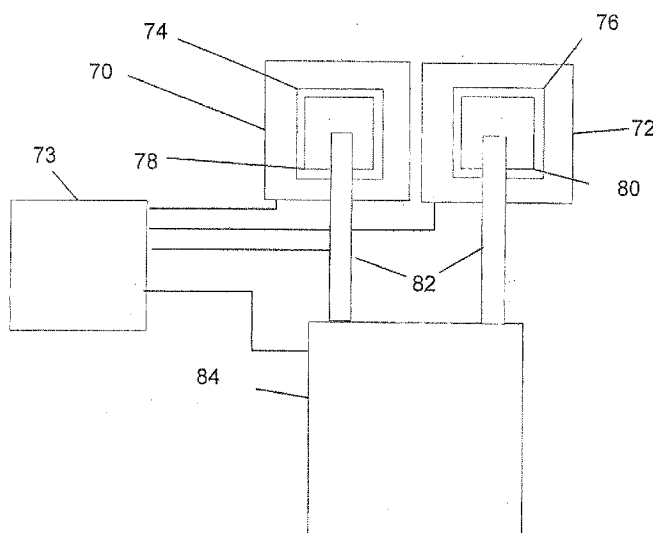
(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**Published:**

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR LASER PROCESSING



(57) Abstract: A method and an apparatus for processing workpieces with a laser beam (89) include first and second stages (74,76) for holding the workpieces (78,80) and first and second laser beam paths. The first workpiece is loaded upon the first stage, aligned with the first laser beam path, and processing begun. While the first workpiece is aligned in relation to the first laser beam path, the second workpiece is prepared in relation to the second laser beam path. Processing of the second workpiece is begun as soon as the laser beam is available for processing.

WO 2007/130986 A1



---

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*