

HOLDING APPARATUS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A holding apparatus for holding a workpiece includes a holding unit for holding the workpiece on a holding surface and drawing an outer circumferential area of the workpiece under suction with an annular suction area defined in an area of the holding surface that is covered by the workpiece, a pressure measuring unit for measuring a pressure in a suction channel connected to the annular suction area, and a control unit for determining that no foreign matter is present between the workpiece and the holding surface if the pressure measured by the pressure measuring unit is lower than a preset threshold value and determining that foreign matter is present between the workpiece and the holding surface if the pressure measured by the pressure measuring unit is higher than the threshold value.

[Fig. 1A]