WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An auxiliary apparatus coupled to a cutting apparatus, the cutting apparatus including a chuck table having a holding surface configured to hold a workpiece, a cutting unit to which a cutting blade configured to cut the workpiece held on the chuck table is fitted, X-axis feeding means for processing-feeding the chuck table in an X-axis direction, Y-axis feeding means for indexing-feeding the cutting unit in a Y-axis direction orthogonal to the X-axis direction, and Z-axis feeding means for cutting-feeding the cutting unit in a Z-axis direction orthogonal to the X-axis direction and the Y-axis direction, the holding surface being defined by the X-axis direction and the Y-axis direction, the auxiliary apparatus comprising:

a loading and unloading unit configured to unload and load the cutting blade;

an X-axis moving mechanism configured to move the loading and unloading unit in the X-axis direction to make the loading and unloading unit act on the cutting blade;

a dressing board housing portion configured to house a dressing board for dressing the cutting blade; and

holding means for holding the dressing board housed in the dressing board housing portion,

wherein

the holding means is disposed on a first moving body disposed within a frame body, the first moving body is slidably supported in a suspended state by a first guide rail that is disposed on a lower portion of a second moving body and that extends in the X-axis direction, the second moving body is slidably supported in a suspended state by a second guide rail that is disposed on a ceiling portion of the frame body and that extends in the X-axis direction, and the holding means is configured to be advanced freely in the X-axis direction by the first moving body and the second moving body, and

the loading and unloading unit is advanced toward the cutting apparatus by the X-axis moving mechanism, thereby loading the dressing board held by the holding means onto a sub-table disposed in such a manner as to be adjacent to the chuck table.

2. The auxiliary apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

the frame body is disposed on a raising and lowering table.

3. The auxiliary apparatus according to claim 1 or

claim 2, wherein

the loading and unloading unit includes

a Z rotary shaft extending in the Z-axis direction,

blade holding units radially coupled to the Z rotary shaft and configured to hold under suction a cutting blade, and

a fixing nut holding unit configured to screw and unscrew a fixing nut onto and from a male thread formed on a distal end of the spindle, and

two blade holding units are provided for one fixing nut holding unit.

4. The auxiliary apparatus according to claim 3, wherein

a bottom portion of the frame body is provided with an end surface correcting jig housing portion configured to house an end surface correcting jig configured to shape a peripheral end surface of a mount flange that is formed at the distal end of the spindle of the cutting unit and that supports a back portion of the cutting blade, and the end surface correcting jig is held by the holding means disposed on the first moving body.

5. The auxiliary apparatus according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein

the holding means comprises

a rising and lowering piece configured to be raisable and lowerable in the Z-axis direction;

raising and lowering means for raising the rising and lowering piece; and

a plurality of suction pads arranged on a lower surface of the rising and lowering piece.