

**A CARRIER AND A HOUSING METHOD
FOR REDUCED PARTICLE CONTAMINATION**

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Abstract

Containers are often used to store and transport articles, for example wafers or disks. The containers are adapted and shaped to provide a generally sealed enclosure along with secure retention and cushioning means for the articles. It is of paramount importance that the enclosure is very clean and also be able to preclude the entry of particles or other contaminants. Any particles or other containments in the containers can adhere and cause damage to the wafers or the disks. When a cover is coupled to a container, the snapping effect when the cover latches onto flanges formed on the container generates and aids transfer of particles to the articles held in the container. An embodiment of the invention provides a separation wall proximal the point of snap-contact between the cover and the container to substantially impede travel of particles into the confines of the container. A wedged portion of the flange whereat the cover contact the container further reduces particulation caused by attrition to further reduce particle contamination of the articles contained in the container.

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Figure 1