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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS HAVING A RETICLE STAGE SAFETY FEATURE

(57) Abstract: An apparatus and method are disclosed having a stage reticle safety feature. The apparatus includes a reticle stage and an optical stage. The reticle stage supports a reticle and is capable of moving the reticle in x-y-z directions. The optical stage includes a plurality of components to direct light reflected from the reticle onto a wafer substrate and a safety mechanism to move one or more components of the optical stage away from the reticle stage.



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