(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
16 March 2006 (16.03.2006)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2006/026886 A1

(51) International Patent Classification:
H01L 21/00 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/CH2005/000534

(22) International Filing Date:
7 September 2005 (07.09.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/609,207 10 September 2004 (10.09.2004) US

(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: **UNAXIS BALZERS AG** [LI/LI]; LI-9496 Balzers, Liechtenstein (LI).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: **ROHRMANN, Hartmut** [DE/DE]; Neue Anlage 24, 69198 Schriesheim (DE). **RATTUNDE, Oliver** [DE/CH]; Mädliweg 11, CH-9470 Werdenberg (CH).

(74) Common Representative: **UNAXIS BALZERS AG**; LI-9496 Balzers, Liechtenstein (LI).

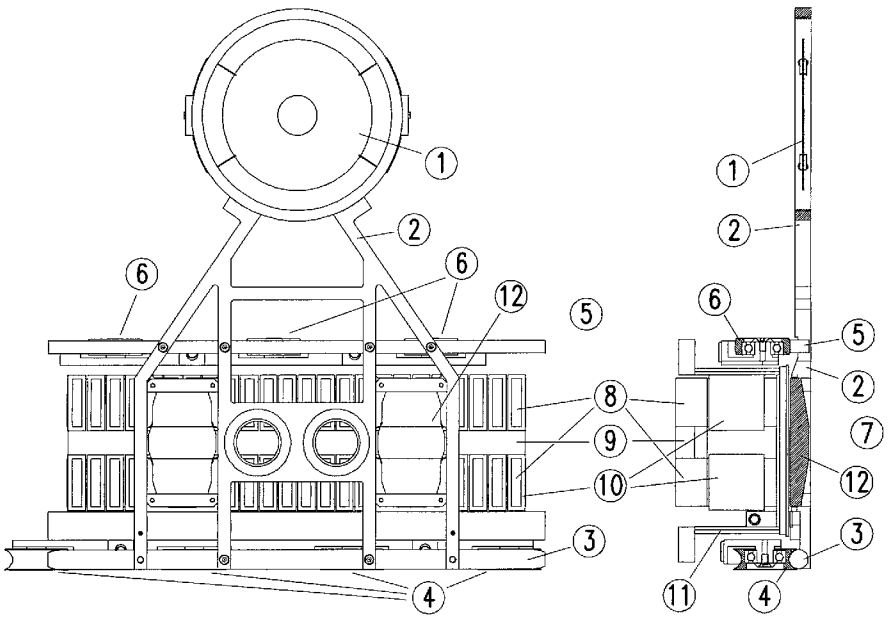
(81) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK,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

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.

(54) Title: SUBSTRATE PROCESSING SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: In a substrate processing system for the treatment of substrates in vacuum two linear assemblies of process modules are stacked one above the other and connected by at least one lift module allowing for the transport from the first set to the second set. Along the travelling path through the first and second set of process modules there is arranged a linear synchronous motor. A substrate carrier with rails interacting with rollers mounted in the processing system is being held by the attractive forces of said linear synchronous motor in vertical position.

WO 2006/026886 A1