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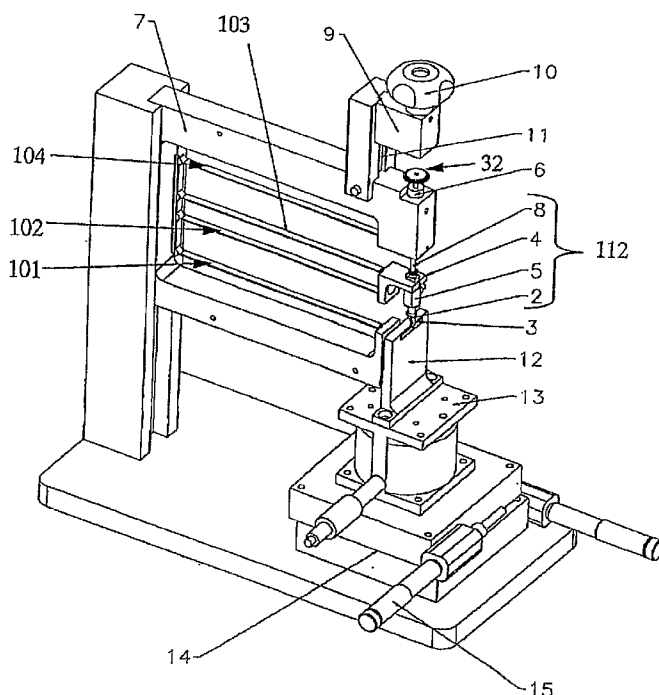
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(54) Title: MICRO-IMPACT TESTING APPARATUS



(57) Abstract: A micro-impact testing apparatus for measuring the impact characteristics of a microelectronics specimen exposed to an impact thereon. The apparatus comprises of a specimen holder for receiving a specimen to be tested, and an impact device. The impact device comprises of an impact head, a support member, at least one connecting element and a first flexural spring. The support member is connected to the connecting element in that the first flexural spring is firmly attached with its one end to the support member and with its other end to the connecting element. A second flexural spring, being at least substantially identical to said first flexural spring, is firmly attached with its one end to the connecting element and with its other end to the impact head so that the ends of the first and second flexural springs define, in an unloaded state of the flexural springs, a rectangle. The impact head is moveable transversally with respect to the first and second flexural springs along a linear line between a spring-loaded position and an impact position thereof. The specimen holder is aligned with the impact device such that the specimen is arranged in said impact position of the impact head so that the impact head is capable of impacting on the specimen after traveling from its loaded position towards its impact position along said linear line upon release thereof from said loaded position.



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