

**Abstract****METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CLEANING ARTICLES**

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A system for cleaning a plurality of needles, the system comprising: a conveyor for conveying a plurality of jigs through a series of stations, each jig arranged to contain at least some of said needles; said stations including: a pre-treatment station for the removal of detritus from said needles; an electronic polishing station; a post-treatment
10 station for removal of material from the surface of said treated needles; a cleaning station for cleaning said needles; a drying station and; an unloading station for unloading said needles from said jigs.

Figure 2