

Abstract

E11-P13a

In an apparatus known as a wire bonder, a new type of one-piece joint element (20) is used as the articulated link (G) between a support unit (pivoting rocker 30) and a bonding unit (10) that carries a capillary (12). One or more such joint elements (20) define a virtual pivot axis (A2) for the unit (10), which lies outside the unit and thus provides a passage in the apparatus wide enough for relatively wide workpieces (chips 1 on substrate 2). A joint element (20a) is made in one piece and has at least two elastically flexible blades (22a) converging toward each other relative to a symmetry plane (S), and the blades are connected to each other by two rigid sections (23a, 24a). One of the rigid sections (23a) is attached to (and removable from) the support unit (30), the other (24a) is attached to (and removable from) the bonding unit (10), so that the joint element (20) is easy to fit or exchange.

(Figures 1, 3)

This Sheet Has Been Replaced

