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

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
13 April 2006 (13.04.2006)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2006/039133 A2

(51) International Patent Classification:
C23G 1/00 (2006.01) *B08B 3/00* (2006.01)
B08B 5/04 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2005/033508

(22) International Filing Date:
21 September 2005 (21.09.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
10/954,098 30 September 2004 (30.09.2004) US

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(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, LY, 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).

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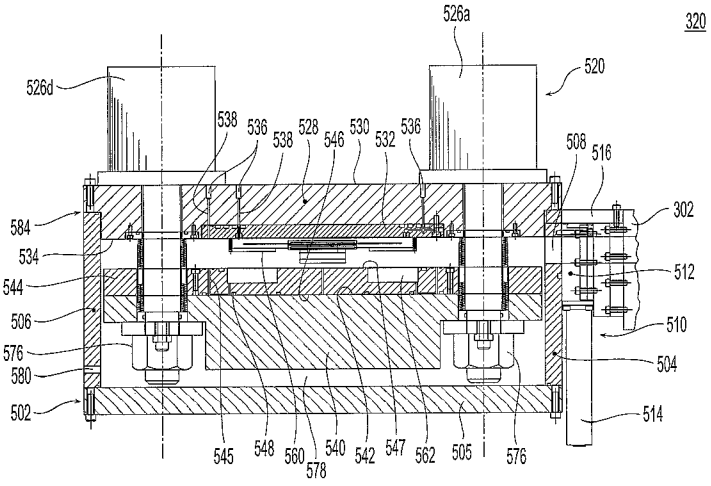
— *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))*

Published:

— *without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report*

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: CLUSTER TOOL PROCESS CHAMBER HAVING INTEGRATED HIGH PRESSURE AND VACUUM CHAMBERS



(57) Abstract: A cluster tool includes a transfer chamber connected to a plurality of vacuum chambers. An additional process chamber connected to the transfer chamber includes a high pressure chamber assembly seated on a housing. The high pressure chamber assembly, which is adjustable between an open position and a closed position, includes an upper chamber portion and a lower chamber portion. Hydraulic cylinders mounted on the upper chamber portion and having chamber rods that attach to the lower chamber portion are configured to move the lower chamber relative to the upper chamber portion between the two positions. When the two portions are brought together into the closed, the high pressure chamber assembly forms a high pressure chamber suitable for processing wafers with supercritical CO_2. Once the high pressure chamber is formed, a region between lower chamber portion and a housing may be evacuated to form a vacuum chamber outside a portion of the high pressure chamber. This vacuum chamber

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