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(54) Title: PLATEN SHIELD CLEANING SYSTEM

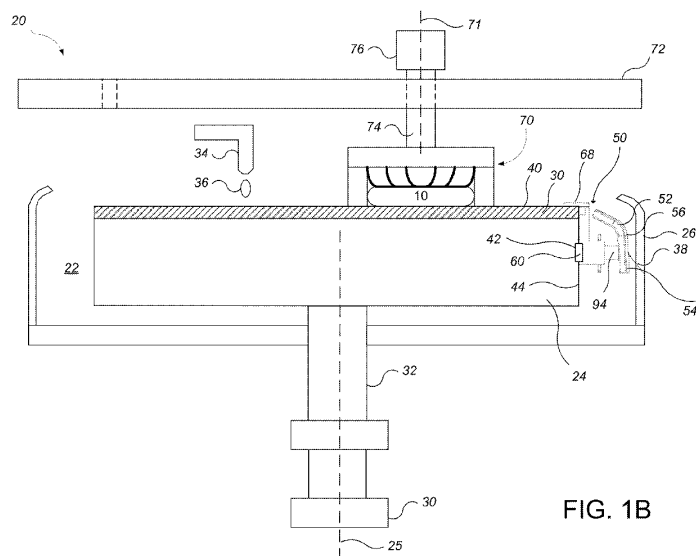


FIG. 1B

(57) Abstract: In a chemical mechanical polishing system, a platen shield cleaning assembly is installed on a rotatable platen in a gap between the rotatable platen and a platen shield. The assembly includes a sponge holder attached to the platen and a sponge. The sponge is held by the sponge holder such that an outer surface of the sponge is pressed against an inner surface of the platen shield.

[Continued on next page]

WO 2021/262612 A1

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