

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus comprising:

a holding means for holding a workpiece;

an action means for applying action to the workpiece held by the holding means;

a moving means for moving the holding means and the action means relative to each other;

an imaging means for imaging a region in which the holding means is moved by operation of the moving means, wherein the region includes at least two of the following specific elements: the workpiece, the holding means and the action means;

a basic image storing means for storing a basic image corresponding to proper operation of the holding means or the action means, wherein the basic image storing means includes a memory; and

a control means for comparing an image imaged by the imaging means with the basic image stored by the basic image storing means, and controlling the moving means or the action means such that the two images coincide with each other,

wherein the comparing an image imaged by the imaging means with the basic image includes verifying that a positional relation between at least two of said specific

elements of the region imaged by the imaging means coincides with a corresponding positional relation in the basic image stored in the basic image storing means.

2. The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a display means,

wherein the control means makes the display means make error display when the two images do not coincide with each other even after the control means compares the image imaged by the imaging means with the basic image stored by the basic image storing means and controls the moving means or the action means such that the two images coincide with each other.

3. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the apparatus is one of a dicing apparatus, a laser processing apparatus, and a grinding apparatus.

4. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the action means is selected from the group consisting of a temporary placement part, a chuck table, an alignment means, a spindle unit, a cleaning means, and a cassette.

5. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the holding means is selected from the group consisting of a chuck table, a suction holding mechanism fitted to an actuating arm, and a workpiece carrying-in/out means.

6. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said moving means is configured and arranged for moving an associated one of said holding means from a position associated with one of said action means to a position associated with another of said action means.

7. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

the action means is a chuck table; and

the holding means is a suction holding mechanism fitted to an actuating arm.

8. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

the action means is an alignment means; and

the holding means is a chuck table.

9. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

the action means is a cleaning means; and

the holding means is a suction holding mechanism fitted to an actuating arm.

10. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

the action means is a cassette; and

the holding means is a workpiece carrying-in/out means.

11. An apparatus comprising:

a holding means for holding a workpiece;

an action means for applying action to the workpiece held by the holding means;

a moving means for moving the holding means and the action means relative to each other, wherein the moving means includes an actuating arm coupled to a motor;

an imaging means for imaging a region in which the holding means is moved by operation of the moving means;

a basic image storing means for storing a basic image corresponding to proper operation of the holding means or the action means, wherein the basic image storing means includes a memory; and

a control means for comparing an image imaged by the imaging means with the basic image stored by the basic image storing means, and controlling the moving means or the action means such that the two images coincide with each other,

wherein the comparing an image imaged by the imaging means with the basic image includes verifying that a positional relation between at least two specific elements of the region imaged by the imaging means coincides with a corresponding positional relation of said at least two specific elements in the basic image stored in the basic image storing means.

12. The apparatus according to claim 11, further comprising:

display means,

wherein the control means makes the display means make error display when the two images do not coincide with each other even after the control means compares the image imaged by the imaging means with the basic image stored by the basic image storing means and controls the moving means or the action means such that the two images coincide with each other.

13. The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the apparatus is one of a dicing apparatus, a laser processing apparatus, and a grinding apparatus.

14. The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the action means is selected from the group consisting of a temporary placement part, a chuck table, an alignment means, a spindle unit, a cleaning means, and a cassette.

15. The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the holding means is selected from the group consisting of a chuck table, a suction holding mechanism fitted to an actuating arm, and a workpiece carrying-in/out means.

16. An apparatus, wherein the apparatus includes a plurality of positions each configured and arranged for performing an action upon a workpiece, the apparatus comprising:

a holding means for holding the workpiece;

a moving means for moving the holding means with the workpiece thereon from one of said positions to another of said positions;

an imaging means for imaging a region in which the holding means is moved by operation of the moving means;

a basic image storing means for storing a basic image corresponding to proper operation of the holding means, wherein the basic image storing means includes a memory; and

a control means for comparing an image imaged by the imaging means with the basic image stored by the basic image storing means, and controlling the moving means such that the two images coincide with each other,

wherein the comparing an image imaged by the imaging means with the basic image includes verifying that a positional relation between at least two specific elements of the region imaged by the imaging means coincides with a corresponding positional relation of said at least two specific elements in the basic image stored in the basic image storing means.

17. The apparatus according to claim 16, further comprising:

display means,

wherein the control means makes the display means make error display when the two images do not coincide with each other even after the control means compares the image imaged by the imaging means with the basic image stored by the basic image storing means and controls the moving means or the action means such that the two images coincide with each other.

18. The apparatus according to claim 17, wherein:

the apparatus is a dicing apparatus, that includes a spindle unit configured and arranged to dice the workpiece with a rotating cutting blade,

the holding means comprises a chuck table, and

the moving means comprises means for moving the chuck table to and from an operational position with respect to the spindle unit.

19. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the basic image comprises:

a first basic image depicting a start state of the specific elements in the region; and

a second basic image of a completion state of the specific elements in the region.

20. The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the basic image comprises:

a first basic image depicting a start state of the specific elements in the region; and

a second basic image of a completion state of the specific elements in the region