

ABSTRACT

CLAMP ACTUATION MECHANISM

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The invention provides an apparatus and method for clamping an object. The apparatus comprises a clamping mechanism and an actuation system to actuate clamping and de-clamping of the clamping mechanism, wherein the actuation system comprises two actuator devices which are operatively
10 coupled whereby to provide an actuation force to the clamping mechanism. Preferably, the actuator devices comprises a variable reluctance actuator and a linear induction actuator coupled together and adapted to cooperate to provide the actuation force to the clamping mechanism.

15 (Fig. 2)