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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CLEANING WAFERS AND DISCS

(57) Abstract

An apparatus for cleaning workpieces (240) such as magnetic recording discs, optical discs, and semiconductor wafers includes a sponge-like material (470) surrounded on two sides by substantially rigid plates (450, 460) that serve as an exoskeleton support for the sponge-like material (470). The plates (450, 460) include a number of apertures (490) formed therein. The sponge-like material (470) protrudes through the apertures (490) of the plates (450, 460), allowing the sponge-like material (470) to contract a surface of the workpiece (240) during the cleaning process.

