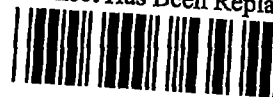


ABSTRACT

A semiconductor device transporting and handling apparatus is provided which provides for positively grasping and transporting an IC out of a tray loaded with ICs, even if the tray is tilted due to deformations an/or distortions, by the use of a carrier head 21 which is vertically movable through constant strokes. The tilt of the tray 12 is measured by attitude gauging means 24 comprising four sets of optical sensors 24A - 24D, the altitude differences of the top surfaces of ICs accommodated in the tray with respect to a reference level are calculated by altitude difference calculating means 28D, and the calculated altitude differences are stored in altitude difference storage means. Once an IC being picked up has been identified, the altitude difference of the identified IC with respect to the reference level is read out, and the position of the tray is moved vertically to conform with the reference level by altitude difference correcting means 28C to insure that the carrier head can pick up the IC.

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