

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 A workpiece dividing method comprising applying a laser
beam from one surface side of a workpiece permeable to the
laser beam. The laser beam applied from the one surface
side of the workpiece is focused onto the other surface of
the workpiece or its vicinity to deteriorate a region
ranging from the other surface of the workpiece to a
predetermined depth. The deterioration of the workpiece
10 is substantially melting and resolidification.