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(54) Title: FREE FLOATING SHIELD AND SEMICONDUCTOR PROCESSING SYSTEM		
(57) Abstract A protective shield and a semiconductor processing system including a protective shield is provided. The shield includes a frame assembly including a pair of spaced end walls and a pair of side walls extending between and mounted to the end walls, and a plurality of shield bodies carried by the frame assembly. Each of the shield bodies includes a base having a continuous unit frame, a perforated sheet carried by said continuous frame, a plenum between the base and the perforated sheet, and a gas delivery device for delivering an inert gas to the plenum at a flow rate such that the gas diffuses through the perforated sheet.		