

ABSTRACT

APPARATUS FOR DELIVERING SHIELDING GAS DURING WIRE BONDING

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10 An apparatus is provided for supplying a shielding gas during the bonding of wires to electronic components with a bonding tool comprising a horn and a capillary. The apparatus comprises a main body with an elongated slot having a width that extends into the main body from a side of the main body generally in a first direction and the slot also extends from a top surface to a bottom surface of the main body in a second direction perpendicular to the first direction for the width of the slot. The slot is sized to receive a tip of the capillary which is operable to pass through the slot in the second direction. A gas outlet, which
15 may be formed inside the slot, supplies shielding gas into the slot.

(FIG. 3)