

ABSTRACT

AUTOMATED PARTICLE REMOVAL SYSTEM

HAVING ANGULAR ADJUSTABILITY

5 A foreign particle removal system for removing a foreign particle from a surface
of an object has a tool gripper which grips a particle removal tool. A tip of the
particle removal tool has a sticky tip portion. The sticky tip portion has an apex
10 region at a remote end of the sticky tip portion and a flank region adjoining the
apex region. The tool gripper holds the particle removal tool at an oblique angle
with respect to the surface so that the flank region of the sticky tip portion faces
towards the surface. The tilted particle removal tool is conveyed with the tool
gripper to contact the foreign particle on the surface with the flank region of the
15 sticky tip portion and a force is exerted onto the surface to attract the foreign
particle onto the flank region. The particle removal tool may then be lifted away
from the surface together with the foreign particle.

(FIG. 6)

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