

ABSTRACT

An expansion sheet adapted to be held and expanded by an expanding apparatus in the condition where a platelike workpiece is attached to the expansion sheet is provided. The expanding apparatus includes a first holding unit and a second holding unit opposed to each other with the workpiece interposed therebetween in a first direction. The first holding unit and the second holding unit are movable away from each other in the first direction. The expanding apparatus further includes a third holding unit and a fourth holding unit opposed to each other with the workpiece interposed therebetween in a second direction perpendicular to the first direction. The third holding unit and the fourth holding unit are movable away from each other in the second direction. The expansion sheet has a peripheral area around the workpiece where the expansion sheet is adapted to be held by the first, second, third, and fourth holding units. The expansion sheet includes a base sheet and an adhesive layer formed on the base sheet, the adhesive layer having adhesion adapted to be reduced by applying ultraviolet light. The adhesion of the adhesive layer in the peripheral area of the expansion sheet is lower than that in the other area of the expansion sheet.

[Figure 1A]