

CARRIER STRIP TRIMMING

ABSTRACT

A holding fixture releasably holds carrier strips carrying at least one row of spaced, encapsulated circuit devices for presentation to first and second sets of spaced apart rotary cutter blades so as to trim the strip material without damage to the circuit devices. Means are provided for movement of the holding fixture in a first path extending transversely of the first set of rotary cutter blades for cutting the carrier strip material along lines extending a predetermined distance from a first pair of edges of the circuit devices and thereafter in a second path extending transversely of the second set of cutter blades for cutting the carrier strip material along lines extended transversely to the first lines. Pneumatic means engagable with the encapsulated circuit devices releasably hold the circuit devices when positioning the fixture and during the cutting operations. Location of the cutter blades relative to the carrier strips is set so as to cause the teeth on the blades to draw air into the cut in order to prevent overheating of the strip material.

FIGURE 1