

APPARATUS FOR INSPECTING ELEMENTS ON TRANSPORT DEVICE

ABSTRACT

A tray mapper (11) uses an optical sensing array to detect if a head gimbal assembly suspension (45) is located in each of the available positions in a shipping tray (43). Each tray to be inspected is placed on the mapper and located in a scanning position. A pair of electro-mechanical switches send a signal to a microprocessor (27) indicating that the next tray is ready to be processed. A bar code reader (41) mounted on the mapper reads a label (51) on the tray to access information regarding the tray. After the label is read, an optical sensor detects the presence or absence of a part. The microprocessor reads the status of each sensor against the values associated with the tray label to decide if the tray should be accepted or rejected. The operator is informed of the proper action then handles the tray accordingly.

Fig 3