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(71) Applicant: **Applied Materials, Inc.**
Santa Clara, California 95054 (US)

(72) Inventors:
• **Hoey, Gee**
San Jose, California 95131 (US)

• **Birang, Manoocher**
Los Gatos, California 95030 (US)
• **Bennett, Doyle E.**
Santa Clara, California 95051 (US)

(74) Representative: **Bayliss, Geoffrey Cyril et al**
BOULT WADE TENNANT
Verulam Gardens
70 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8BT (GB)

(54) **Polishing apparatus**

(57) A chemical mechanical polishing system having a dual position slurry/rinse arm for moving between a polishing position in which slurry is supplied to a polishing pad from a location remote from the polishing pad's center, and a rinsing position in which rinsing fluid is supplied from a location above or adjacent the polishing pad's center. The rinsing fluid is preferably sprayed from one or more nozzles that extend from the edge of the polishing pad to the center of the polishing pad. Preferably, in the polishing position, the slurry/rinse arm is positioned horizontally remote from the polishing pad's

center and supplies slurry to the polishing pad via a horizontally angled slurry supply line. The slurry/rinse arm may include a gimble brush for contacting the polishing pad when the slurry/rinse arm is in the rinsing position, and may further include brush nozzles positioned to direct rinsing fluid to the brush so as to rinse particles therefrom. Rinsing fluid nozzles may also be angled to spray rinsing fluid in front of the brush, so as to prewet the polishing pad.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 13 March 2003	Examiner Eder, R
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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