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(54) **Platen with web release apparatus**

(57) Generally, a method and apparatus for releasing polishing material in a polishing system (100). In one embodiment, the apparatus includes a platen (106) having one or more nozzles (108) coupled thereto. The platen (106) has a support surface (160) adapted to support the polishing material (136). The nozzles (108) are adapted to flow a fluid (126) therethrough that places the polishing material (136) in a spaced-apart relation

to the platen (106). In another embodiment, the one or more nozzles (108) further include a centerline that forms an acute angle with the support surface (160). In one embodiment, the method includes the steps of supporting at least a portion of the polishing material (136) on the platen (106), supplying a fluid (126) between the polishing material (136), and lifting the polishing material (136) to a spaced-apart relation to the platen (106).

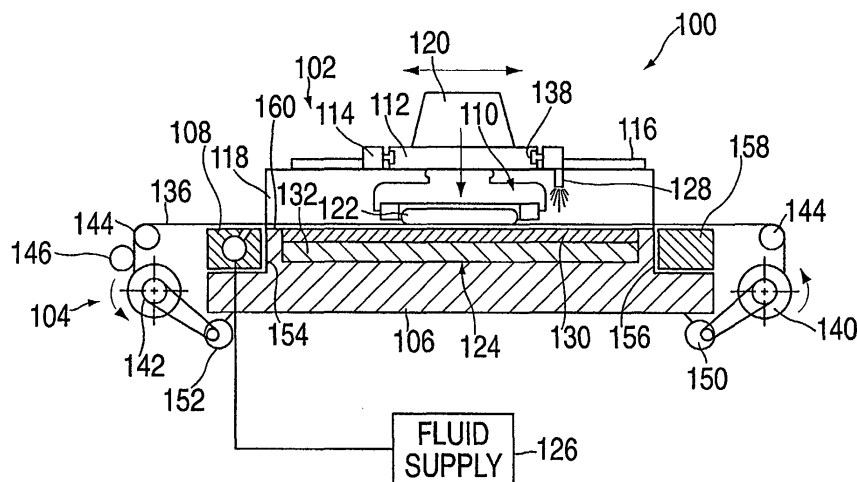


FIG. 1



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 00 12 1213

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			B24B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		3 July 2003	Do Huu Duc, J
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS 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 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			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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