

# US Patent & Trademark Office

## Patent Public Search | Text View

---

United States Patent Application Publication

20250259880

Kind Code

A1

Publication Date

August 14, 2025

Inventor(s)

DEMONTE; Peter et al.

---

## SUSCEPTOR FOR A SILICON CARBIDE SUBSTRATE

---

### Abstract

Disclosed herein are a detachable part of a susceptor, a susceptor including the detachable part, and a substrate support assembly including the susceptor. The susceptor includes a plurality of cutouts coupled with the detachable part that includes an arc-shaped rim. The arc-shape rim includes an inner diameter, an outer diameter that is greater than the inner diameter, a first top surface, and a first bottom surface. The detachable part further includes a plurality of protrusions disposed along the inner diameter of the arc-shaped rim. The plurality of the protrusions include a second top surface that is disposed below the first top surface. When the susceptor is included in the substrate support assembly, a cylindrical ring is coupled with both a body of the substrate support assembly and the susceptor.

---

**Inventors:** DEMONTE; Peter (Santa Clara, CA), MURUGESAN; Rajagopal (Bangalore, IN), ADERHOLD; Wolfgang R. (Cupertino, CA)

**Applicant:** Applied Materials, Inc. (Santa Clara, CA)

**Family ID:** 1000007730393

**Appl. No.:** 18/438621

**Filed:** February 12, 2024

---

### Publication Classification

**Int. Cl.:** H01L21/687 (20060101)

**U.S. Cl.:**

**CPC** H01L21/68785 (20130101); H01L21/68742 (20130101); H01L21/68757 (20130101);

---

### Background/Summary

## BACKGROUND

### Field

[0001] The present disclosure generally relates to a susceptor for processing a transparent substrate in a processing chamber. More particularly, embodiments of the present disclosure relate to a susceptor comprising a detachable lift ring for processing a silicon carbide substrate in a processing chamber.

### Description of the Related Art

[0002] In recent years, silicon carbide (SiC) substrates have gaining popularities in semiconductor devices, such as power devices for high voltages. SiC offers many advantages comparing to silicon. For example, SiC has a larger band gap and higher breakdown electric field strength than those of silicon. As a result, semiconductor devices made from SiC can operate at a higher voltage, over a wider temperature range, and with a faster switching frequency.

[0003] SiC substrates are known to be transparent to light wavelengths commonly used for heating substrates in a processing chamber. As a result, processing SiC substrates efficiently and rapidly is challenging when using conventional semiconductor processing chambers. Moreover, as SiC substrates allow heating light to pass through, the heating light that has passed (e.g., leaking) through the substrate can sometime interfere with measurements of thermal sensors in the processing chamber.

[0004] Accordingly, there is a need to have an improved susceptor and a semiconductor processing chamber for processing SiC substrates.

## SUMMARY

[0005] Disclosed herein are a detachable part of a susceptor, a susceptor including the detachable part, and a substrate support assembly including the susceptor. The detachable part includes an arc-shaped rim. The arc-shape rim includes an inner diameter, an outer diameter that is greater than the inner diameter, a first top surface, and a first bottom surface including a plurality of depressions shaped like a frustum. The detachable part further includes a plurality of protrusions disposed along the inner diameter of the arc-shaped rim. The plurality of the protrusions include a second top surface that is disposed below the first top surface.

[0006] According to an example of the present application, the susceptor includes a detachable part detachably coupled with a base part. The base part includes a plurality of cutouts configured to couple with side surfaces of the detachable part. The detachable part includes an arc-shaped rim with an inner diameter, an outer diameter that is greater than the inner diameter, a first top surface, and a first bottom surface having a plurality of depressions shaped like a frustum. The detachable part further includes a plurality of protrusions disposed along the inner diameter of the arc-shaped rim and having a second top surface that is disposed below the first top surface.

[0007] According to another example of the present application, a substrate support assembly includes a body surrounded by a cylindrical ring and a susceptor coupled with the cylindrical ring. The body includes a plurality of pin holes. The susceptor includes a detachable part detachably coupled with a base part that includes a plurality of cutouts whose side surfaces are configured to couple with side surfaces of the detachable part. The detachable part of the susceptor includes components and configurations as described in the present application.

---

## Description

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0008] So that the manner in which the above recited features of the present disclosure can be understood in detail, a more particular description of the disclosure, briefly summarized above, may be had by reference to embodiments, some of which are illustrated in the appended drawings. It is to be noted, however, that the appended drawings illustrate only exemplary embodiments and

are therefore not to be considered limiting of its scope, may admit to other equally effective embodiments.

[0009] FIG. 1 illustrates a schematic top view of a processing system, according to an embodiment of the present application.

[0010] FIG. 2 illustrates a schematic cross-sectional view of a processing chamber, according to an embodiment of the present application.

[0011] FIG. 3 illustrates a schematic cross-sectional view of a substrate support assembly, according to an embodiment of the present application.

[0012] FIG. 4 illustrates a schematic perspective view of a susceptor, according to an embodiment of the present application.

[0013] FIG. 5 illustrates a schematic perspective view of a susceptor, according to an embodiment of the present application.

[0014] FIG. 6 illustrates a schematic cross-sectional view of the susceptor when the detachable part engages with the base part, according to an embodiment of the present application.

[0015] FIG. 7a illustrates a schematic cross-sectional view of the susceptor when the detachable part is lifted up from the base part, according to an embodiment of the present application.

[0016] FIG. 7b illustrates a schematic cross-sectional view of a coupling mechanism between the base part and the cylindrical ring, according to an embodiment.

[0017] FIG. 8 illustrates a schematic bottom view of the detachable part, according to an embodiment.

[0018] To facilitate understanding, identical reference numerals have been used, where possible, to designate identical elements that are common to the figures. It is contemplated that elements and features of one embodiment may be beneficially incorporated in other embodiments without further recitation.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0019] The disclosure contemplates that terms such as “couples,” “coupling,” “couple,” and “coupled” may include but are not limited to welding, fusing, melting together, interference fitting, and/or fastening such as by using bolts, threaded connections, pins, and/or screws. The disclosure contemplates that terms such as “couples,” “coupling,” “couple,” and “coupled” may include but are not limited to integrally forming. The disclosure contemplates that terms such as “couples,” “coupling,” “couple,” and “coupled” may include but are not limited to direct coupling and/or indirect coupling, such as indirect coupling through components such as links, blocks, and/or frames.

[0020] Disclosed herein are a detachable part of a susceptor, a susceptor including the detachable part, and a substrate support assembly including the susceptor. The detachable part, the susceptor, and the substrate support assembly can be included in a processing chamber for processing silicon carbide substrates. The susceptor and the detachable part are opaque, which are capable of absorbing the heating light utilized by the processing chamber. For example, the susceptor and the detachable part are made of graphite and coated with a layer of silicon carbide. Other layers may be additionally deposited on the surfaces of the susceptor that can protect the susceptor from the processes. These other layers may include polysilicon, an oxidation layer of silicon carbide, or any other suitable layers. In another example, the susceptor and the detachable part are made of silicon carbide, which is further coated by an oxidation layer of the silicon carbide.

[0021] The detachable part of the susceptor can be lifted up from a base part. The detachable part engages with both the substrate and lift pins. When the lift pins raises the detachable part from the base part, the detachable part lifts up the substrate that is sitting on surfaces of the detachable part. The detachable part has a plurality of depressions, which are blind holes and disposed at the bottom surface of the detachable part. The depressions are aligned with pin holes in a substrate support assembly. Even when the detachable part is lifted from the base part, the blind holes and surrounding opaque materials still block heating light from entering the pin holes of the substrate

assembly. When a substrate support assembly includes a susceptor as described in the present application, the heating light of the processing chamber can heat the substrate more efficiently as leakage of the heating light through pin holes is substantially prevented.

[0022] FIG. 1 illustrates a schematic top view of a processing system **100**, according to one or more embodiments. The processing system **100** includes one or more load lock chambers **122** (two are shown in FIG. 1), a processing platform **104**, a factory interface **102**, and a controller **144**. In one or more embodiments, the processing system **100** includes a CENTURA® integrated processing system, provided by Applied Materials, Inc., located in Santa Clara, California. The one or more load lock chambers may include a rapid thermal processing (RTP) chamber, an epitaxial growth chamber, an etch chamber, and etc. It is contemplated that other processing systems (including those from other manufacturers) may be adapted to benefit from the disclosure.

[0023] The processing platform **104** includes a plurality of processing chambers **110**, **112**, **120**, **128**, the one or more load lock chambers **122**, and a transfer chamber **136** that is coupled to the one or more load lock chamber **122**. The transfer chamber **136** can be maintained under vacuum, or can be maintained at an ambient (e.g., atmospheric) pressure. Two load lock chambers **122** are shown in FIG. 1. The factory interface **102** is coupled to the transfer chamber **136** through the load lock chambers **122**. According to an embodiment, one or more of the plurality of processing chambers **110**, **112**, **120**, and **128** may be a low temperature EPI chamber, a plasma etch chamber, a chemical vapor deposition chamber, or other processing chamber. At least one of the processing chambers **110**, **112**, **120**, and **128** includes a substrate support assembly **300** including a susceptor (shown in FIG. 2) and configured to process a silicon carbide substrate according to an embodiment of the present application.

[0024] Continuing to refer to FIG. 1, the factory interface **102** includes at least one docking station **109** and at least one factory interface robot **114** to facilitate the transfer of substrates **124**. The docking station **109** is configured to accept one or more front opening unified pods (FOUPs). Two FOUPS **106A**, **106B** are shown in the implementation of FIG. 1. The factory interface robot **114** having a blade **116** disposed on one end of the robot **114** is configured to transfer one or more substrates from the FOUPS **106A**, **106B**, through the load lock chambers **122**, to the processing platform **104** for processing. Substrates being transferred can be stored at least temporarily in the load lock chambers **122**.

[0025] Each of the load lock chambers **122** has a first port interfacing with the factory interface **102** and a second port interfacing with the transfer chamber **136**. The load lock chambers **122** are coupled to a pressure control system (not shown) which pumps down and vents the load lock chambers **122** to facilitate passing the substrates between the environment (e.g., vacuum environment or ambient environment, such as atmospheric environment) of the transfer chamber **136** and a substantially ambient (e.g., atmospheric) environment of the factory interface **102**.

[0026] The transfer chamber **136** has a vacuum robot **130** disposed therein. The vacuum robot **130** has one or more blades **134** (two are shown in FIG. 1) capable of transferring the substrates **124** between the load lock chambers **122** and the processing chambers **110**, **112**, **120**, and **128**.

[0027] The controller **144** is coupled to the processing system **100** and is used to control processes and methods, such as the operations of the methods described herein (for example the operations of the methods as described in other parts of the present application). The controller **144** includes a central processing unit (CPU) **138**, a memory **140** containing instructions, and support circuits **142** for the CPU. The controller **144** controls various items directly, or via other computers and/or controllers.

[0028] FIG. 2 illustrates a schematic cross-sectional view of a processing chamber **200**, according to an embodiment. The processing chamber **200** can be one or more of the processing chambers **110**, **112**, **120**, and **128** as shown in FIG. 1. In an embodiment, the processing chamber **200** functions as an RTP chamber configured to rapidly heat a substrate **124** to a processing temperature. The substrate **124** may be a transparent substrate, such as a SiC substrate, although

non-transparent substrates may also be processed by the processing chamber **200**.

[0029] The RTP chamber **201** includes a chamber body **50** enclosing an interior volume **210**.

Process gases are provided into the interior volume **210**, and an exhaust pump **275** removes exhaust gases the RTP chamber **201**. The chamber body **50** includes a top **203**, a bottom **204**, and one or more sides **205** connecting the top **203** with the bottom **204**. The RTP chamber **201** includes a transparent window **220** that can form part of the top **203** of the chamber body **50**. The RTP chamber **201** includes a rotatable flange **232**. A rotor (not shown) rotates the rotatable flange **232** about the central axis **234**.

[0030] The RTP chamber **201** includes a susceptor **306** coupled with a cylindrical ring **230**. The susceptor **306** supports the substrate **124**. In an embodiment, the susceptor **306** has a plurality of pin holes **207** covered by a detachable part. The substrate **124** can be lifted up or lowered down by the lift pins **245**. In an embodiment, the cylindrical ring **230** may be magnetically coupled to the rotatable flange **232**. Thus, the rotation of the flange **232** can cause the cylindrical ring **230** to rotate, which, in turn, causes the substrate **124** and the susceptor **306** that are positioned on the cylindrical ring **230** rotate. In an embodiment, the susceptor **306** and the cylindrical ring **230** may be rotated independently from the flange **232**.

[0031] The RTP chamber **201** further includes a heating apparatus **224** positioned above the susceptor **306**. The heating apparatus **224** can include a plurality of lamps **226** disposed within reflective tubes. In an embodiment, the plurality of lamps **226** include high-intensity tungsten-halogen lamps arranged in a hexagonal close-packed array above the transparent window **220**. The heating apparatus **224** can rapidly heat the substrate **124** in the interior volume **210** at rates greater than 100° C./second to temperatures as high as 1500° C.

[0032] The RTP chamber **201** further includes a reflector **228** positioned below the susceptor **306** and supported on a base **253**. The reflector **228** can be used to reflect radiation back towards the substrate **124** and susceptor **306**. The reflector **228** can include holes that allow the lift pins **245** to extend and retract through the reflector **228** to raise and lower the susceptor **306**. Each lift pin **245** can be connected to a lift pin actuator **245A**, positioned below the reflector **228**.

[0033] The RTP chamber **201** can further include a plurality of pyrometers **240**, each coupled with a light pipe **242** that extends from a pyrometer to a location below the susceptor **306**. The pyrometers **240** are configured to receive radiation by the susceptor **306** through light pipes **242** to monitor temperatures at different locations (e.g., different radial locations) on the substrate **124**. When a silicon carbide substrate is processed in the RTP chamber **201**, light emitted by the lamps **226** may leak through the pin holes of the susceptor **306** because the silicon carbide substrate is transparent to the light emitted by the lamps **226**. As a result, the measurement of the pyrometers can be interfered and may not reflect an actual temperature of the susceptor **306**.

[0034] According to an embodiment, the susceptor **306** is configured to block light emitted by lamps **226** from leaking through the pin holes **207**. In an example, the susceptor **306** is made of an opaque material that can block the light emitted by the lamps **226**. The opaque material may include graphite, black quartz, or any other suitable materials. The susceptor **306** may have coatings covering the opaque material. The coating may be made of silicon carbide.

[0035] According to an embodiment, the pin holes **207** do not pass through all parts of the susceptor **306**. In an example, the susceptor **306** includes a detachable part sitting on a base part. The pin holes **207** may be disposed in the base part. The detachable part does not have pin holes and is configured to covers the plurality of pin holes **207**. When the substrate **124** is lifted up by the lift pins **245**, the detachable part is configured to move with the substrate **124**. Thus, when pin holes **207** are exposed after the substrate **124** is raised, the detachable part is still positioned right above the pin holes **207** and is configured to block light of the lamps **226** from leaking through the pin holes **207**.

[0036] FIG. 3 illustrates a schematic cross-sectional view of a substrate support assembly **300** having a susceptor **306**, according to an embodiment. The substrate support assembly **300** includes

a body **302**, a cylindrical ring **304**, and a susceptor **306**. The body **302** includes a plurality of pin holes **207** that allow lift pins **232** to pass through. The cylindrical ring **304** encloses the body **302** and supports the susceptor **306** via a top surface **310** of the cylindrical ring **304**. The susceptor **306** includes a skirt **312** that overlaps with the cylindrical ring **304**.

[0037] According to an embodiment, the cylindrical ring **304** and the susceptor **306** includes a material which is opaque to the radiation emitted by the heating apparatus **224**. The opaque material may include graphite, black quartz, polysilicon, or any other suitable materials. The opaque material may be used as a body of the susceptor **306** or a surface layer of the susceptor **306**. In an example, the cylindrical ring **304** is made of black quartz. In another example, the susceptor **306** includes a body made of graphite and a surface layer of silicon carbide covering the graphite. A layer of polysilicon or oxidized silicon carbide may also be further included to cover the silicon carbide. In another example, the susceptor **306** includes a body made of silicon carbide and a layer of polysilicon covering the silicon carbide. In yet another example, the susceptor **306** includes a body made of silicon carbide and an oxidation layer of the silicon carbide.

[0038] As shown in FIG. **3**, the substrate **124** is lifted to a position spaced above the susceptor **306**. A blade **134** can be extended under the lifted substrate **124** through a door **314** of the processing chamber **200**. The substrate **124** can be transferred from the lift pin **232** to the blade **134**. The blade **134** may move the substrate **124** out of the processing chamber **200** via the door **314**.

[0039] FIG. **4** illustrates a perspective view of a cylindrical ring **304** and a susceptor **306**, according to an embodiment. The cylindrical ring **304** is substantially annular and extends along a vertical direction **420**, which is perpendicular to a horizontal plane **422** defined by a top surface **424** of an inner pocket **404** of the susceptor **306**. The height **416** of the cylindrical ring **304** is greater than that of the body **302** (shown in FIG. **3**). The cylindrical ring **304** includes a plurality of notches **412** disposed at an upper circumference **426** of the cylindrical ring **304**. The plurality of notches **412** are configured to align the susceptor **306** with the cylindrical ring **304** and retain the susceptor **306** on the cylindrical ring **304**. The cylindrical ring **304** includes a plurality of notches **414** disposed at a bottom surface of the cylindrical ring **304**. The plurality of notches **414** are configured to align the cylindrical ring **304** with the body **302** and retain the cylindrical ring **304** on the body **302**. The cylindrical ring **304** further includes a chamfered surface **418** disposed along the upper circumference **426** of the cylindrical ring **304** and inclined inwardly toward a center of the cylindrical ring **304**.

[0040] The susceptor **306** is substantially annular and includes an inner pocket **404**, a base rim **402** surrounding and coupled to the inner pocket **404**, and a transitional rim **408** disposed between the inner pocket **404** and the base rim **402**. The inner pocket **404** may be slightly lower than a top surface **410** of the base rim **402**. The inner pocket **404** is sized to receive the substrate **124** such that the substrate **124** fits just inside the base rim **402**. The inner pocket **404**, the base rim **402**, and the transitional rim **408** are configured to prevent the substrate **124** from slipping out during processing. The inner pocket **404** is provided with a number of pin holes **406**, for example three (3) pin holes, corresponding to the placement of pin holes **207** of the body **302** (shown in FIG. **3**). In one example, the pin holes **406** may be arranged at 120 degree intervals along the circumference of the inner pocket **404**.

[0041] The transitional rim **408** may have an angled surface **409**. The angled surface **409** may be inclined toward the inner pocket **404**. The angled surface **409** may be angled between about 2 degrees to about 20 degrees, such as about 6 degrees to about 15 degrees.

[0042] FIG. **5** illustrates a perspective view of a susceptor **500**, according to another embodiment, that is suitable for use in the processing chamber **200**, among others. The susceptor **500** includes a base part **520** and a detachable part **510**. The shape and size of the susceptor **500** are generally similar with that of the susceptor **306**. Comparing to the susceptor **306**, which is a single piece, the susceptor **500** includes multiple detachable pieces. For example, the base part **520** and the detachable part **510** of the susceptor **500** are detachable. A substrate can be supported by the

detachable part **510**. Thus, when the detachable part **510** is lifted up by a plurality of lift pins, the detachable part **510** lifts up the substrate that sits on a surface of the detachable part **510**.

[0043] The detachable part **510** functions as a lift ring. The detachable part **510** includes an inner diameter **504** and an outer diameter **506**, which is greater than the inner diameter **504**. The detachable part **510** has sufficient material coverage to function as a blackout zone that blocks infrared (IR) light from entering the pin holes. The detachable part **510** includes an arc-shape rim **502** coupled with a plurality of protrusions **512**, **514**, and **516** disposed along the inner diameter **504**. The plurality of protrusions **512**, **514** and **516** include a top surface **508** that support a substrate **124**. The top surface **508** of the protrusions **512**, **514**, and **516** is disposed below a top surface **509** of the arc-shaped rim **502**. The plurality of protrusions **512**, **514**, and **516** extend from the inner diameter **504** inwardly along a horizontal plane into an inner side **511** of the detachable part **510**. The detachable part **510** form an open arc with two opposing ends **501** and **503**. Between the two opposing ends **501** and **503**, an open segment **518** is formed and configured to allow a robotic blade **134** to move into the inner side **511**. In an embodiment, a bottom surface **618** of the protrusions is disposed at the same level as the bottom surface **612** of the base rim **402** (shown in FIG. 6).

[0044] The base part **520** includes an inner pocket **404**, a base rim **402**, and a transitional rim **408**. The base part **520** further includes a plurality of cutouts **522**, **524**, and **526** that couple with the detachable part **510**. The plurality of cutouts **522**, **524**, and **526** are disposed mainly in the base rim **402**. The plurality of cutouts **522**, **524**, and **526** further include cutouts **528**, **530**, and **532** that extend into the inner pocket **404**. The cutouts **528**, **530**, and **532** are disposed in a close proximity to pin holes **207** of the body **302** (shown in FIG. 3). The plurality of cutouts **522**, **524**, and **526** include chamfered side surfaces **538** and **540** configured to couple with the side surfaces of the detachable part **510**.

[0045] Continuing to refer to FIG. 5, the base part **520** includes a plurality of tabs **534** and **536** disposed within the cutouts **522**, **524**, and **526**. The plurality of tabs **536** and **354** couple with slots **806** of the detachable part **510** (shown in FIG. 8) to support the detachable part **510**. The tabs **534** and **536** couple the inner pocket **404** with the base rim **402**.

[0046] FIG. 6 illustrates a schematic cross-sectional view of the susceptor **500** according to an embodiment. FIG. 6 illustrates a configuration when the detachable part **510** and the base part **520** are engaged with each other. In this configuration, a substrate **124** is supported by both the inner pocket **404** and the protrusion **516**. To create an even support surface for the substrate **124**, the protrusion **516** of the detachable part **510** is flushed with the inner pocket **404** of the base part **520**. For example, the top surface **508** of the protrusion **516** is disposed at the same level as a top surface **614** of the inner pocket **404**. The arc-shaped rim **502** of the detachable part **510** is flushed with the base rim **402** of the base part **520**. For example, a top surface **604** of the arc-shaped rim **502** is disposed at the same level as the top surface **610** of the base rim **402**.

[0047] Also shown in FIG. 6 is that the chamfered side surfaces **538** of the base part **520** engage with the side surfaces **620** of the detachable part **510**. In an embodiment, the side surfaces **624** of the base rim **402** are inclined and form acute angles **622** with the top surface **604**.

[0048] In an embodiment, the bottom surfaces **617**, **618**, **606**, and **612** of the inner pocket **404**, protrusion **516**, arc-shaped rim **502**, and the base rim **402** are disposed at the same level. The arc-shaped rim **502** is disposed above and coupled with the cylindrical ring **304**.

[0049] Continuing to refer to FIG. 6, a depression **602** is disposed within the arc-shaped rim **502** and is aligned with pin holes **207** of the body **302**. Comparing to the pin holes **207**, the depression **602** functions a blind hole that blocks light emitted by the heating module **155** from passing through the detachable part **510**.

[0050] The depression **602** is shaped like a frustum with a chamfered surface **616** extending from the bottom surface **606** to an inside of the depression **602**. The diameter of the depression **602** is sized to be greater than a lift pin **232** such that the depression **602** can receive a lift pin and guide

the lift pin into a desired position.

[0051] FIG. 7a illustrates a schematic perspective cross-sectional view of a substrate assembly 206 when the detachable part 510 of a susceptor 500 is lifted, according to an embodiment. The substrate support assembly 300 includes a body 302 coupled with a cylindrical ring 304. The base rim 402 is disposed on top of the cylindrical ring 304 and includes a skirt 702 extending downwardly to cover a portion of the cylindrical ring 304. The cylindrical ring 304 is disposed between the skirt 702 and the body 302. A lift pin 232 engages with the depression 602 of the arc-shaped rim 502 and lifts the detachable part 510 from the base part 520. The depression 602 is disposed above and aligned with the pin hole 207. The protrusion 516 extends under and contacts a substrate 124. The side surface 620 of the detachable part 510 is inclined toward the depression 602.

[0052] FIG. 7b illustrates a schematic cross-sectional view of a coupling mechanism 710 between the base part 520 and the cylindrical ring 304, according to an embodiment. Comparing with FIG. 7a, the base part 520 additionally includes a projection 704 disposed at a bottom surface 712 of the base rim 402. The projection 704 extends from the bottom surface 712 downwardly. The projection 704 has a side surface 714 facing the skirt 702 and is substantially parallel with the skirt 714. The gap between the side surface 714 and the skirt 702 is configured to be about the thickness of the cylindrical ring 304. When the base part 520 is coupled with the cylindrical ring 304, an upper portion of the cylindrical ring 304 can contact both the side surface 714 and the skirt 702 snugly, thus securing the base part 520 in place. In an embodiment, the projection 404 has a trapezoid shape. One side of the two parallel sides of the projection 704 contacts with the bottom surface 712 and has a greater length than the other side of the two parallel sides. The projection 704 could be of any shape as long as the side surface 714 generally conforms to the shape of the cylindrical ring 304.

[0053] FIG. 8 illustrates a schematic bottom view of the detachable part 510 and two callouts A and B showing details of certain configurations, according to an embodiment. The detachable part 510 includes a plurality of depressions 602, 804, and 808. According to an embodiment, three (3) depressions are disposed on the bottom surface at 120 degree intervals. The plurality of protrusions 512, 514, and 516 are disposed in a close proximity to the plurality of depressions 602, 804, and 808, respectively. As shown in Callout A, the depression 602 has a frustum-like shape. The detachable part 510 further includes a plurality of slots 802 and 806 disposed on the bottom surface 606 of the arc-shaped rim. As shown in Callout B, the plurality of slots 802 and 806 traverse the bottom surface 606 along a horizontal plane. The plurality of slots 802 and 806 are configured to engage with the tabs 534 and 536 (shown in FIG. 5).

[0054] It is contemplated that one or more aspects disclosed herein may be combined. Moreover, it is contemplated that one or more aspects disclosed herein may include some or all of the aforementioned benefits. While the foregoing is directed to embodiments of the present disclosure, other and further embodiments of the disclosure may be devised without departing from the basic scope thereof, and the scope thereof is determined by the claims that follow.

## Claims

1. A susceptor for a substrate support assembly of a processing chamber, the susceptor comprising: a base part comprising a plurality of cutouts; and a detachable part comprising an arc-shaped rim that comprises side surfaces configured to couple with the plurality of the cutouts, wherein the arc-shaped rim further comprises an inner diameter, an outer diameter that is greater than the inner diameter, a first top surface, a first bottom surface; and a plurality of protrusions disposed along the inner diameter of the arc-shaped rim and comprising a second top surface that is disposed below the first top surface.

2. The susceptor of claim 1, wherein both the detachable part and the base part are made of graphite



and coated with a layer of silicon carbide.

3. The susceptor of claim 2, wherein the first bottom surface comprises a plurality of depressions shaped like a frustum, and the plurality of the protrusions comprise a second bottom surface that is disposed at a same level as the first bottom surface, and wherein the plurality of protrusions extend from the inner diameter along a horizontal plane into the base part.
4. The susceptor of claim 1, wherein the arc-shaped rim forms a partial hoop with two opposing ends, and the arc-shaped rim further comprises angled side surfaces that form acute angles with the first top surface.
5. The susceptor of claim 1, wherein the base part comprises an inner pocket surrounded by a base rim that is taller than the inner pocket, the plurality of the protrusions are flushed with the inner pocket, and the arc-shaped rim is flushed with the base rim.
6. The susceptor of claim 5, wherein the base part comprises a plurality of tabs disposed within the plurality of cutouts and coupled with a plurality of slots disposed on the first bottom surface of the detachable part.
7. The susceptor of claim 6, wherein the plurality of cutouts comprise a first cutout in the base rim and a second cutout in the inner pocket.
8. The susceptor of claim 5, wherein the inner diameter of the arc-shaped rim is greater than a diameter of the inner pocket, and the outer diameter of the arc-shaped rim is smaller than a diameter of the base rim.
9. The substrate support assembly of claim 1 comprising: a body surrounded by a cylindrical ring and comprising a plurality of pin holes.
10. The substrate support assembly of claim 9, wherein the susceptor comprises a body made of graphite and a surface layer of silicon carbide covering the graphite or comprises a body made of silicon carbide and a surface layer made of oxidized silicon carbide.
11. The substrate support assembly of claim 9, wherein the base part comprises a base rim disposed on top of the cylindrical ring, the base part further comprises a skirt extending downwardly from the base rim, and the cylindrical ring is disposed between the body and the skirt.
12. The substrate support assembly of claim 11, wherein the base part comprises an inner pocket surrounded by the base rim, the plurality of the protrusions is flushed with the inner pocket, and the arc-shaped rim is flushed with the base rim.
13. The substrate support assembly of claim 9, wherein the arc-shaped rim forms a partial hoop with two opposing ends, side surfaces of the arc-shaped rim form acute angles with the first top surface, and the first bottom surface comprises a plurality of depressions shaped like a frustum and aligned with the plurality of pin holes.
14. A detachable part of a susceptor for supporting a substrate in a processing chamber, the detachable part comprising: an arc-shaped rim comprising an inner diameter, an outer diameter that is greater than the inner diameter, a first top surface, and a first bottom surface; and a plurality of protrusions disposed along the inner diameter of the arc-shaped rim and comprising a second top surface that is disposed below the first top surface.
15. The detachable part of claim 14, wherein the plurality of the protrusions comprise a second bottom surface that is disposed at a same level as the first bottom surface, and the first bottom surface further comprises comprising a plurality of depressions shaped like a frustum.
16. The detachable part of claim 15, wherein the plurality of protrusions extend from the inner diameter along a horizontal plane into an inner side of the detachable part.
17. The detachable part of claim 14, wherein the plurality of depressions comprise a chamfered surface extending from the first bottom surface into the plurality of depressions.
18. The detachable part of claim 14, wherein the arc-shaped rim further comprises angled side surfaces that form acute angles with the first top surface.
19. The detachable part of claim 18, wherein the arc-shaped rim forms a partial hoop with two opposing ends, and the arc-shaped rim further comprises a plurality of slots disposed on and

traversing the first bottom surface.

**20.** The detachable part of claim 14, wherein the detachable part comprises a body made of graphite and a surface layer of silicon carbide covering the graphite or comprises a body made of silicon carbide covered by an oxidation layer of silicon carbide.

---