

# US Patent & Trademark Office

## Patent Public Search | Text View

---

United States Patent	12387965
Kind Code	B2
Date of Patent	August 12, 2025
Inventor(s)	Gomm; Troy Alan

---

### Electrostatic chuck for use in semiconductor processing

---

#### Abstract

A semiconductor substrate processing apparatus includes a vacuum chamber having a processing zone in which a semiconductor substrate may be processed, a process gas source in fluid communication with the vacuum chamber for supplying a process gas into the vacuum chamber, a showerhead module through which process gas from the process gas source is supplied to the processing zone of the vacuum chamber, and a substrate pedestal module. The substrate pedestal module includes a pedestal made of ceramic material having an upper surface configured to support a semiconductor substrate thereon during processing, a stem made of ceramic material, and coplanar electrodes embedded in the platen, the electrodes including an outer RF electrode and inner electrostatic clamping electrodes, the outer RF electrode including a ring-shaped electrode and a radially extending lead extending from the ring-shaped electrode to a central portion of the platen, wherein the ceramic material of the platen and the electrodes comprise a unitary body made in a single sintering step.

---

<b>Inventors:</b>	<b>Gomm; Troy Alan (Tigard, OR)</b>
<b>Applicant:</b>	<b>Lam Research Corporation (Fremont, CA)</b>
<b>Family ID:</b>	<b>1000008747608</b>
<b>Assignee:</b>	<b>Lam Research Corporation (Fremont, CA)</b>
<b>Appl. No.:</b>	<b>18/481886</b>
<b>Filed:</b>	<b>October 05, 2023</b>

#### Prior Publication Data

<b>Document Identifier</b>	<b>Publication Date</b>
US 20240038568 A1	Feb. 01, 2024

#### Related U.S. Application Data

## Publication Classification

**Int. Cl.:** **H01L21/683** (20060101); **C23C16/458** (20060101); **C23C16/46** (20060101);  
**C23C16/509** (20060101); **H01J37/32** (20060101)

**U.S. Cl.:**

**CPC** **H01L21/6833** (20130101); **C23C16/4586** (20130101); **C23C16/46** (20130101);  
**C23C16/509** (20130101); **H01J37/32532** (20130101); **H01J37/32541** (20130101);  
**H01J37/32568** (20130101); **H01J37/32697** (20130101); **H01J37/32715** (20130101);

## Field of Classification Search

**CPC:** H01L (21/6833); C23C (16/4586); C23C (16/46); C23C (16/509); H01J (37/32532);  
H01J (37/32541); H01J (37/32568); H01J (37/32697); H01J (37/32715)

**USPC:** 118/715-733; 118/55

---

## References Cited

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Patent No.	Issued Date	Patentee Name	U.S. Cl.	CPC
2491167	12/1948	Drew	N/A	N/A
2684698	12/1953	Shaff	N/A	N/A
3895832	12/1974	Ellis et al.	N/A	N/A
4384918	12/1982	Abe	204/298.31	C23C 14/50
4552430	12/1984	Myers	N/A	N/A
4657616	12/1986	Benzing et al.	N/A	N/A
4692836	12/1986	Suzuki	279/128	H01L 21/6831
4897853	12/1989	Argent	N/A	N/A
5463526	12/1994	Mundt	N/A	N/A
5507874	12/1995	Su et al.	N/A	N/A
5560780	12/1995	Wu et al.	N/A	N/A
5633073	12/1996	Cheung et al.	N/A	N/A
5668331	12/1996	Schintag	324/207.2	G01D 5/345
5737178	12/1997	Herchen	N/A	N/A
5812362	12/1997	Ravi	N/A	N/A
5829791	12/1997	Kotsubo et al.	N/A	N/A
5841624	12/1997	Xu et al.	N/A	N/A
5880922	12/1998	Husain	279/128	H01L 21/6831
5942282	12/1998	Tada et al.	N/A	N/A
6066836	12/1999	Chen et al.	N/A	N/A
6072685	12/1999	Herchen	N/A	N/A
6081414	12/1999	Flanigan et al.	N/A	N/A

6104596	12/1999	Hausmann	279/128	H01L 21/6833
6151203	12/1999	Shamouilian et al.	N/A	N/A
6156686	12/1999	Katsuda	501/153	C04B 38/0074
6213478	12/2000	Nishikawa	N/A	N/A
6221221	12/2000	Al-Shaikh et al.	N/A	N/A
6239403	12/2000	Dible et al.	N/A	N/A
6261977	12/2000	Tsai et al.	N/A	N/A
6303879	12/2000	Burkhart	174/262	H01L 23/49827
6403491	12/2001	Liu et al.	N/A	N/A
6466881	12/2001	Shih et al.	N/A	N/A
6483690	12/2001	Nakajima	361/234	H01L 21/6833
6592709	12/2002	Lubomirsky	N/A	N/A
6776892	12/2003	Ritzdorf et al.	N/A	N/A
6858265	12/2004	Redeker et al.	N/A	N/A
6860965	12/2004	Stevens	156/345.31	C23C 14/566
6879051	12/2004	Singh et al.	N/A	N/A
6964812	12/2004	Ito	428/209	H01L 21/6831
7625227	12/2008	Henderson et al.	N/A	N/A
7701693	12/2009	Hattori	361/234	H01L 21/6831
8136820	12/2011	Morioka	279/128	H01L 21/6831
9213021	12/2014	Plant et al.	N/A	N/A
9805965	12/2016	Sadjadi et al.	N/A	N/A
9850573	12/2016	Sun	N/A	N/A
10079154	12/2017	Le et al.	N/A	N/A
10083818	12/2017	Khaja et al.	N/A	N/A
10121641	12/2017	Long et al.	N/A	N/A
10147610	12/2017	Lingampalli	N/A	C23C 16/45514
10403535	12/2018	Ye et al.	N/A	N/A
10431467	12/2018	Lingampalli	N/A	C23C 16/045
10515781	12/2018	Long et al.	N/A	N/A
10784083	12/2019	Long et al.	N/A	N/A
10847345	12/2019	Long et al.	N/A	N/A
10937684	12/2020	Horiuchi	N/A	N/A
11086233	12/2020	Topping et al.	N/A	N/A
11183368	12/2020	French	N/A	H01J 37/32541
11289355	12/2021	Gomm	N/A	C23C 16/46
11469084	12/2021	Thomas et al.	N/A	N/A
11724362	12/2022	Bajaj et al.	N/A	N/A

11745302	12/2022	Ganapathiappan et al.	N/A	N/A
11776789	12/2022	Dorf et al.	N/A	N/A
11817341	12/2022	Gomm	N/A	N/A
11835868	12/2022	Topping et al.	N/A	N/A
11848176	12/2022	Dorf et al.	N/A	N/A
11990360	12/2023	Vasquez et al.	N/A	N/A
12217939	12/2024	French et al.	N/A	N/A
12243725	12/2024	Thomas et al.	N/A	N/A
2001/0019472	12/2000	Kanno	361/234	H01L 21/6833
2001/0027972	12/2000	Yamaguchi	219/468.1	H05B 3/283
2001/0042744	12/2000	Tachikawa et al.	N/A	N/A
2002/0027762	12/2001	Yamaguchi	279/128	G03F 7/707
2003/0051665	12/2002	Zhao et al.	N/A	N/A
2003/0089600	12/2002	Natsuhara et al.	N/A	N/A
2003/0180459	12/2002	Redeker et al.	N/A	N/A
2004/0074869	12/2003	Wang et al.	N/A	N/A
2004/0120095	12/2003	Yanagida	N/A	N/A
2004/0137169	12/2003	Carollo	N/A	N/A
2005/0003179	12/2004	Ito et al.	N/A	N/A
2005/0042881	12/2004	Nishimoto et al.	N/A	N/A
2005/0045618	12/2004	Ito	219/548	C04B 35/62655
2005/0183669	12/2004	Parkhe et al.	N/A	N/A
2005/0191827	12/2004	Collins et al.	N/A	N/A
2005/0213279	12/2004	Hayakawa	361/234	H01L 21/6833
2005/0258160	12/2004	Goto	219/270	H01L 21/67103
2005/0274324	12/2004	Takahashi et al.	N/A	N/A
2006/0005930	12/2005	Ikeda et al.	N/A	N/A
2006/0011611	12/2005	Goto	219/444.1	H01L 21/67103
2006/0081558	12/2005	Collins et al.	N/A	N/A
2006/0120011	12/2005	Handa et al.	N/A	N/A
2006/0158821	12/2005	Miyashita	N/A	N/A
2006/0237442	12/2005	Goto et al.	N/A	N/A
2006/0280875	12/2005	Tomita et al.	N/A	N/A
2007/0042897	12/2006	Aihara	501/88	H01L 21/6833
2007/0141729	12/2006	Dhindsa et al.	N/A	N/A
2007/0223173	12/2006	Fujisawa	361/234	H02N 13/00
2007/0253139	12/2006	Nakano et al.	N/A	N/A
2007/0256786	12/2006	Zhou et al.	N/A	N/A
2008/0009417	12/2007	Lou et al.	N/A	N/A
2008/0029032	12/2007	Sun et al.	N/A	N/A
2008/0037195	12/2007	Himori et al.	N/A	N/A
2008/0062609	12/2007	Himori	361/234	H01L 21/6833

2008/0089001	12/2007	Parkhe	279/128	H01L 21/6831
2008/0167720	12/2007	Melkent	N/A	N/A
2008/0236493	12/2007	Sakao	N/A	N/A
2008/0258411	12/2007	Miura et al.	N/A	N/A
2009/0059462	12/2008	Mizuno et al.	N/A	N/A
2009/0197401	12/2008	Li et al.	N/A	N/A
2009/0274590	12/2008	Willwerth	422/186.04	H01L 21/68792
2009/0283933	12/2008	Kobayashi	264/271.1	C04B 35/645
2009/0284894	12/2008	Cooke	N/A	N/A
2009/0285360	12/2008	Cao et al.	N/A	N/A
2009/0314208	12/2008	Zhou et al.	N/A	N/A
2010/0039747	12/2009	Sansoni et al.	N/A	N/A
2010/0104852	12/2009	Fletcher et al.	N/A	N/A
2010/0126847	12/2009	Dhindsa et al.	N/A	N/A
2010/0323124	12/2009	Vartabedian et al.	N/A	N/A
2011/0005686	12/2010	Tanaka et al.	N/A	N/A
2011/0031217	12/2010	Himori	216/71	H01J 37/32165
2011/0096461	12/2010	Yoshikawa	361/234	H01L 21/6833
2012/0044609	12/2011	Cooke et al.	N/A	N/A
2012/0164834	12/2011	Jennings	438/694	H01J 37/32532
2012/0247678	12/2011	Takahashi et al.	N/A	N/A
2013/0027838	12/2012	Hori et al.	N/A	N/A
2013/0070384	12/2012	Cooke et al.	N/A	N/A
2013/0087447	12/2012	Bodke et al.	N/A	N/A
2013/0126206	12/2012	Zhou et al.	N/A	N/A
2013/0133394	12/2012	Hasenberg et al.	N/A	N/A
2013/0155569	12/2012	Suuronen et al.	N/A	N/A
2014/0048720	12/2013	Hayakawa et al.	N/A	N/A
2014/0069585	12/2013	Aoto et al.	N/A	N/A
2014/0087587	12/2013	Lind	N/A	N/A
2014/0118880	12/2013	He et al.	N/A	N/A
2014/0154465	12/2013	Sun et al.	N/A	N/A
2014/0159325	12/2013	Parkhe et al.	N/A	N/A
2014/0177123	12/2013	Thach et al.	N/A	N/A
2014/0203526	12/2013	Banda et al.	N/A	N/A
2014/0334060	12/2013	Parkhe et al.	N/A	N/A
2014/0355169	12/2013	Maeta et al.	N/A	N/A
2014/0356538	12/2013	Schmitt et al.	N/A	N/A
2015/0043123	12/2014	Cox	29/611	H01L 21/6833
2015/0044947	12/2014	Lu et al.	N/A	N/A
2015/0116889	12/2014	Yamasaki et al.	N/A	N/A
2015/0179412	12/2014	Chhatre et al.	N/A	N/A
2015/0228528	12/2014	Behdjat	N/A	N/A

2015/0241783	12/2014	Carcasi et al.	N/A	N/A
2015/0311043	12/2014	Sun et al.	N/A	N/A
2015/0311105	12/2014	Sadjadi et al.	N/A	N/A
2015/0311108	12/2014	Horiuchi	N/A	N/A
2015/0323050	12/2014	Ohno	N/A	N/A
2015/0371876	12/2014	Terauchi et al.	N/A	N/A
2016/0002779	12/2015	Lin	118/500	H01L 21/67103
2016/0035610	12/2015	Park et al.	N/A	N/A
2016/0064264	12/2015	Kulshreshtha et al.	N/A	N/A
2016/0086772	12/2015	Khaja et al.	N/A	N/A
2016/0090650	12/2015	Qian et al.	N/A	N/A
2016/0111315	12/2015	Parkhe	N/A	N/A
2016/0196984	12/2015	Lill et al.	N/A	N/A
2016/0225652	12/2015	Tran et al.	N/A	N/A
2016/0281230	12/2015	Varadarajan et al.	N/A	N/A
2016/0333475	12/2015	Gomm et al.	N/A	N/A
2016/0336210	12/2015	Cooke et al.	N/A	N/A
2016/0336213	12/2015	Gomm et al.	N/A	N/A
2016/0340781	12/2015	Thomas et al.	N/A	N/A
2016/0343600	12/2015	Parkhe	N/A	N/A
2016/0358755	12/2015	Long et al.	N/A	N/A
2016/0372307	12/2015	Yang et al.	N/A	N/A
2017/0004925	12/2016	Abrecht et al.	N/A	N/A
2017/0018411	12/2016	Sriraman et al.	N/A	N/A
2017/0040148	12/2016	Augustino et al.	N/A	N/A
2017/0040198	12/2016	Lin	N/A	H01L 21/67103
2017/0103908	12/2016	Lew	N/A	H01L 21/6838
2017/0110358	12/2016	Sadjadi et al.	N/A	N/A
2017/0110385	12/2016	Kawajiri et al.	N/A	N/A
2017/0140970	12/2016	Boyd, Jr. et al.	N/A	N/A
2017/0256431	12/2016	Parkhe	N/A	N/A
2017/0365907	12/2016	Kapoor et al.	N/A	N/A
2018/0025891	12/2017	Marakhtanov et al.	N/A	N/A
2018/0061684	12/2017	Parkhe	N/A	N/A
2018/0096869	12/2017	Yoshida et al.	N/A	N/A
2018/0112311	12/2017	Fenwick et al.	N/A	N/A
2018/0308738	12/2017	Tobe	N/A	N/A
2018/0318890	12/2017	Yasseri et al.	N/A	N/A
2018/0323039	12/2017	Woo et al.	N/A	N/A
2018/0350568	12/2017	Mitsumori	N/A	H01J 37/32027
2018/0350610	12/2017	Lingampalli	N/A	C23C 16/45514
2018/0350649	12/2017	Gomm	N/A	N/A
2019/0019713	12/2018	Hidaka et al.	N/A	N/A
2019/0051497	12/2018	Long et al.	N/A	N/A
2019/0067076	12/2018	Zvokelj	N/A	N/A

2019/0071778	12/2018	Thomas et al.	N/A	N/A
2019/0115241	12/2018	Vellore et al.	N/A	N/A
2019/0136373	12/2018	Yeh et al.	N/A	N/A
2019/0157052	12/2018	Doan et al.	N/A	N/A
2019/0218663	12/2018	Funakubo et al.	N/A	N/A
2019/0221406	12/2018	Funakubo et al.	N/A	N/A
2019/0237341	12/2018	Yu et al.	N/A	N/A
2019/0237353	12/2018	Thomas et al.	N/A	N/A
2019/0267268	12/2018	Abel et al.	N/A	N/A
2019/0276366	12/2018	Sun et al.	N/A	N/A
2019/0294050	12/2018	Topping et al.	N/A	N/A
2019/0341289	12/2018	Parkhe	N/A	N/A
2019/0355556	12/2018	Takahashi	N/A	H01J 37/32724
2019/0385821	12/2018	Long et al.	N/A	N/A
2020/0013590	12/2019	Liu et al.	N/A	N/A
2020/0043703	12/2019	French et al.	N/A	N/A
2020/0111644	12/2019	Long et al.	N/A	N/A
2020/0126767	12/2019	Takeda et al.	N/A	N/A
2020/0340102	12/2019	Kimura	N/A	C23C 16/46
2021/0043490	12/2020	Vasquez et al.	N/A	N/A
2021/0071300	12/2020	Bajaj et al.	N/A	N/A
2021/0263542	12/2020	Breitlow et al.	N/A	N/A
2021/0265138	12/2020	Ikeda	N/A	H01J 37/32568
2021/0333715	12/2020	Topping et al.	N/A	N/A
2021/0340668	12/2020	Macpherson et al.	N/A	N/A
2022/0005680	12/2021	Suetsugu et al.	N/A	N/A
2022/0044909	12/2021	French	N/A	C23C 16/5096
2022/0181127	12/2021	Erickson et al.	N/A	N/A
2022/0181184	12/2021	Gomm	N/A	H01J 37/32541
2022/0334554	12/2021	Feng et al.	N/A	N/A
2022/0375719	12/2021	Topping et al.	N/A	N/A
2022/0415620	12/2021	Thomas et al.	N/A	N/A
2024/0045344	12/2023	Topping et al.	N/A	N/A
2024/0266202	12/2023	Vasquez et al.	N/A	N/A
2025/0118535	12/2024	French et al.	N/A	N/A

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Patent No.	Application Date	Country	CPC
200956667	12/2006	CN	N/A
101495670	12/2008	CN	N/A
101542712	12/2008	CN	N/A
102024736	12/2010	CN	N/A
102077338	12/2010	CN	N/A
103069550	12/2012	CN	N/A
105981156	12/2015	CN	N/A

106148915	12/2015	CN	N/A
106148916	12/2015	CN	N/A
106356274	12/2016	CN	N/A
106575634	12/2016	CN	N/A
107452616	12/2016	CN	N/A
107665804	12/2017	CN	N/A
107710378	12/2017	CN	N/A
2015343	12/2008	EP	N/A
H04236449	12/1991	JP	N/A
H07169737	12/1994	JP	N/A
H07201496	12/1994	JP	N/A
H08154387	12/1995	JP	N/A
H09176860	12/1996	JP	N/A
H09213778	12/1996	JP	N/A
2001156162	12/2000	JP	N/A
2001237051	12/2000	JP	N/A
2002512448	12/2001	JP	N/A
2003124296	12/2002	JP	N/A
2003160874	12/2002	JP	N/A
2004095722	12/2003	JP	N/A
2005018992	12/2004	JP	N/A
2005072286	12/2004	JP	N/A
2005235890	12/2004	JP	N/A
2005347620	12/2004	JP	N/A
2006302887	12/2005	JP	N/A
2007273915	12/2006	JP	N/A
4034145	12/2007	JP	N/A
2008270197	12/2007	JP	N/A
2009123929	12/2008	JP	N/A
2009256789	12/2008	JP	N/A
2010109316	12/2009	JP	N/A
2011049428	12/2010	JP	N/A
2011061040	12/2010	JP	N/A
2014038928	12/2013	JP	N/A
2014505362	12/2013	JP	N/A
2014082449	12/2013	JP	N/A
2016213456	12/2015	JP	N/A
2016213463	12/2015	JP	N/A
2016225376	12/2015	JP	N/A
2017055100	12/2016	JP	N/A
2017228526	12/2016	JP	N/A
2018117024	12/2017	JP	N/A
7476169	12/2023	JP	N/A
20050115940	12/2004	KR	N/A
20060050341	12/2005	KR	N/A
20080077202	12/2007	KR	N/A
20090081717	12/2008	KR	N/A
20100120199	12/2009	KR	N/A
101333631	12/2012	KR	N/A
101415551	12/2013	KR	N/A



20140097312	12/2013	KR	N/A
101465640	12/2013	KR	N/A
20150099400	12/2014	KR	N/A
20160000400	12/2015	KR	N/A
20160127717	12/2015	KR	N/A
20170042359	12/2016	KR	N/A
20170054239	12/2016	KR	N/A
20180000291	12/2017	KR	N/A
20180011711	12/2017	KR	N/A
20190090283	12/2018	KR	N/A
200402095	12/2003	TW	N/A
201119524	12/2010	TW	N/A
201525184	12/2014	TW	N/A
201535453	12/2014	TW	N/A
201535588	12/2014	TW	N/A
WO-2010087385	12/2009	WO	N/A
WO-2011099481	12/2010	WO	N/A
WO-2012087737	12/2011	WO	N/A
WO-2013162820	12/2012	WO	N/A
WO-2014057771	12/2013	WO	N/A
WO-2015105647	12/2014	WO	N/A
WO-2020010153	12/2019	WO	N/A

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

CN Office Action dated Feb. 28, 2023 in Application No. 201880057283.X with English translation. cited by applicant

CN Office Action dated Jun. 24, 2024 in CN Application No. 201980011267.1 with English translation. cited by applicant

CN Office Action dated Mar. 18, 2023, in Application No. CN201880036474.8 with English translation. cited by applicant

CN Office Action dated May 9, 2024 in CN Application No. 201980063428.1, with English Translation. cited by applicant

CN Office Action dated Oct. 9, 2023, in Application No. CN201980063428.1 with English translation. cited by applicant

EP Extended European Search Report dated Dec. 5, 2023 in EP Application No. 23173104.3. cited by applicant

EP Extended European Search report dated Feb. 8, 2021 in EP Application No. 18809325.6. cited by applicant

European Extended Search Report dated Feb. 8, 2021 issued in Application No. EP 188093256. cited by applicant

Final Office Action dated Apr. 30, 2020 issued in U.S. Appl. No. 15/612,423. cited by applicant

Final Office Action dated Mar. 25, 2021 issued in U.S. Appl. No. 15/612,423. cited by applicant

International Preliminary Report on Patentability and Written Opinion dated Dec. 12, 2019 in PCT Application No. PCT/US2018/034998. cited by applicant

International Preliminary Report on Patentability dated Aug. 13, 2020 issued in Application No. PCT/US2019/015865. cited by applicant

International Preliminary Report on Patentability dated Dec. 12, 2019 issued in Application No. PCT/US2018/034998. cited by applicant

International Preliminary Report on Patentability dated Mar. 10, 2020 issued in Application No. PCT/US2018/049267. cited by applicant

International Preliminary Report on Patentability dated Oct. 1, 2020 issued in Application No. PCT/US2019/022046. cited by applicant

International Preliminary Report on Patentability issued on Feb. 2, 2021, in Application No. PCT/US2019/044113. cited by applicant

International Search Report and Written Opinion dated Jun. 28, 2019 issued in Application No. PCT/US2019/022046. cited by applicant

International Search Report and Written Opinion dated May 17, 2019 issued in Application No. PCT/US2019/015865. cited by applicant

International Search Report and Written Opinion dated Sep. 6, 2018 in PCT Application No. PCT/US2018/034998. cited by applicant

International Search Report and Written Opinion dated Sep. 6, 2018 issued in Application No. PCT/US2018/034998. cited by applicant

International Search Report and Written Opinion issued on Dec. 19, 2019, in Application No. PCT/US2019/044113. cited by applicant

JP Office Action dated Jun. 14, 2022, in Application No. JP2019-566224 With English Translation. cited by applicant

JP Office Action dated Apr. 4, 2023, in Application No. JP2020-541696 with English translation. cited by applicant

JP Office Action dated Apr. 16, 2024 in JP Application No. 2023-23008, with English Translation. cited by applicant

JP Office Action dated Jun. 13, 2023 in Application No. JP2021-505710 with English translation. cited by applicant

JP Office Action dated Nov. 21, 2023 in JP Application No. 2021-505710, with English Translation. cited by applicant

JP Office Action dated Oct. 18, 2022, in Application No. JP2019-566224 With English Translation. cited by applicant

Korean Office Action dated Jun. 7, 2021 issued in Application No. KR 10-2021-0056493. cited by applicant

KR Office Action and Search report dated Aug. 30, 2019 in Application No. KR10-2019-0073864 With English Translation. cited by applicant

KR Office Action dated Sep. 28, 2022 in Application No. KR10-2021-7032163 with English translation. cited by applicant

KR Office Action dated Apr. 6, 2022, in Application No. KR1020217032163 with English translation. cited by applicant

KR Office Action dated Apr. 6, 2022, in Application No. KR1020217033272 with English translation. cited by applicant

KR Office Action dated Apr. 6, 2022, in Application No. KR1020217033273 with English translation. cited by applicant

KR Office Action dated Apr. 27, 2023 in Application No. KR10-2020-7030025 with English translation. cited by applicant

KR Office Action dated Aug. 2, 2022 in Application No. KR10-2022-0034122 with English translation. cited by applicant

KR Office Action dated Aug. 30, 2019 in Application No. 10-2019-0073864. cited by applicant

KR Office Action dated Dec. 21, 2021, in Application No. KR10-2021-0056493 with English translation. cited by applicant

KR Office Action dated Feb. 3, 2023 in Application No. KR10-2021-7032163 with English translation. cited by applicant

KR Office Action dated Feb. 3, 2023 in Application No. KR10-2021-7033272 with English translation. cited by applicant

KR Office Action dated Feb. 23, 2023 in Application No. KR10-2020-7000026 with English

translation. cited by applicant  
KR Office Action dated Feb. 27, 2023, in Application No. KR10-2020-7025028 with English translation. cited by applicant  
KR Office Action dated Jan. 31, 2023 in Application No. KR10-2021-7033273 with English translation. cited by applicant  
KR Office Action dated Jul. 20, 2023, in application No. KR10-2023-0039502 with English translation. cited by applicant  
KR Office Action dated Jul. 21, 2023, in Application No. KR10-2022-7040239 with English Translation. cited by applicant  
KR Office Action dated Jun. 26, 2023, in Application No. KR10-2020-7000026 with English translation. cited by applicant  
KR Office Action dated Mar. 23, 2022, in Application No. KR 10-2019-7037514 with English Translation. cited by applicant  
KR Office Action dated Mar. 28, 2024 in KR Application No. 10-2023-7014797, with English translation. cited by applicant  
KR Office Action dated Mar. 28, 2024 in KR Application No. 10-2023-7033439 with English translation. cited by applicant  
KR Office Action dated May 6, 2022, in Application No. KR1020207000026. cited by applicant  
KR Office Action dated May 16, 2023, in application No. KR10-2023-0039502 with English translation. cited by applicant  
KR Office Action dated Nov. 27, 2023 in KR Application No. 10-2020-7030025 with English Translation. cited by applicant  
KR Office Action dated Sep. 25, 2022 in Application No. KR10-2020-7000026 with English translation. cited by applicant  
KR Office Action dated Sep. 26, 2022 in Application No. KR10-2021-7033273 with English translation. cited by applicant  
KR Office Action dated Sep. 27, 2022, in Application No. KR10-2021-7033272 with English translation. cited by applicant  
KR Office Action dated Sep. 27, 2023, in application No. KR10-2020-7025028 with English translation. cited by applicant  
KR Search Report issued on Aug. 1, 2019, in Application No. 10-2019-0073864 with English translation. cited by applicant  
Merriam-Webster Dictionary definition of “distal” retrieved from Merriam-Webster.com (Year: 2023). cited by applicant  
Notice of Allowance dated Apr. 8, 2021 issued in U.S. Appl. No. 15/926,349. cited by applicant  
Notice of Allowance dated Nov. 24, 2021 issued in U.S. Appl. No. 15/612,423. cited by applicant  
Office Action dated Jan. 3, 2020 issued in U.S. Appl. No. 15/612,423. cited by applicant  
Office Action dated Oct. 16, 2020 issued in U.S. Appl. No. 15/926,349. cited by applicant  
Office Action dated Oct. 6, 2020 issued in U.S. Appl. No. 15/612,423. cited by applicant  
PCT International Search Report and Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority issued in corresponding International Patent Application No. PCT/US2018/049267 on Dec. 26, 2018 (Forms PCT/ISA/220, 210, 237) (12 total pages). cited by applicant  
Schwartz, M., “Encyclopedia and Handbook of Materials, Parts, and Finishes”, 3rd Edition, Glass-Ceramics Taylor & Francis, 2016, 27 pages. cited by applicant  
SG Office Action dated Mar. 2, 2022, in Application No. SG11201911409S. cited by applicant  
Singapore Notice of Eligibility and Examination Report dated Mar. 2, 2022 issued in Application No. SG 11201911409S. cited by applicant  
Singapore Search Report and Written Opinion dated Feb. 2, 2021 issued in Application No. SG 11201911409S. cited by applicant  
TW Office Action dated Aug. 15, 2023, in application No. TW111140610 with English translation.

cited by applicant  
TW Office Action dated Aug. 18, 2023, in application No. TW107130798 with English translation.  
cited by applicant  
TW Office Action dated May 30, 2023, in application No. TW108126884 with English translation.  
cited by applicant  
TW Office Action dated Oct. 22, 2021, in application No. TW107118835 with English translation.  
cited by applicant  
TW Office Action dated Sep. 30, 2022 In Application No. TW107130798 with English translation.  
cited by applicant  
U.S. Advisory Action dated Feb. 6, 2023 in U.S. Appl. No. 17/369,694. cited by applicant  
U.S. Advisory Action dated May 3, 2024 in U.S. Appl. No. 17/823,744. cited by applicant  
U.S. Advisory Action dated Oct. 23, 2023 in U.S. Appl. No. 16/966,833. cited by applicant  
U.S. Corrected Notice of Allowance dated Sep. 27, 2023, in U.S. Appl. No. 17/369,694. cited by applicant  
U.S. Final office Action dated Aug. 7, 2023 in U.S. Appl. No. 16/966,833. cited by applicant  
U.S. Final Office Action dated Feb. 26, 2024 in U.S. Appl. No. 17/823,744. cited by applicant  
US Final Office Action dated Jan. 19, 2022 issued in U.S. Appl. No. 15/696,068. cited by applicant  
U.S. Final office Action dated Nov. 21, 2022 in U.S. Appl. No. 17/369,694. cited by applicant  
US Final Office Action dated Sep. 14, 2020 issued in U.S. Appl. No. 15/696,068. cited by applicant  
U.S. Non-Final office Action dated Jan. 20, 2023 in U.S. Appl. No. 17/652,243. cited by applicant  
U.S. Non-Final Office Action dated Jan. 19, 2023 in U.S. Appl. No. 16/966,833. cited by applicant  
U.S. Non-Final Office Action dated Jul. 28, 2022, in U.S. Appl. No. 17/369,694. cited by applicant  
U.S. Non-Final Office Action dated Jun. 21, 2024 in U.S. Appl. No. 17/823,744. cited by applicant  
U.S. Non-Final Office Action dated Mar. 7, 2023 in U.S. Appl. No. 17/369,694. cited by applicant  
U.S. Non-Final Office Action dated May 9, 2024 in U.S. Appl. No. 17/451,975. cited by applicant  
U.S. Non-Final Office Action dated Sep. 25, 2023, in U.S. Appl. No. 17/823,744. cited by applicant  
U.S. Notice of Allowance dated Jan. 18, 2024 in U.S. Appl. No. 16/966,833. cited by applicant  
U.S. Notice of Allowance dated Jul. 11, 2023 in U.S. Appl. No. 17/652,243. cited by applicant  
U.S. Notice of Allowance dated Jul. 25, 2023 in U.S. Appl. No. 17/369,694. cited by applicant  
U.S. Notice of Allowance dated Jun. 1, 2022 in U.S. Appl. No. 15/696,068. cited by applicant  
U.S. Notice of Allowance dated Nov. 3, 2023 in U.S. Appl. No. 17/369,694. cited by applicant  
U.S. Notice of Allowance dated Oct. 17, 2023 in U.S. Appl. No. 17/652,243. cited by applicant  
US Notice of Allowance issued on Jul. 23, 2021, issued in U.S. Appl. No. 16/052,877. cited by applicant  
US Office Action dated Apr. 28, 2020 issued in U.S. Appl. No. 15/696,068. cited by applicant  
US Office Action dated Jun. 30, 2021 issued in U.S. Appl. No. 15/696,068. cited by applicant  
US Office Action issued on Apr. 15, 2021, issued in U.S. Appl. No. 16/052,877. cited by applicant  
U.S. Appl. No. 18/637,111, inventors Vasquez M.B, et al., filed Apr. 16, 2024. cited by applicant  
U.S. Restriction Requirement dated Jan. 24, 2020 in U.S. Appl. No. 15/696,068. cited by applicant  
CN Office Action dated Jun. 24, 2024 in CN Application No. 201980020652.2 with English translation. cited by applicant  
International Search Report and Written Opinion dated Aug. 20, 2024 in PCT Application No. PCT/US2024/027101. cited by applicant  
KR Office Action dated Aug. 26, 2024 in KR Application No. 10-2020-7030025, with English Translation. cited by applicant  
TW Notice of Allowances dated Aug. 2, 2024 in TW Application No. 112143249 with English translation. cited by applicant  
U.S. Notice of Allowance dated Sep. 19, 2024 in U.S. Appl. No. 17/451,975. cited by applicant  
CN Office Action dated Dec. 16, 2024 in CN Application No. 201980011267.1, with English Translation. cited by applicant

CN Office Action dated Dec. 25, 2024 in CN Application No. 201980020652.2, with English Translation. cited by applicant  
JP Office Action dated Dec. 24, 2024 in JP Application No. 2024-35429, with English Translation. cited by applicant  
JP Office Action dated Oct. 29, 2024 in JP Application No. 2023-23008 with English translation. cited by applicant  
KR Office Action dated Dec. 24, 2024 in KR Application No. 10-2023-7014797, with English Translation. cited by applicant  
KR Office Action dated Dec. 26, 2024 in KR Application No. 10-2020-7030025, with English Translation. cited by applicant  
KR Office Action dated Nov. 28, 2024 in KR Application No. 10-2023-7033439, with English Translation. cited by applicant  
U.S. Corrected Notice of Allowance dated Dec. 30, 2024 in U.S. Appl. No. 17/451,975. cited by applicant  
U.S. Corrected Notice of Allowance dated Jan. 29, 2025 in U.S. Appl. No. 17/823,744. cited by applicant  
U.S. Notice of Allowance dated Oct. 23, 2024 in U.S. Appl. No. 17/823,744. cited by applicant  
U.S. Appl. No. 18/983,055, inventors French D et al., filed Dec. 16, 2024. cited by applicant  
CN Office Action dated Mar. 31, 2025 in CN Application No. 201980011267.1, with English Translation. cited by applicant

---

*Primary Examiner:* Bennett; Charlee J. C.

*Attorney, Agent or Firm:* Weaver Austin Villeneuve & Sampson LLP

---

## **Background/Summary**

### **INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE**

(1) An Application Data Sheet is filed concurrently with this specification as part of the present application. Each application that the present application claims benefit of or priority to as identified in the concurrently filed Application Data Sheet is incorporated by reference herein in their entireties and for all purposes.

### **FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

(2) This invention pertains to semiconductor substrate processing apparatuses for processing semiconductor substrates, and may find particular use in plasma-enhanced chemical vapor depositions processing apparatuses operable to deposit thin films.

### **BACKGROUND**

(3) Semiconductor substrate processing apparatuses are used to process semiconductor substrates by techniques including etching, physical vapor deposition (PVD), chemical vapor deposition (CVD), plasma-enhanced chemical vapor deposition (PECVD), atomic layer deposition (ALD), plasma-enhanced atomic layer deposition (PEALD), pulsed deposition layer (PDL), plasma-enhanced pulsed deposition layer (PEPDL), and resist removal. One type of semiconductor substrate processing apparatus is a plasma processing apparatus that includes a reaction chamber containing upper and lower electrodes wherein a radio frequency (RF) power is applied between the electrodes to excite a process gas into plasma for processing semiconductor substrates in the reaction chamber.

### **SUMMARY**

(4) Disclosed herein is a semiconductor substrate processing apparatus for processing

semiconductor substrates, comprising a vacuum chamber including a processing zone in which a semiconductor substrate may be processed; a process gas source in fluid communication with the vacuum chamber for supplying a process gas into the vacuum chamber; a showerhead module through which process gas from the process gas source is supplied to the processing zone of the vacuum chamber; and a substrate pedestal module including a platen made of ceramic material having an upper surface configured to support a semiconductor substrate thereon during processing; a stem made of ceramic material having an upper stem flange that supports the platen; and coplanar electrodes embedded in the platen, the electrodes including an outer RF electrode and inner electrostatic clamping electrodes, the outer RF electrode including a ring-shaped electrode and at least one radially extending lead extending from the ring-shaped electrode to a central portion of the platen, wherein the ceramic material of the platen and the electrodes comprise a unitary body made in a single sintering step.

(5) According to an embodiment, the platen includes first and second D-shaped electrostatic clamping electrodes inward of the ring-shaped electrode, the radially extending lead extending diagonally across the platen and connected to the ring-shaped electrode at two locations 180° apart with the first and second D-shaped electrodes on opposite sides of the radially extending lead. The platen can include a first terminal at a center of the platen, a second terminal radially offset from the first terminal, and a third terminal radially offset from the first terminal, the first terminal electrically connected to the radially extending lead of the ring-shaped electrode, the second terminal electrically connected to the first D-shaped electrode and the third terminal electrically connected to the second D-shaped electrode. The first, second and third terminals can extend axially through openings in the platen and the second and third terminals can be aligned along a diagonal line passing through the location of the first terminal.

(6) In another arrangement, the platen can include first, second, third and fourth electrostatic clamping electrodes inward of the ring-shaped electrode, the at least one radially extending feed strip comprising two feed strips extending diagonally across the platen, each of the feed strips connected to the ring-shaped electrode at two locations 180° apart, the feed strips intersecting at the center of the platen with the first, second, third and fourth electrostatic clamping electrodes located between the diagonally extending feed strips.

(7) The platen can be made of any suitable ceramic material and the electrodes can be made of any suitable electrically conductive material. For example, the platen can be made of aluminum nitride and the electrodes can be made of tungsten. The platen can include three through holes configured to receive lift pins and the platen can have a diameter of at least 300 mm.

(8) In the embodiment wherein the electrostatic clamping electrodes are D-shaped electrodes, the ring-shaped electrode can be separated from the D-shaped electrodes by a first continuous wall of ceramic material extending around the first D-shaped electrode and a second continuous wall of ceramic material extending around the second D-shaped electrode. The first and second walls of ceramic material can have the same width with the width of the first and second walls of ceramic material being less than a width of the radially extending lead.

(9) Also disclosed herein is an electrostatic chuck useful for processing semiconductor substrates in a vacuum chamber including a processing zone in which a semiconductor substrate may be processed. The electrostatic chuck comprises a platen made of ceramic material having an upper surface configured to support a semiconductor substrate thereon during processing and coplanar electrodes embedded in the platen. The electrodes include an outer RF electrode and inner electrostatic clamping electrodes, the outer RF electrode including a ring-shaped electrode and at least one radially extending lead extending from the ring-shaped electrode to a central portion of the platen, wherein the ceramic material of the platen and the electrodes comprise a unitary body made in a single sintering step.

---

## Description

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING FIGURES

- (1) FIG. 1 illustrates a schematic diagram showing an overview of a chemical deposition apparatus in accordance with embodiments disclosed herein.
- (2) FIG. 2 shows a top view of a ceramic high temperature chuck wherein a power distribution circuit is located below three coplanar electrodes.
- (3) FIG. 3 is an exploded view of the coplanar electrodes shown in FIG. 2 and a power distribution circuit below the electrodes.
- (4) FIG. 4 is a bottom view of the chuck shown in FIG. 3.
- (5) FIG. 5 is a top perspective view of a ceramic high temperature electrostatic chuck wherein an outer ring-shaped electrode includes a radially extending lead which can be electrically connected to a centrally located terminal on an underside of the chuck.
- (6) FIG. 6 is a bottom perspective view of the chuck shown in FIG. 5.
- (7) FIG. 7 is a cutaway view showing electrical connections of the platen shown in FIG. 5.
- (8) FIG. 8 is a perspective view of an underside of the platen shown in FIG. 5.
- (9) FIG. 9 is a cross section of the platen shown in FIG. 5.

### DETAILED DESCRIPTION

- (10) In the following detailed description, numerous specific embodiments are set forth in order to provide a thorough understanding of the apparatus and methods disclosed herein. However, as will be apparent to those skilled in the art, the present embodiments may be practiced without these specific details or by using alternate elements or processes. In other instances, well-known processes, procedures, and/or components have not been described in detail so as not to unnecessarily obscure aspects of embodiments disclosed herein. As used herein the term “about” refers to  $\pm 10\%$ .
- (11) As indicated, present embodiments provide apparatus and associated methods for processing a semiconductor substrate in a semiconductor substrate processing apparatus such as a chemical vapor deposition apparatus or a plasma-enhanced chemical vapor deposition apparatus. The apparatus and methods are particularly applicable for use in conjunction with high temperature processing of semiconductor substrates such as a high temperature deposition processes wherein a semiconductor substrate being processed is heated to temperatures greater than about  $550^{\circ}\text{C}$ ., such as about  $550^{\circ}\text{C}$ . to about  $650^{\circ}\text{C}$ . or more.
- (12) Embodiments disclosed herein are preferably implemented in a plasma-enhanced chemical deposition apparatus (i.e. PECVD apparatus, PEALD apparatus, or PEPDL apparatus), however, they are not so limited.
- (13) FIG. 1 provides a simple block diagram depicting various semiconductor substrate plasma processing apparatus components arranged for implementing embodiments as disclosed herein. As shown, a semiconductor substrate plasma processing apparatus **100** includes a vacuum chamber **102** that serves to contain plasma in a processing zone, which is generated by a capacitor type system including a showerhead module **104** having an upper RF electrode (not shown) therein working in conjunction with a substrate pedestal module **106** having a lower RF electrode (not shown) therein. At least one RF generator is operable to supply RF energy into a processing zone above an upper surface of a semiconductor substrate **108** in the vacuum chamber **102** to energize process gas supplied into the processing zone of the vacuum chamber **102** into plasma such that a plasma deposition process may be performed in the vacuum chamber **102**. For example, a high-frequency RF generator **110** and a low-frequency RF generator **112** may each be connected to a matching network **114**, which is connected to the upper RF electrode of the showerhead module **104** such that RF energy may be supplied to the processing zone above the semiconductor substrate **108** in the vacuum chamber **102**.

(14) The power and frequency of RF energy supplied by matching network **114** to the interior of the vacuum chamber **102** is sufficient to generate plasma from the process gas. In an embodiment both the high-frequency RF generator **110** and the low-frequency RF generator **112** are used, and in an alternate embodiment, just the high-frequency RF generator **110** is used. In a process, the high-frequency RF generator **110** may be operated at frequencies of about 2-100 MHz; in a preferred embodiment at 13.56 MHz or 27 MHz. The low-frequency RF generator **112** may be operated at about 50 kHz to 2 MHz; in a preferred embodiment at about 350 to 600 kHz. The process parameters may be scaled based on the chamber volume, substrate size, and other factors. Similarly, the flow rates of process gas, may depend on the free volume of the vacuum chamber or processing zone.

(15) An upper surface of the substrate pedestal module **106** supports a semiconductor substrate **108** during processing within the vacuum chamber **102**. The substrate pedestal module **106** can include a chuck to hold the semiconductor substrate and/or lift pins to raise and lower the semiconductor substrate before, during and/or after the deposition and/or plasma treatment processes. In an alternate embodiment, the substrate pedestal module **106** can include a carrier ring to raise and lower the semiconductor substrate before, during and/or after the deposition and/or plasma treatment processes. The chuck may be an electrostatic chuck, a mechanical chuck, or various other types of chuck as are available for use in the industry and/or research. Details of a lift pin assembly for a substrate pedestal module including an electrostatic chuck can be found in commonly-assigned U.S. Pat. No. 8,840,754, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. Details of a carrier ring for a substrate pedestal module can be found in commonly-assigned U.S. Pat. No. 6,860,965, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. A backside gas supply **116** is operable to supply a heat transfer gas or purge gas through the substrate pedestal module **106** to a region below a lower surface of the semiconductor substrate during processing. The substrate pedestal module **106** includes the lower RF electrode therein wherein the lower RF electrode is preferably grounded during processing, however in an alternate embodiment, the lower RF electrode may be supplied with RF energy during processing.

(16) To process a semiconductor substrate in the vacuum chamber **102** of the semiconductor substrate plasma processing apparatus **100**, process gases are introduced from a process gas source **118** into the vacuum chamber **102** via inlet **120** and showerhead module **104** wherein the process gas is formed into plasma with RF energy such that a film may be deposited onto the upper surface of the semiconductor substrate. In an embodiment, multiple source gas lines **122** may be connected to a heated manifold **124**. The gases may be premixed or supplied separately to the chamber. Appropriate valving and mass flow control mechanisms are employed to ensure that the correct gases are delivered through the showerhead module **104** during semiconductor substrate processing. During the processing, a backside heat transfer gas or purge gas is supplied to a region below a lower surface of the semiconductor substrate supported on the substrate pedestal module **102**. Preferably, the processing is at least one of chemical vapor deposition processing, plasma-enhanced chemical vapor deposition processing, atomic layer deposition processing, plasma-enhanced atomic layer deposition processing, pulsed deposition layer processing, or plasma-enhanced pulsed deposition layer processing.

(17) In certain embodiments, a system controller **126** is employed to control process conditions during deposition, post deposition treatments, and/or other process operations. The controller **126** will typically include one or more memory devices and one or more processors. The processor may include a CPU or computer, analog and/or digital input/output connections, stepper motor controller boards, etc.

(18) In certain embodiments, the controller **126** controls all of the activities of the apparatus. The system controller **126** executes system control software including sets of instructions for controlling the timing of the processing operations, frequency and power of operations of the low-frequency RF generator **112** and the high-frequency RF generator **110**, flow rates and temperatures



of precursors and inert gases and their relative mixing, temperature of a semiconductor substrate **108** supported on an upper surface of the substrate pedestal module **106** and a plasma exposed surface of the showerhead module **104**, pressure of the vacuum chamber **102**, and other parameters of a particular process. Other computer programs stored on memory devices associated with the controller may be employed in some embodiments.

(19) High temperature chucks typically include a ceramic pedestal and a smaller diameter ceramic stem joined to the underside of the platen. See, for example, commonly-assigned U.S. Patent Publication Nos. 2016/0340781; 2016/0336213; and 2016/0333475, each of which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

(20) FIG. 2 shows a platen **200** having three co-planar electrodes **202**, **204**, **206** embedded in a ceramic body (not shown). Electrode **202** is an outer ring-shaped electrode which surrounds D-shaped electrostatic clamping electrodes **204** and **206**. In order to supply power to the outer ring-shaped electrode **202**, a power distribution circuit **208** (see FIG. 3) is embedded in the ceramic body below the electrodes **202**, **204**, **206** and vertically extending conductive vias **210** connect the outer ring electrode **202** to the power distribution circuit **208**. The power distribution circuit **208** includes an outer ring **212** underlying the outer ring-shaped electrode **202** and arms **214** extending diagonally across the outer ring **212**. The power distribution circuit **208** allows power to be fed from a power feed terminal (not shown) located near the center of the underside of the platen. The electrostatic clamping electrodes **204**, **206** are connected to power feed terminals (not shown) located near the center of the underside of the platen in spaces between the arms **214** of the power distribution circuit **208**.

(21) FIG. 4 shows an underside of the platen **200** wherein the arrangement of electrodes **202**, **204**, **206** can be seen along with terminals **216**, **218**, **220** located inside hollow ceramic stem **222** attached to ceramic body **224**. Terminal **216** is attached to electrostatic clamping electrode **204**, terminal **220** is attached to electrostatic clamping electrode **206**, and terminal **218** is attached to the intersection of arms **214** of power distribution circuit **208**. Thus, to manufacture the platen **200**, it is necessary to carry out multiple sintering steps to embed the conductive power distribution circuit in the ceramic body **224** below the electrodes **202**, **204**, **206** with the result that the arms **214** and ring **212** can act as inductors and create undesired inductance effects during processing of a wafer. The ceramic body **224** includes three through holes **226** sized for passage of lift pins (not shown) for lifting and lowering a wafer onto a support surface of the platen **200**.

(22) FIG. 5 shows an electrostatic chuck comprising platen **300** having an outer ring-shaped electrode **302** surrounding electrostatic clamping electrodes **304**, **306**. The outer ring-shaped electrode **302** is designed in a way which obviates the need for a power distribution circuit. As shown, the outer ring-shaped electrode **302** includes a radially extending lead (power feed strip) **302a** which extends diagonally across the ring-shaped electrode **302**. The lead **302a** allows a terminal (not shown) at a center of the underside of the platen **300** to be electrically connected to the outer ring-shaped electrode **302**. The electrostatic chuck is preferably a bipolar chuck with one or more pairs of clamping electrodes having opposed polarities. For instance, the electrostatic chuck can include four clamping electrodes separated by feed strips extending diagonally across the outer ring-shaped electrode **302**. In such case, the feed strips would be perpendicular and the clamping electrodes would be located inside the four quadrant shaped spaces formed by the outer ring-shaped electrode **302** and the diagonally extending feed strips.

(23) FIG. 6 shows an underside of the platen **300** wherein a hollow ceramic stem **322** is attached to ceramic body **324**. Terminal **316** is attached to electrostatic clamping electrode **304**, terminal **320** is attached to electrostatic clamping electrode **306**, and terminal **318** is attached to lead **302a** of the ring-shaped outer electrode **302**. The ceramic body **324** includes three through holes **326** sized for passage of lift pins (not shown) for lifting and lowering a wafer onto a support surface of the platen **300**.

(24) The platen **300** can be used as a high temperature electrostatic chuck of a substrate support

module for sequential processing of individual semiconductor wafers wherein the platen **300** is a unitary body made in a single sintering step to provide coplanar electrostatic clamping and RF electrodes and one or more heaters below the coplanar electrodes. As mentioned above, in prior platen designs, an embedded power distribution circuit below the RF and electrostatic clamping electrodes included power distribution electrode arms which created undesirable inductance effects during wafer processing. By eliminating the power distribution electrode arms, it is possible to eliminate out-of-plane inductors and simplify the manufacturing process by conducting a single sintering step. In addition, by providing a feed strip **302** which extends diagonally across the outer ring-shaped electrode **302**, it is possible to minimize adverse effects of disturbances to the RF field above the wafer being processed.

(25) The pedestal **300** and stem **322** are preferably of ceramic material and a bottom surface of the pedestal **300** can be joined to a flange at an upper end of the stem **322** such as by brazing, friction welding, diffusion bonding, or other suitable technique. The interior of the stem **322** can include power supply leads, one or more thermocouple leads, and one or more gas supply tubes which supply an inert gas such as argon (Ar) or a heat transfer gas such as helium (He) which is delivered via suitable fluid passages to an underside of a semiconductor substrate located on support surface.

(26) The power leads can be one or more feed rods which supply radio-frequency (RF), direct current (DC) and/or alternating current (AC) to electrodes embedded in the pedestal **300**. The pedestal **300** is preferably a unitary body of sintered ceramic material such as aluminum oxide (alumina), yttria, aluminum nitride, boron nitride, silicon oxide, silicon carbide, silicon nitride, titanium oxide, zirconium oxide, or other suitable material or combination of materials. Each electrode preferably has a planar configuration and is preferably made of an electrically conductive metallic material (e.g., tungsten, molybdenum, tantalum, niobium, cobalt) or electrically conductive non-metallic material (e.g., aluminum oxide-tantalum carbide, aluminum oxide-silicon carbide, aluminum nitride-tungsten, aluminum nitride-tantalum, yttrium oxide-molybdenum). The electrodes can be formed from powder materials which are co-fired with the ceramic material of the pedestal. For example, the electrodes can be formed of conductive paste which is co-fired with layers of the ceramic material forming the body of the pedestal. For example, the paste can include conductive metal powder of nickel (Ni), tungsten (W), molybdenum (Mo), titanium (Ti), manganese (Mn), copper (Cu), silver (Ag), palladium (Pd), platinum (Pt), rhodium (Rh). Alternatively, the electrodes can be formed from a deposited material having a desired electrode pattern or a deposited film which is etched to form a desired electrode pattern. Still yet, the electrodes can comprise preformed grids, plates, wire mesh, or other suitable electrode material and/or configuration. In an embodiment, the electrodes include at least one electrostatic clamping electrode which is powered by a DC power source to provide DC chucking voltage (e.g., about 200 to about 2000 volts), at least one RF electrode powered by a RF power source to provide RF bias voltage (e.g., one or more frequencies of about 400 KHz to about 60 MHz at power levels of about 50 to about 3000 watts) and/or at least one electrode powered by DC and RF power sources via suitable circuitry.

(27) The platen can be made by arranging coplanar electrodes in ceramic material and conducting a single sintering step to embed the electrodes in the sintered ceramic material. Examples of techniques for manufacturing ceramic chucks can be found in commonly-assigned U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,880,922; 6,483,690; and 8,637,194, the disclosures of which are hereby incorporated by reference. For example, the outer ring-shaped electrode with integral radially extending lead and the ESC electrodes can be screen printed on a green sheet of aluminum nitride, a green sheet of aluminum nitride or other suitable dielectric material can be placed over the screen printed electrodes, and the resulting compact can be heated pressed and sintered to form the platen. Terminals in holes extending into the underside of the sintered ceramic material can be bonded to each of the electrodes and the stem can be bonded to the underside of the platen.

(28) FIG. 7 illustrates a platen **300** which includes electrically conductive electrodes **304**, **306** such

as an electrically conductive grids and feed strip electrode **302a** which is electrically connected to an outer ring-shaped electrode **302** (not shown) embedded therein and a hollow ceramic support stem **322**. The platen **300** and stem **322** are preferably made of a ceramic material such as aluminum nitride and a bottom surface of the platen **300** is joined to an upper end of the stem **322** such as by brazing, friction welding, diffusion bonding, or other suitable technique. A centrally located electrically conductive tube **330** is located inside the stem **322** with an upper end of the tube **330** electrically connected to embedded feed strip electrode **302a**. An outlet of the tube **330** is in fluid communication with a gas passage **342** in an upper surface of the platen **300**. The tube **330** can be supplied an inert gas such as argon (Ar) or nitrogen (N.sub.2) or a heat transfer gas such as helium (He) which is delivered via gas passage **342** to an underside of a semiconductor substrate (not shown) supported on the platen **300**. The outer surface of the tube **330** can be sealed to the platen **300** by a hermetic seal **332**. The inside of the stem **322** also houses other components such as electrical feed rods **338** which deliver power to other electrodes such as resistance heaters **340a**, **340b** and additional feed rods **336** which deliver power to electrostatic clamping electrodes **304**, **306** in the platen **300**. The rods **336** can be hollow for deliver gas through outlets to the underside of a wafer supported on the pedestal **300**.

(29) During processing of a semiconductor substrate such as deposition of films on a silicon wafer supported on the platen **300**, the platen **300** may cycle between temperatures ranging from about 20° C. to 500° c. and higher. For processing a 300 mm wafer, the platen **300** can have a thickness of up to about 1 inch and a diameter of about 15 inches, the stem **322** can have a diameter of about 3 inches and the distance between the bottom of the stem **322** and the upper surface of the platen **300** can be about 5 inches. The tubes **330**, **336** can have a diameter of about 4 mm, a length of about 7 to 8 inches. The inside of the stem **322** accommodates components such as electrical feeds such as palladium/rhodium (Pd/Rh) coated stainless steel or nickel (Ni) rods.

(30) The feed rods **338** can be solid metal rods such as nickel (Ni) rods arranged at circumferentially spaced apart locations inward of an inner surface of the stem **322**, and the two outer electrically conductive feed rods **336** (which can optionally be hollow rods to deliver gas to the upper surface of platen **300**) are electrically connected to electrostatic clamping electrodes **304**, **306**. The solid feed rods **338** can supply power to resistance heaters **340a**, **340b** embedded in the platen **300** at a location below the electrostatic clamping electrodes **304**, **306**. Electrical connections between the central tube **330** and feed strip **302a**, between the feed rods **336** and the electrodes **304**, **306**, and between the feed rods **338** and the heaters **340a**, **340b** can include solid terminals/studs/sockets as disclosed in commonly-assigned U.S. Pat. No. 9,088,085, the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference. During manufacture of the platen **300**, the tube **330** and feed rods **336**, **338** can be bonded to the platen **300** and electrodes **302**, **304**, **306** via suitable sintering and/or brazing techniques.

(31) FIG. **8** shows a bottom perspective view of the substrate support pedestal **106**. As shown, central tube **330**, feed rods **338** and outer tubes **336** extend outward from a lower end of the stem **322**.

(32) FIG. **9** is a cross-sectional view of the substrate support pedestal **106**. As shown, the central tube **330** is electrically connected to feed strip electrode **302a** and two feed rods **338** are electrically connected to one or more resistance heaters **340a**, **340b** embedded in the platen **300** at a location below the electrodes **302**, **304**, **306**. For instance, a pair of feed rods **338** can be connected to an inner heater and another pair of feed rods **338** can be connected to an outer heater. If desired a single heater or more than two heaters can be embedded in the platen **300** in any desired geometrical arrangement. The central tube **330** supplies gas to an outlet **342** in the upper surface of the platen **300**.

(33) While the substrate pedestal module of the semiconductor substrate processing apparatus has been described in detail with reference to specific embodiments thereof, it will be apparent to those

skilled in the art that various changes and modifications can be made, and equivalents employed, without departing from the scope of the appended claims.

## Claims

1. An electrostatic chuck, comprising: a platen having an upper surface configured to support a substrate; a first electrostatic clamping electrode embedded within the platen; a second electrostatic clamping electrode embedded within the platen; an outer ring-shaped RF electrode, embedded within the platen, that surrounds the first and second electrostatic clamping electrodes and comprises a feed strip that extends radially across the platen between the first and second electrostatic clamping electrodes; and a plurality of hollow feed rods configured to supply power to the first and second electrostatic clamping electrodes and to the outer ring-shaped RF electrode.
  2. The electrostatic chuck of claim 1, wherein the first and second electrostatic clamping electrodes have opposite polarities.
  3. The electrostatic chuck of claim 1, wherein the first and second electrostatic clamping electrodes are configured to be powered by a DC chucking voltage between about 200 V and about 2000 V to electrostatically clamp the substrate, and wherein the outer ring-shaped RF electrode is configured to be powered by an RF power source configured to provide an RF bias voltage at a frequency between about 400 kHz and about 60 MHz at a power between about 50 W and about 3000 W.
  4. The electrostatic chuck of claim 1, further comprising: a stem attached to the platen; and at least three terminals located inside the stem.
  5. The electrostatic chuck of claim 4, wherein the plurality of hollow feed rods are located inside the stem and configured to supply the power to the first and second electrostatic clamping electrodes and the outer ring-shaped RF electrode via the at least three terminals.
  6. The electrostatic chuck of claim 1, wherein the outer ring-shaped RF electrode, the first electrostatic clamping electrode, and the second electrostatic clamping electrode are coplanar.
  7. The electrostatic chuck of claim 1, further comprising: a plurality of resistance heaters embedded in the platen at a location beneath the first and second electrostatic clamping electrodes.
  8. The electrostatic chuck of claim 1, wherein the feed strip extends diagonally across the platen between the first and second electrostatic clamping electrodes to connect to the outer ring-shaped RF electrode at two locations 180 degrees apart.
-