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Patton et al.

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[54] FIBER OPTIC HANDLING AND COATING FIXTURE

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[57] ABSTRACT

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The invention comprises a fixture and method for holding optical waveguides, such as fiber optic cable, in a relatively stable fashion for processing. The fixture includes a first frame and a second frame, releasably securable to the first frame to form a unitary structure. Chambers disposed in at least one of the frames are adapted for removably receiving optical fiber cable when the first and second frames are released from one another and for securely retaining with molding material optical fiber cables when the first and second frames form the unitary structure. A process area is defined in the unitary structure such that segments of optical fiber cables secured therein are accessible in the process area for processing. An optional coating fixture is securable to said unitary structure for forming with a molding material a protective coating about the cable segments in the processing area.

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 [52] U.S. Cl. 118/429; 118/420; 118/DIG. 18; 118/DIG. 19; 118/500; 65/501; 425/121; 425/122; 425/123; 28/217; 28/220; 28/246; 28/247; 28/258; 28/271; 28/272; 427/163.2; 427/169; 427/172; 427/256; 427/389.8; 427/389.9

[58] Field of Search 118/420, 429, 118/DIG. 18, DIG. 19, 500; 65/501; 427/163.2, 169, 172, 256, 389.8, 393.5, 389.9, 430.1, 508, 512, 513; 425/121, 122, 123; 57/295; 28/217, 220, 246, 247, 258, 271, 272

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18 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets

