

sections 2962 much the same as those of FIG. 2465 of FIG. 24D, except that it is set up to deposit layers onto wafers 2961 (or onto diced ICs 2510 rather than onto flexible substrates. FIG. 29D shows a perspective view of a processed sheet 2969 having battery material 2320 on wafer 2961 or IC 2410 and covered by a device 2430 such as a photovoltaic cell.

[0313] FIG. 29E shows a block diagram of a layer-deposition system 2965. In some such embodiments, system 2965 deposits layers forming a photovoltaic cell device 2650 onto a wafer 2971 or IC 2510. FIG. 29F shows a perspective view of a partially processed wafer 2974. FIG. 29G shows a block diagram of a layer-deposition system 2960. In some such embodiments, system 2960 deposits layers of a battery 2320. FIG. 29H shows a perspective view of a processed wafer 2979. In some embodiments, wafer 2979 represents a single device, and in other embodiments, wafer 2979 is diced or cut into a plurality of individual devices and then wired as necessary to connect the signals on the top of the device to the bottom of the device. FIG. 29I shows a perspective view of wired diced final device 2600.

[0314] Turning now to FIGS. 30, 31 and 32, specific examples of devices will now be provided. FIG. 30 shows an implantable device 3000 used to stimulate specific portions of the brain. One use of such device 3000 is for deep brain neural stimulation, for example, in order to treat Parkinson's Disease. By sending signals to a specific portion of the brain the tremors associated with Parkinson's Disease may be reduced. In the past, a lead or conductor was implanted in the brain so that electrical signals may be sent to the specific area of the brain for reducing tremors. The lead passes under the skull and through the neck to a pocket near the patient's chest in current versions. As shown in FIG. 30, after a burr hole has been made in the skull, a port 3010 is placed in the burr hole. The port 3010 includes a cap 3012, which is used to hold the lead in place during implantation as well as after implantation. In this particular invention, the cap 3012 is made of a suitable biocompatible material. Imbedded within the cap is a battery cell 1110 or a series of battery cells 1110. The electronics necessary to deliver the signals at a desired rate or programmable rate is also imbedded within the cap 3012. An RF antenna 3014 is also placed within the cap so that the battery 1110 imbedded within the cap 3012 can be recharged by passing radio frequency into the cap or inductively coupling the required energy into the cap. Another embodiment may use the lead 3020 for an energizing antenna and may include a separate antenna for programming the electronics used to deliver signals to the brain.

[0315] FIG. 31A is directed toward a pacemaker 3100. Rather than include separate batteries within the case of the pacemaker 3100, the enclosure, or at least one enclosure portion, includes a battery 1110 or a series of cells 1110. The pacemaker 3100 may include an antenna 3120 which is used to direct radio frequency toward the pacemaker for recharging of the battery 1110 that is positioned within the case or enclosure of the pacemaker 3100.

[0316] FIG. 31B shows the method for making the pacemaker 3100. The method is comprised of a plurality of steps carrying the reference numbers 3190, 3191, 3192 and 3193. The pacemaker 3100 includes a first half and a second half 3130. A plurality of battery cells 1110 are formed on a

substrate material 3140, as shown by step 3190. The substrate material 3140 is diced or cut resulting in a single cell 1110 on the sheet as diced. The single cell 1110 is adhesively bonded to the second half 3130 of the pacemaker 3100, as shown in step 3191. The electronics 3150 are then placed onto the battery 1110 to form a circuit with the battery 1110, as depicted by step 3192. The first half 3131 of the enclosure is placed over the second half 3130 to form the assembled pacemaker 3100.

[0317] FIG. 32A is a perspective cutaway view of a watch 3200. The watch includes a case 3210 and a band 3212 for strapping onto a person's wrist. Within the case 3210 is a solar cell 3220 and an LCD 3222. The solar cell 3220 is attached to the battery or series of battery cells 1110. The LCD 3222 is attached to the battery and electronic (not shown). The battery powers the LCD 3222 and is associated to electronics associated with the watch 3200. The solar cell 3220 recharges the battery 1110 more or less continuously. Both the solar cell 3220 and the LCD 3222 appear at the crystal or glass portion of the watch. Advantageously, this type of watch can be sealed forever so that it can be made absolutely watertight.

[0318] Another embodiment of a watch is shown in FIG. 32B. In this particular instance, a circular-shaped solar cell 3240 is positioned atop a circular-shaped battery cell 1110. The circular-shaped solar cell includes an opening 3241 therein. A set of hands for an analog watch may be inserted through the opening. The crystal or glass face of the watch will then be opened to the solar cell 3240 so that it can continuously charge the battery 1110, which in turn powers the working portion of the watch.

Conclusion

[0319] One aspect of the present invention provides a combined battery and wireless-communications apparatus (e.g., 2600 of FIG. 26 or 2700 or FIG. 27) including a support structure, a first conductive layer deposited on a first surface area of the support structure, a thin-film battery including a cathode layer, a solid-state electrolyte layer, and an anode layer deposited such that either the anode layer or the cathode layer is in electrical contact with the first conductive layer, and the electrolyte layer in contact with and completely separating the anode layer and the cathode layer, an antenna mounted to the support structure, and an electronic communications circuit mounted to the support structure and electrically coupled to the battery and the antenna to transceive radio communications.

[0320] In some embodiments, the anode or the cathode or both include an intercalation material or a metal or both.

[0321] In some embodiments, the cathode layer includes a lithium intercalation material deposited on the first conductive layer, and the electrolyte layer includes LiPON.

[0322] In some embodiments, the cathode layer includes lithium cobalt oxide deposited on the first conductive layer, and the electrolyte layer includes LiPON.

[0323] In some embodiments, the support structure includes a curved shape having a convex face and an opposing concave face, and the battery is located on the concave face.

[0324] In some embodiments, the antenna is a thin-film trace deposited on the battery.