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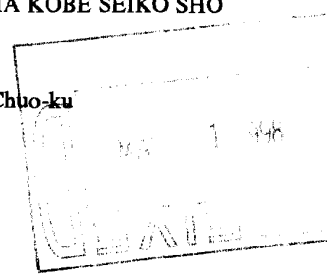
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<p>1. Name of conveying party(ies):</p> <p>(1) Takuya NEGAMI (2) Akira URAGAMI</p> <p>Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):</p> <p>Name: KABUSHIKI KAISHA KOBE SEIKO SHO</p> <p>Address: 3-18, 1-chome Wakinohama-cho Chuo-ku Kobe 651, JAPAN</p> <p>Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>3. Nature of Conveyance:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assignment <input type="checkbox"/> Merger <input type="checkbox"/> Security Agreement <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Name <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p> <p>Execution Date: <u>DECEMBER 21, 1997</u></p>	

4. Application number(s) or patent number(s):

If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: _____

A. Patent Application No.(s)

08/992,791

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

<p>5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:</p> <p>OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. Attorneys at Law Fourth Floor 1755 Jefferson Davis Highway Arlington, Virginia 22202</p>	<p>6. Total number of applications and patents involved: <u>1</u></p> <p>7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41):.....\$ <u>40.00</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enclosed <input type="checkbox"/> Authorized to be charged to deposit account</p> <p>8. Deposit account number: <u>15-0030</u></p> <p>(Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account)</p>
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PATENT
REEL: 9155 FRAME: 0833

05/12/1998 TTON174 06992791 40.00 01 FC:581

ASSIGNMENT OF APPLICATION

WHEREAS I (WE) Takuya NEGAMI of c/o Kobe Steel Ltd, Tekko Bldg. 8-2, Marunouchi 1-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100, Japan, Akira URAGAMI of c/o Osaka Branch in Kobe Steel, Ltd. 1-3, Bingo-machi 4-chome, Chuo-ku, Osaka-shi, Osaka 541 Japan respectively, have invented certain new and useful improvements in: PRODUCTION METHOD OF METALLIC IRON for which an application for Letters Patent was executed on December 21, 1997 (Application No. _____, filed December 18, 1997), and

WHEREAS, KABUSHIKI KAISHA KOBE SEIKO SHO having a place of business at: 3-18, 1-chome, Wakino-hama-cho Chuo-ku, Kobe 651, JAPAN, (hereinafter referred to as "ASSIGNEE"), is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention and in and to any Letters Patent that may be granted therefore in the United States and its territorial possessions and in any and all foreign countries;

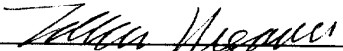
NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the sum of FIVE DOLLARS (\$5.00), the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, and for other good and valuable consideration, I (WE), by these presents do sell, assign and transfer unto said ASSIGNEE, the full and exclusive right to the said invention in the United States and its territorial possessions and in all foreign countries and the entire right, title and interest in and to any and all Letters Patent which may be granted therefore in the United States and its territorial possessions and in any and all foreign countries and in and to any and all divisions, reissues, continuations, substitutions and renewals thereof.

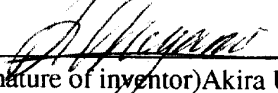
I (WE) hereby authorize and request the Patent Office Officials in the United States and its territorial possessions and any and all foreign countries to issue any and all of said Letters Patent, when granted, to said ASSIGNEE as the assignee of my (our) entire right, title and interest in and to the same, for the sole use and behoof of said ASSIGNEE, its (his) successors and assigns, to the full end of the term for which said Letters Patent may be granted, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held me (us) had this Assignment and sale not been made.

Further, I (WE) agree that I (WE) will communicate to said ASSIGNEE or its (his) representatives any facts known to me (us) respecting said invention, and testify in any legal proceeding, sign all lawful papers, execute all divisional, continuation, substitute, renewal and reissue applications, execute all necessary assignment papers to cause any and all of said Letters Patent to be issued to said ASSIGNEE, make all rightful oaths, and generally do everything possible to aid said ASSIGNEE, its (his) successors and assigns, to obtain and enforce proper protection for said invention in the United States and its territorial possessions and in any and all foreign countries.

The undersigned hereby grant(s) the firm of Oblon, Spivak, McClelland, Maier & Neustadt, P.C. of Fourth Floor, 1755 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202 the power to insert on this assignment any further identification, including the application number and filing date, which may be necessary or desirable in order to comply with the rules of the United States Patent and Trademark Office for recordation of this document.

EXECUTED AT: Tokyo, Osaka, JAPAN

Date December 21, 1997 
(Signature of inventor) Takuya NEGAMI

Date December 21, 1997 
(Signature of inventor) Akira URAGAMI

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
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