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Name of conveying party(ies): Yohei KAGEYAMA, Takeshi BANBA and Eikichi KOGURA	2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)?
Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? yesx no	SHOWA DENKO K.K. Internal Address: 13-9, Shibadaimon 1-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan Street Address: Same as above
3. Nature of Conveyance:	City State Zip
Assignment Merger	Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? yesx no
Security Agreement Change of Name	
Other	
Execution Date: April 28, 1998	
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: April 28, 1998	
A. Patent Application No.(s)	B. Patent No(s).
Additional numbers attached? Yes x No	
Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:	6. Total number of applications and patents involved: One (1)
SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN, MACPEAK & SEAS	
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Suite 800 Washington, D.C. 20037-3202	7. Total Fee (37 CFR 3.41): \$ 40.00
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PATENT

REEL: 9190 FRAME: 0154

Assianment

Whereas, I/We, (1) Yohei Kageyama; (2) Takeshi Banba; and (3) Eikichi Kogure Of c/o SHOWA DENKO K.K., CENTRAL RESEARCH LABORATORY KAWASAKI RESEARCH LABORATORY, 3-2, Chidori-cho, Kawasaki-ku, Kawasaki-shi, Kanagawa-ken, Japan

hereinafter called assignor(s), have invented certain improvements in

WATER ABSORBING ARTICLE AND METHOD OF USING THE SAME

and executed an application for Letters Patent of the United States of America therefor on April 28 ,1998 ; and

SHOWA DENKO K.K. of 13-9, Shibadaimon 1-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan Whereas.

(assignee), desires to acquire the entire right, title, and interest in the application and invention, and to any United States patents to be obtained therefor;

Now therefore, for valuable consideration, receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged,

I/We, the above named assignor(s), hereby sell, assign and transfer to the above named assignee, its successors and assigns, the entire right, title and interest in the application and the invention disclosed therein for the United States of America, including the right to claim priority under 35 U.S.C. §119, and I/we request the Commissioner of Patents to issue any Letters Patent granted upon the invention set forth in the application to the assignee, its successors and assigns; and I/we will execute without further consideration all papers deemed necessary by the assignee in connection with the United States application when called upon to do so by the assignee.

I/We hereby authorize and request my attorneys SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN, MACPEAK & SEAS of 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037-3202 to insert here in parentheses (Application ____, filed _ _____) the filing date and application number of said application when known. S/ Yokei Kageyama Yohei Kageyama
S/ Takeshi Banba Takeshi Banba Date: April 28, 1998 Date: April 28, 1998 S/ Eikiche Eikichi Kogure Date: April 28, 1998 Date: Date: Date: Date: (Legalization not required for recording but is prima facie evidence of execution under 35 U.S.C. §261)

8/92

PATENT REEL: 9190 FRAME: 0155