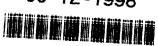
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Patent and Trademark Office

Attorney Docket No.: 8305-52 (NP-052-1)

To the Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof. Name and address of receiving party(ies): 1. Name of conveying party(ies): Svozo Nishida Nippon Oil Co., Ltd. Yuichiro Fujiyama 3-12, Nishi-shimbashi, 1-chome Minato-ku, Tokyo **JAPAN** and 3. Nature of conveyance: Petroleum Energy Center 3-9, Toranomon 4-chome [X] Assignment ] Merger Minato-ku, Tokyo Security Agreement [ ] Change of Name **JAPAN** Other: Execution Date: March 4, 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: A. Patent Application No.(s): 09/042,403 B. Patent No.(s): Additional numbers attached? [ ] Yes [X] No Name and address of party to whom correspondence 6. Total number of applications and patents involved: [1] document should be mailed: WILLIAM W. SCHWARZE 7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41) Cal.  $\mathbf{1}$  x \$40.00 =  $\mathbf{40.00}$ PANITCH SCHWARZE JACOBS & NADEL, P.C. One Commerce Square - 2005 Market Street - 22nd Fl. [] Enclosed Philadelphia, PA 19103-7086 [x] Authorized to be charged to deposit account Telephone: (215) 965-1270

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To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document.

WILLIAM W. SCHWARZE

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Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments and document: [3]

OMB No. 0651-0011 (exp. 4/94)

Attorney Docket No. 8305-52 ( NP-052-1 )

JOINT

## ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS	, we,	Syozo	Nishida	and	Yuichiro	Fujiyama	a	
respectively post office a Research La	citiz addres	ens of ses of	Japan c/o Ni	ppon	Oil Co	with resp	pecti tral	Technica]
Kanaqawa-k	en, Ja	pan						
hereinafter certain new			erred to	as '	ASSIGNOR	S," have	inve	nted a

## SEPARATION DEVICE

for which we have executed a United States patent application, Application No. 09/042,403, filed March 13, , 198, and

ASSIGNORS authorize ASSIGNEE or ASSIGNEE's representative to insert the Application Number and Filing date of this application if they are unknown at the time of execution of this Assignment.

Nippon Oil Co., Ltd.

whereas, Petroleum Energy Center

corporations having a place of business at 3-12, Nishi-shimbashi, 1-chome,
Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan, and of 3-9, Toranomon 4-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan
hereinafter generally referred to as "ASSIGNEE", is desirous of
acquiring said invention and said patent application.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the sum of One Dollar and other good and valuable executed consideration, the full receipt and sufficiency of all of which are hereby acknowledged and intending to be legally bound hereby, we, the undersigned ASSIGNORS, hereby agree to sell, assign, transfer and convey and by these presents do sell, assign, transfer and convey unto the above-named ASSIGNEE, the whole and entire right, title and interest

in and to said invention as described in the above patent application, for the territory of the United States and its possessions and territories and all foreign countries;

in and to the above patent application and any and all related United States and foreign patent applications disclosing said invention, including provisionals, non-provisionals, divisions and continuations thereof, along with all rights of priority created by said patent application under any treaty relating HINGER to; and REEL: 9226 FRAME: 0697

in and to all United States and foreign patents which may be granted on any and all of said patent applications, including extensions, reissues and reexamination certificates thereof;

said invention, application(s) and patent(s) to be held and enjoyed by the above-named ASSIGNEE, for ASSIGNEE's own use and benefit, and for ASSIGNEE's legal representatives and assigns to the full end of the term or terms for which said patent(s) may be granted, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held by the undersigned ASSIGNORS had this assignment and sale not been made; and for the aforesaid consideration ASSIGNORS hereby covenant, agree and undertake to execute, whenever requested by the above-named ASSIGNEE, all patent applications, assignments, lawful oaths and any other papers which ASSIGNEE may deem necessary or desirable for securing to ASSIGNEE or for maintaining for ASSIGNEE all the patent(s) hereby assigned or agreed to be assigned; all without further compensation to the undersigned ASSIGNORS.

march 4, 1998	Shojo nishida	(Seal)
(Date)  March 4, 1998  (Date)	zuichiro Hujiyama	(Seal)
(Date)		(Seal)
(Date)		(Seal)

PATENT
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