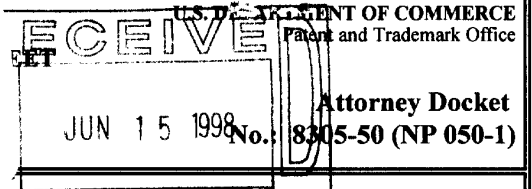


06-26-1998



MRD 6-15-98



100747425

To the Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):
**Shin-ichi Komatsu
Akira Takagi
Yoshihiro Kobori**

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):
**Nippon Oil Co., Ltd.
3-12, Nishi-shimbashi 1-chome
Minato-ku, Tokyo
Japan**

3. Nature of conveyance:
 Assignment Merger
 Security Agreement Change of Name
 Other:

Execution Date: **January 30, 1998, January 29, 1998 and
January 29, 1998, respectively.**

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): 09/026,428 B. Patent No.(s):

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence document should be mailed:
**William W. Schwarze
PANITCH SCHWARZE JACOBS & NADEL, P.C.
One Commerce Square - 2005 Market Street - 22nd Fl.
Philadelphia, PA 19103-7086
Telephone: (215) 965-1270
Facsimile: (215) 567-2991
E-Mail: psjn@psjn.com**

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: **[1]**

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41) Cal. 1 x \$40.00 = \$ **40.00**
 Enclosed
 Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit account number: **16-0235**

06/25/1998 JSHADAZZ 00000260 160235 09026428
FC:5A1 40.00 CH

DO NOT USE THIS SPACE

9. Statement and signature
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 *William W. Schwarze* June 12, 1998
Name of Person Signing Signature Date

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

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, we, Shin-ichi Komatsu, Akira Takagi and Yoshihiro Kobori,
respectively citizens of Japan, with respective post office addresses of c/o Nippon Oil Co., Ltd., Central Technical Research Laboratory, 8, Chidori-cho, Naka-ku, Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa-ken,
Japan hereinafter generally referred to as "ASSIGNORS," have invented a certain new and useful

PROCESS FOR PRODUCING AN OPTICAL ACTIVE COMPOUND

for which we have executed a United States patent application, Application No. 09/026,428, filed February 19, 1998, 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.

WHEREAS, Nippon Oil Co., Ltd., a Japanese corporation having a place of business at 3-12, Nishi-shimbashi 1-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 thereto; and

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.

1/20/98
(Date)

Shin-ichi Komatsu (Seal)
Shin-ichi KOMATSU

1/29/98
(Date)

Akira Takagi (Seal)
Akira TAKAGI

1/29/98
(Date)

Yoshihiro Kobori (Seal)
Yoshihiro KOBORI

(Date)

~~Akira Takagi~~ (Seal) a.T