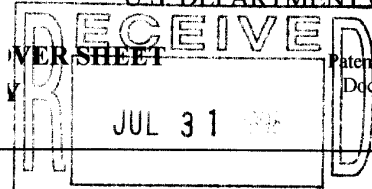


08-06-1998



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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



Patent and Trademark Office  
Docket No. 204552015000

MRD 7-31-98

To the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):  
Kenji Kitaoka

Individual(s)       Association  
 General Partnership       Limited Partnership  
 Corporation-State       Other

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):

Name: Minolta Co., Ltd.  
Internal Address: c/o Osaka Kokusai Building  
Street Address: 3-13, 2-chrome, Azuchi-machi  
City: Chuo-ku, State: Osaka-shi, Osaka ZIP: Country: Japan

Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached?  Yes  No

3. Nature of conveyance:

Assignment       Merger  
 Security Agreement       Change of Name  
 Other:

Additional name(s) & address(es) attached?  Yes  No

Execution Date: June 14, 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)      B. Patent No.(s)  
09/076,626

Additional numbers attached?  Yes  No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:

Thomas E. Ciotti  
Morrison & Foerster LLP  
755 Page Mill Road  
Palo Alto, California 94304-1018

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: One (1)

7. Total fee (37 C.F.R. § 3.41): \$40.00

Enclosed  
 Authorized to be charged to deposit account, referencing Attorney Docket 204552015000

8. Deposit account number: 03-1952

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.21 that may be required by this paper, or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-1952

**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.

Name: Thomas E. Ciotti  
Registration No: 21,013

Thomas E. Ciotti  
Signature

7/28/98  
Date

Total number of pages comprising cover sheet, attachments and document: Two (2)

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Office of Public Records  
Box Assignments  
Crystal Gateway 4, Room 335  
Washington, D.C. 20231

08/04/1998 JMWATKINS 04000055 09076666 40.00 01 F2581

# ASSIGNMENT

JOINT

THIS ASSIGNMENT, by Kenji KITAOKA

(hereinafter referred to as the assignors), residing at Kawanishi-Shi, Hyogo-Ken, Japan

and \_\_\_\_\_

respectively, witnesseth:

WHEREAS, the said assignors have invented certain new and useful improvements in \_\_\_\_\_

METAL OXIDE FIBER, AND PRODUCTION METHOD THEREOF

set forth in an application for Letters Patent of the United States, } having an oath or declaration executed on even

date herewith;  bearing Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ and filed on May 12, 1998; and

WHEREAS, MINOLTA CO., Ltd., a corporation

duly organized under and pursuant to the laws of Japan, and having its principal

place of business at c/o Osaka Kokusai Building, 3-13, 2-chome, Azuchi-machi, Chuo-ku, Osaka-shi, Osaka, Japan

(hereinafter referred to as the assignee) is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to said inventions and said application for Letters Patent of the United States, and in and to any Letters Patent or Patents, United States or foreign, to be obtained therefor and thereon:

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of \_\_\_\_\_ Dollar (\$ \_\_\_\_\_) and other good and sufficient considerations, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the said assignors have sold, assigned, transferred and set over, and by these presents do sell, assign, transfer and set over, unto the assignee, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, the entire right, title and interest in and to the abovementioned inventions, application for Letters Patent, and any and all Letters Patent or Patents in the United States of America and all foreign countries which may be granted therefor and thereon, and in and to any and all divisions, continuations, and continuations-in-part of said application, or reissues or extensions of said Letters Patent or Patents, and all rights under the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, the same to be held and enjoyed by the said assignee, for its own use and behoof and the use and behoof of its successors, legal representatives and assigns, to the full end of the term or terms for which Letters Patent or Patents may be granted, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by the assignors, had this sale and assignment not been made.

AND for the same consideration, the said assignors hereby covenant and agree to and with the said assignee, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, that, at the time of execution and delivery of these presents, the said assignors are the sole and lawful owners of the entire right, title and interest in and to the said inventions and the application for Letters Patent abovementioned, and that the same are unencumbered and that the said assignors have good and full right and lawful authority to sell and convey the same in the manner herein set forth.

AND for the same consideration, the said assignors hereby covenant and agree to and with the said assignee, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, that the said assignors will, whenever counsel of the said assignee, or the counsel of its successors, legal representatives and assigns, shall advise that any proceeding in connection with said inventions, or said application for Letters Patent, or any proceeding in connection with Letters Patent for said inventions in any country, including interference proceedings, is lawful and desirable, or that any division, continuation or continuation-in-part of any application for Letters Patent, or any reissue or extension of any Letters Patent, to be obtained thereon, is lawful and desirable, sign all papers and documents, take all lawful oaths, and do all acts necessary or required to be done for the procurement, maintenance, enforcement and defense of Letters Patent for said inventions, without charge to the said assignee, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, but at the cost and expense of the said assignee, its successors, legal representatives and assigns.

AND the said assignors hereby request the Commissioner of Patents to issue said Letters Patent of the United States to the said assignee as the assignee of said inventions and the Letters Patent to be issued thereon for the sole use and behoof of the said assignee, its successors, legal representatives and assigns.

Date Jun. 14, 1998 Name of Inventor Kenji Kitaoka Kenji KITAOKA

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Inventor \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Inventor \_\_\_\_\_