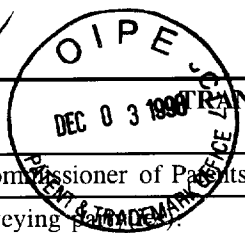


MRD 12-3-98



12-08-1998



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Form-PTO-1595  
1-31-92

INATION

Atty. Docket: 35.G2264

To the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party:  
SHINYA HIRAI

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

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):  
 Name: CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA  
 Foreign Address: 30-2, 3-chome, Shimomaruko, Ohta-ku  
Tokyo, Japan

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

Execution Date: November 24, 1998

Domestic Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

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

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 Number: 09/174,327  
 Filing Date: October 19, 1998

B. Title of Invention: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS, DATA PROCESSING METHOD THEREFOR, AND STORAGE MEDIUM FOR STORING COMPUTER READABLE PROGRAM THEREFOR

Additional numbers attached?  Yes  No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:  
 Name: Fitzpatrick, Cella, Harper & Scinto  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10112-3801  
 Telephone No.: (212) 218-2100  
 Facsimile No.: (212) 218-2200

6. Number of applications and patents involved:  
One

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41): . . . \$ 40.00  
 Enclosed  
 Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit account number (for deficiency or excess)  
06-1205  
 (Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account):

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9. Statement and signature.  
*To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and the attached is the original document or is a true copy of the original document.*

12/08/1998 BMSUYEH 00000011 09174327

FC:581

40.00 OP

Jack M. Arnold  
Name of Person Signing

*Jack M. Arnold Reg # 25,824*  
Signature

December 2, 1998  
Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and documents:

**SOLE**  
(AFTER APPLICATION FILED)

**ASSIGNMENT OF PATENT RIGHTS FOR THE UNITED STATES**

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, I, Shinya Hirai

citizen of Japan

residing at 1-7-30-105, Shukugawara, Tama-ku, Kawasaki-shi,  
Kanagawa-ken, Japan

hereby sell, assign, transfer and convey unto Canon Kabushiki Kaisha

a corporation of Japan

having a place of business at 30-2, Shimomaruko 3-chome, Ohta-ku, Tokyo, Japan

its successors, assigns and legal representatives (hereinafter called the "Assignee"), the entire right, title and interest, for the United States, in and to certain inventions relating to

IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS, DATA PROCESSING METHOD THEREFOR,  
AND STORAGE MEDIUM FOR STORING COMPUTER READABLE PROGRAM  
THEREFOR

and described in an application for Letters Patent of the United States filed by me on October 19, 1998  
and which has been accorded Application No. 09/174,327

and in and to said application, and all divisions, renewals and continuations thereof, and all Letters Patent of the United States which may be granted, thereon, and all reissues and extensions thereof; and I hereby authorize and request the Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks of the United States to issue all Letters Patent upon said inventions to the Assignee or to such nominees as it may designate.

AND I authorize and empower the said Assignee or nominees to invoke and claim for any application for patent or other form of protection for said inventions, the benefit of the right of priority provided by the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, as amended, or by any convention which may henceforth be substituted for it, and to invoke and claim such right of priority without further written or oral authorization from me.

AND I hereby consent that a copy of this assignment shall be deemed a full legal and formal equivalent of any assignment, consent to file or like document which may be required in the United States for any purpose and more particularly in proof of the right of said Assignee or nominees to claim the aforesaid benefit of the right of priority provided by the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, as amended, or by any convention which may henceforth be substituted for it.

AND I hereby covenant that I have the full right to convey the entire right, title and interest herein assigned and that I have not executed and will not execute any agreement in conflict herewith.

AND I hereby covenant and agree that I will communicate to said Assignee or nominees all facts known to me pertaining to said inventions, and testify in all legal proceedings, sign all lawful papers, execute all divisional, continuing and reissue applications, make all rightful oaths and declarations and in general perform all lawful acts necessary or proper to aid said Assignee or nominees in obtaining, maintaining and enforcing all lawful patent protection for said inventions in the United States.

By: Shinya Hirai  
Shinya Hirai

Date: November 24, 1998