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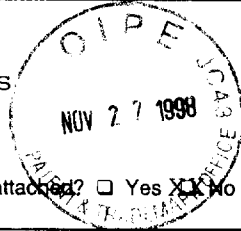
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark OfficeTab settings ☐ ☐ ☐ ▼

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

## 1. Name of conveying party(ies):

Howard C. Hopkins

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

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

Name: EX-L-TUBE, INC.

Internal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: 905 Atlantic Street

City: North Kansas City State: MO ZIP: 64116

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

## 3. Nature of conveyance:

☒ Assignment☐ Merger☐ Security Agreement☐ Change of Name☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Execution Date: November 20, 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: November 20, 1998

A. Patent Application No.(s)

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached? ☐ Yes ☒ No

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

Name: Richard O. Bartz

Internal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

1300 Foshay Tower

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

821 Marquette Avenue

City: Minneapolis State: MN ZIP: 55402

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: ☐

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41).....\$ 40.00

☒ Enclosed☐ Authorized to be charged to deposit account

## 8. Deposit account number: \_\_\_\_\_

(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 correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document.

Richard O. Bartz

Name of Person Signing

Signature

November 23, 1998

Date

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

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to

Commissioner of Patents &amp; Trademarks, Box Assignments

Washington, D.C. 20231

PATENT

REEL: 9617 FRAME: 0427

ASSIGNMENT FOR UNFILED APPLICATION FOR UNITED STATES  
PATENT

*(Sole or Joint Inventors)*

WHEREAS:

FULL NAME(S) AND  
POST OFFICE ADDRESS(S)  
OF INVENTOR(S) (including  
country)

Howard C. Hopkins  
905 Atlantic Street  
North Kansas City, MO 64116

(hereinafter referred to as ASSIGNOR), have invented and  
own a certain invention entitled:

TITLE OF  
INVENTION

PIPE CONNECTION

for which application for Letters Patent of the United States  
has been executed on even date herewith,

WHEREAS:

FULL NAME AND  
ADDRESS (including country)  
OF ASSIGNEE

EX-L-TUBE, INC.  
905 Atlantic Street  
North Kansas City, MO 64116

(hereinafter referred to as ASSIGNEE), is desirous of acquiring the entire interest in, to and under said invention and in, to and under Letters Patent or similar legal protection to be obtained therefor in the United States and in any and all foreign countries.

NOW, THEREFORE, TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:  
Be it known that in consideration of the payment by ASSIGNEE to ASSIGNOR of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00), the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, and for other good and valuable consideration, ASSIGNOR hereby sells, assigns and transfers to ASSIGNEE the full and exclusive right, title and interest to said invention in the United States and its territorial possessions and in all foreign countries and to all Letters Patent or similar legal protection in the United States and its territorial possessions and in any and all foreign countries to be obtained for said invention by said application or any continuation, division, renewal, substitute or reissue thereof or

(Assignment for Unfiled Application for United States Patent—page 1 of 2)

any legal equivalent thereof in a foreign country for the full term or terms for which the same may be granted.

ASSIGNOR hereby covenants that no assignment, sale, agreement or encumbrance has been or will be made or entered into which would conflict with this assignment and sale;

ASSIGNOR further covenants that ASSIGNEE will, upon its request, be provided promptly with all pertinent facts and documents relating to said application, said invention and said Letters Patent and legal equivalents in foreign countries as may be known and accessible to ASSIGNOR and will testify as to the same in any interference or litigation related thereto and will promptly execute and deliver to ASSIGNEE or its legal representative any and all papers, instruments or affidavits required to apply for, obtain, maintain, issue and enforce said application, said invention and said Letters Patent and said equivalents thereof in any foreign country which may be necessary or desirable to carry out the purposes thereof.

**Warning**

**DATE OF SIGNING:**

This must be the same as the date of signing of the declaration and power of the patent or design application.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I/We have hereunto set hand and seal this 11/20/98

(Date of Signing)

Howard C. Hopkins  
(Signature) Howard C. Hopkins

**SIGNATURE(S)**

The signature(s) must correspond with the name(s) of the inventor(s) above.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

Instruction  
sheet for  
assignment  
Signing

All information, names of inventor(s) and assignee, title of invention and particulars of application should be completed.

No witnessing or legalization is necessary. However, if this assignment is legalized then it will only be prime facie evidence of the execution of the assignment.

(Assignment for Unfiled Application for United States Patent—page 2 of 2)