

ASSIGNMENT OF PATENT RIGHTS FOR THE UNITED STATES

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, WE,

NOBUAKI HARA, TAKAO HONDA, YOSHITO MIZOGUCHI and KAZUO SUZUKI

citizens of Japan

residing respectively at

1-45-202, Numakita-cho 1-chome, Numazu-shi, Shizuoka-ken, Japan;

53-2-A-6, Kamo, Mishima-shi, Shizuoka-ken, Japan;

6-8-602, Mizonokuchi 3-chome, Takatsu-ku, Kawasaki-shi, Kanagawa-ken, Japan; and 2604-305, Shinohara-cho, Kohoku-ku, Yokohama-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

DEVELOPING DEVICE

and described in an application for Letters Patent of the United States filed by us on October 6, 1998 and which has been accorded Application No. 09/166,597

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 we 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 we 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 us.

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

AND we hereby covenant and agree that we will communicate to said Assignee or nominees all facts known to us 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: Nobuaki Hara
NOBUAKI HARA

Date: December 15, 1998

By: Takao Honda
TAKAO HONDA

Date: December 15, 1998

By: Yoshito Mizoguchi
YOSHITO MIZOGUCHI

Date: December 15, 1998

By: Kazuo Suzuki
KAZUO SUZUKI

Date: December 15, 1998

By: _____

Date: _____