FORM PTO-1595

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To the Assistant Commissioner for Patents. Please record and index the attached original documents or copy thereof. Name and address of receiving partyties 2. Name of conveying party(ies): 1. Chih M. Lin A. O. Smith Corporation Address: 11270 West Park Place Zip: 53224 City: Milwaukee State WI 3. Nature of Conveyance: Assignment Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? ___ /es__X_No Execution Date <u>January 6, 1999</u> 09/228862 This document is being filed together with a new application. The execution date of the application is January 6, 1999 NO ADDITIONAL NUMBERS ATTACHED. 5 Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed: Total number of applications and patents involved David R Price Michael Best & Friedrich LLP Total fee (37 CFR 3.41):... \$40.00 F Suite 3300 100 East Wisconsin Avenue X Enclosed Milwaukee, WF 53202-4108 X Deficiencies in fee charged to Dejicsit Account Deposit account number: 33080 DO NOT USE THIS SPACE 9. Statement and signature. To the best of my knewledge and belief, the toregoing information is true and/correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document. David R. Price (Reg. No. 31,557) January 11,199 Name of Person Signing \$3885560 88500000 NAMBOND 6661-05/10 1 FC-58 Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and document: 3 UMB No. 065 1 0011 exp. 4/13 H VN ORM\ASSIGN CS1 Attorney File 10121/9684

> **PATENT REEL: 9701 FRAME: 0137**

ASSIGNMENT

For and in consideration of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00) to me:

Chih M. Lin 1047 Lancaster Lane Tipp City, Ohio 45371-1899

paid by A. O. Smith Comporation (hereinafter referred to as "Assignee"), a Delaware corporation having its principal place of business at:

11270 West Park Place Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53224

and for other valuable and sufficient consideration, receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, I hereby sell, assign and convey, unto Assignee, its successors and assigns, my entire right, title and interest -

- (1) in and to an invention entitled "SPRING CLIP FOR STRAIN RELIEF" for which I have executed a United States patent application on even date herewith;
- (2) in and to said United States application, in and to all other patent applications (including divisional, continuation, continuation-in-part, \$111(b) provisional, \$111(a), and reissue applications) based upon said invention, and in and to the patent or patents to be granted thereon, including reissues thereof, if any, to the full end of the term or terms for which said patent or patents may be granted;
- (3) in and to all patent applications on said invention now or hereafter filed in countries foreign to the United States of America, and in and to any and all patents granted on said applications to the full end of the terms for which said patents may be granted; and

PATENT REEL: 9701 FRAME: 0138 (4) under the International Convention in respect to the United States patent application and agree that any patent applications of any foreign countries which may be filed shall be filed in the name of my Assignee with a claim to priority based on said United States application.

And I hereby agree that I will, upon demand of Assignee, its successors or assigns, and without further consideration to me, execute any and all papers that may be necessary, or deemed by Assignee, its successors or assigns, to be necessary, to a complete fulfillment of the intent and purposes of this Assignment, it being understood that any expense incident to the execution of such papers shall be paid by Assignee, its successors and assigns, and not by me.

And the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks of the United States is hereby authorized and requested to issue the said United States patent or patents to Assignee.

Date:	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1			
- -		Chih M.	Lin	