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FORM PTO-1595
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

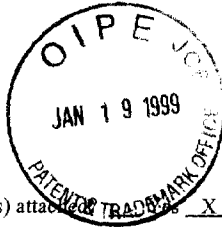
To the Honorable Commissioner of Patent.

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al documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of Conveying party(ies):

Osamu KANIE
Chi-Huey WONG
Hiroshi KAMITAKAHARA



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

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)

Name: THE INSTITUTE OF PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL RESEARCH

Internal Address: _____

Street Address: Hirosawa 2-1, Wako-shi

Saitama 351-0198 JAPAN

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

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

3. Nature of conveyance:

Assignment Merger
 Security Agreement Change of Name
 Other _____

Execution Date: December 17, 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)

09/109,870

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached: Yes No

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

Name: Arnold Turk

Internal Address: P16838

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1

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

Enclosed

Authorized to be charged to deposit account

01/21/1999 DNGUYEN 00000136 09109870

01 FC:581 40.00 OP

Street Address: GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.

1941 Roland Clarke Place

City: Reston State: VA ZIP: 20191

8. Deposit account number:

19-0089

(Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account)

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Fee OK

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.

Arnold Turk, Reg. No. 33,094

Name of Person Signing

Signature

Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments and document: 4

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:
Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Box Assignments
Washington, D.C. 20231

PATENT
REEL: 9706 FRAME: 0368

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, Osamu KANIE, a citizen of JAPAN, whose post office address is c/o The Institute of Physical and Chemical Research, Hirosawa 2-1, Wako-shi, Saitama 351-0198 JAPAN, Chi-Huey WONG, a citizen of the United States of America, whose post office address is c/o The Institute of Physical and Chemical Research, Hirosawa 2-1, Wako-shi, Saitama 351-0198 JAPAN, and Hiroshi KAMITAKAHARA, a citizen of JAPAN, whose post office address is Tanakazatonomae 55, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto-shi, Kyoto 606-8227 JAPAN, hereinafter referred to as the ASSIGNOR, has invented a certain improvement relating to

POLYMER COMPOUNDS COMPRISING GLYCOSPHINGOSINE

for which they have filed an application for Letters Patent of the United States which was filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on July 6, 1998, and was awarded application No. 09/109,870.

AND WHEREAS, The Institute of Physical and Chemical Research, a organization existing under the laws of JAPAN, whose post-office address is Hirosawa 2-1, Wako-shi, Saitama 351-0198 JAPAN, hereinafter known as the ASSINGNEE, are desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest for the United States in and to said invention and application, including any and all divisions and continuations thereof, and any and all Letters Patent which may be granted thereon, including any and all renewals, reissues, and prolongations thereof.

NOW, THIS WITNESSETH that for and in consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00) and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, said ASSIGNORS hereby assign, sell and transfer to said ASSIGNEE, its assigns and legal representatives, the entire and exclusive right, title and interest in and to said invention and application, for the United States including any and all divisions and continuations thereof, and any and all Letters Patent which may be granted therefor, said ASSIGNEE and its assigns and legal representatives to have, hold, exercise and enjoy the said invention and application, including any and all divisions and continuations thereof, and any and all Letters Patent which may be granted thereon, including any and all renewals, reissues and prolongations thereof, with all the rights, powers, privileges, and advantages in any ways arising from or pertaining thereto, for and during the term or terms of any and all such Letters Patent when granted, including any and all renewals, reissues, and prolongations thereof, for the use and benefit of said ASSIGNEE and its assigns and legal representatives in as ample and beneficial a manner to all intents and purposes as the said ASSIGNORS might or could have held and enjoyed the same, if this assignment had not been made.

AND said ASSIGNORS hereby agree to execute all papers necessary to file applications in the United States for said invention and to assign the same to said ASSIGNEE, or any assignee acquiring title to said invention, and to execute any other papers that may be needed in connection with filing said application and securing Letters Patent thereon.

AND said ASSIGNORS authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents to issue Letters Patent on said application, and on any and all divisions and continuations thereof, to said ASSIGNEE, its assigns and legal representatives, in accordance

herewith.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, this assignment is executed by said ASSIGNORS, on the respective date(s) indicated below.

Witnessed by:

Hiroko Saito 17/12/1998
Name Hiroko SAITO Date

Osamu Kanie 17/12/1998
Osamu KANIE Date

Eiji Yoshino 17/12/1998
Name Eiji YOSHINO Date

Hiroko Saito 17/12/1998
Name Hiroko SAITO Date

Chi Huey Wong 17/12/1998
Chi-Huey WONG Date

Eiji Yoshino 17/12/1998
Name Eiji YOSHINO Date

Hiroko Saito 17/12/1998
Name Hiroko SAITO Date

Hiroshi Kamitakahara 17/12/1998
Hiroshi KAMITAKAHARA Date

Eiji Yoshino 17/12/1998
Name Eiji YOSHINO Date