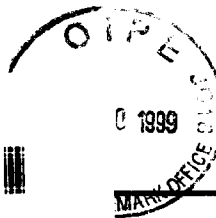


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Atty Docket No.: 0524-2967-0 PCT/sb

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09117287

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Hans-Joachim HAEHNLE, Manfred WALTER, Juergen TROPSCH, Jens KREMESKOETTER, Gunnar SCHORNICK and Thomas ANSTOCK

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

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

Name: BASF Aktiengesellschaft

Address: 67056 Ludwigshafen, Federal Republic of Germany

3. Nature of Conveyance:

- Assignment Merger
- Security Agreement Change of Name
- Other

Execution Date: January 3, 1998

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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: N/A

A. Patent Application No.(s)
09/117,287

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

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

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Attorneys at Law
Fourth Floor
1755 Jefferson Davis Highway
Arlington, Virginia 22202

6. Total applications and patents involved: 1

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U S A

Assignment of Application

O. Z. 0050/46625

WHEREAS, I (WE)

*Hans-Joachim Hähne, Böhlackerstr. 27, 67435 Neustadt
Manfred Walter, Hans-Purmann-Allee 18, 67346 Speyer
Jürgen Tropsch, Im oberen Berg 81, 67354 Römerberg
Jens Kremeskötter, Gartenstr.14, 67063 Ludwigshafen
Gunnar Schornick, Dr.-Konrad-Adenauer-Str.8, 67271 Neuleiningen
Thomas Anstock, Konrad-Adenauer-Str.9, 67256 Weisenheim
Federal Republic of Germany
citizen(s) of the Federal Republic of Germany*

respectively, have invented certain new and useful improvements in

Absorber element of superabsorbent foams having
anisotropic swelling behavior

for which an application for Letters Patent was executed on 03.01.1998

(Application No. 09/117,287, filed August 25, 1998), and

WHEREAS, *BASF Aktiengesellschaft* (hereinafter referred to as "ASSIGNEE"), having a place of business at *67056 Ludwigshafen, Federal Republic of Germany*, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention and in and to any Letters Patent that may be granted therefore in the United States and its territorial possessions and in any and all foreign countries;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00), the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, and for other good and valuable consideration, I (WE), by these presents do sell, assign and transfer unto said ASSIGNEE, the full and exclusive right to the said invention in the United States and its territorial possessions and in all foreign countries and the entire right, title and interest in and to any and all Letters Patent which may be granted therefor in the United States and its territorial possessions and in any and all foreign countries and in and to any and all divisions, reissues, continuations, substitutions and renewals thereof.

I (WE) hereby authorize and request the Patent Office Officials in the United States and its territorial possessions and any and all foreign countries to issue any and all of said Letters Patent, when granted, to said ASSIGNEE as the assignee of my (our) entire right, title and interest in and to the same, for the sole use and behoof of said ASSIGNEE, its (his) successors and assigns, to the full end of the term for which said Letters Patent may be granted, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held by me (us) had this Assignment and sale not been made.

FURTHER, I (WE) agree that I (WE) will communicate to said ASSIGNEE, or its (his) representatives any facts known to me (us) respecting said invention, and testify in any legal proceeding, sign all lawful papers, execute all divisional, continuation, substitute, renewal and reissue applications, execute all necessary assignment papers to cause any and all of said Letter Patent to be issued to said ASSIGNEE, make all rightful oaths, and, generally do everything possible to aid said ASSIGNEE, its (his) successors and assigns, to obtain and enforce proper protection for said invention in the United States and its territorial possessions and in any and all foreign countries

The undersigned hereby grant(s) the firm of **Oblon, Spivak, Mc.Clelland, Maier & Neustadt, P.C.** of Fourth Floor, 1755 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202 the power to insert on this assignment any further identification, including the application number and filing date, which may be necessary or desirable in order to comply with the rules of the United States Patent and Trademark Office for recordation of this document.

O. Z.0050/46625

Date: 3.1.98 Hans-Peter Hähle
Hans-Joachim Hähle

Date: 3.1.98 Manfred Walter
Manfred Walter

Date: 3.1.98 Jürgen Tropsch
Jürgen Tropsch

Date: 3.1.98 Jens Kremesköter
Jens Kremesköter

Date: 3.1.98 Gunnar Schornick
Gunnar Schornick

Date: 3.1.98 Thomas Anstock
Thomas Anstock