

ASSIGNMENT

THIS ASSIGNMENT, by Shozo Minagawa and Kenta Yamada (hereinafter referred to as "the Assignors"), residing at Shubaura 3-5-25, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan and Ogikubo 2-43-17#104, Suginami-ku, Tokyo, Japan, witnesseth:

WHEREAS the Assignors have made certain new and useful inventions in "**CARRYING CASE**" set forth in an application for Letters Patent of the United States of America Serial No. 29/098,775, filed January 6, 1999; and

WHEREAS, PHILIP MORRIS INCORPORATED, a corporation duly organized under and pursuant to the laws of the State of Virginia and having an office and place of business at 120 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10017, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title, and interest in and to the inventions for the United States and the application for Letters Patent of the United States, and in any United States Letters Patent or Patents, to be obtained therefor and thereon; and

WHEREAS, PHILIP MORRIS PRODUCTS INC., a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Virginia and having an office and place of business at 3601 Commerce Road, Richmond, Virginia 23234, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title, and interest in and to the inventions for countries foreign to the United States, and in and to any foreign patent applications, and in and to any foreign Letters Patent or Patents to be obtained therefor and thereon; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it known that for and in consideration of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00) to each of us paid and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged;

**ASSIGNMENT OF
UNITED STATES PATENT RIGHTS**

We do hereby sell, assign and transfer unto PHILIP MORRIS INCORPORATED, its successors, assigns and legal representatives, all right, title and interest in and to the inventions for the United States, and in and to the United States patent application, including any continuations and divisions thereof, and any substitute applications therefor and any United States patents which may issue thereon and any reissues and extensions of the same; and we hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents to grant and issue any and all patents on the inventions in the United States to PHILIP MORRIS INCORPORATED as the assignee thereof.

**ASSIGNMENT OF
FOREIGN PATENT RIGHTS**

Further in view of the consideration hereinabove referred to we do hereby sell, assign, and transfer unto PHILIP MORRIS PRODUCTS INC., its successors, assigns and legal representatives, all right, title and interest in and to the inventions for all countries foreign to the United States, including the right to claim priority under the International Convention based on the United States patent application, and in and to any foreign patent application, including renewals, revivals, continuations and divisions thereof, and any substitute applications therefor, and any foreign patents which may issue thereon, and any reissues and extensions of the same; and we hereby authorize and request competent authorities to grant and issue any and all patents on the inventions in any foreign country to PHILIP MORRIS PRODUCTS INC. as the assignee thereof.

We further agree to execute upon request of the assignee PHILIP MORRIS INCORPORATED such additional documents, if any, as are necessary and proper to secure patent protection on the inventions in the United States, and to execute upon request of assignee PHILIP MORRIS PRODUCTS INC. such additional documents, if any, as are necessary and proper to secure patent protection on the inventions in countries foreign to the United States, and

to otherwise give full effect to and perfect the rights of the assignee PHILIP MORRIS INCORPORATED in the United States and of assignee PHILIP MORRIS PRODUCTS INC. in countries foreign to the Unites States.

AND for the same consideration, the Assignors hereby covenant and agree to and with the assignees, their successors, legal representatives, and assigns, that, at the time of execution and delivery of these presents, the Assignors are the sole and lawful owners of the entire right, title, and interest in and to the inventions and any and all applications for Letters Patent above-mentioned, and that the same are unencumbered, and that the Assignors have good and full right and lawful authority to sell and convey the same in the manner herein set forth;

AND for the same consideration, the Assignors hereby covenant and agree to and with the assignees, their successors, legal representatives, and assigns, that the Assignors will, whenever counsel of the assignees, or counsel of their successors, legal representatives, and assigns, shall advise that any proceeding in connection with the inventions or any and all applications for Letters Patent, or any proceeding in connection with Letters Patent for the inventions in any country, including interference proceedings, is lawful and desirable, or that any division, continuation, or continuation-in-part of any application for Letters Patent, or any reissue or extension of any Letters Patent to be obtained thereon, is lawful and desirable, sign all papers and documents, take all lawful oaths, and do all acts necessary or required to be done for the procurement, maintenance, enforcement and defense of Letters Patent for the inventions, without charge to the assignees, their successors, legal representatives, and assigns, but at the cost and expense of the assignees, their successors, legal representatives, and assigns;

IN TESTIMONY THEREOF, we have hereunto signed our names the dates hereinafter

indicated:



Shozo Minagawa

3/5/99
Date



Kenta Yamada

3/5/99
Date

patn/62257