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Docket: Y0998-381 (8728-216)

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To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):
Michael P. Perrone, Eugene H. Ratzlaff
Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? Yes No

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):
Name: International Business Machines Corporation
Armonk, New York 10504

3. Nature of conveyance:
 Assignment Merger
 Security Agreement Change of Name
 Other _____
Execution Date: March 30, 1999

Additional name(s) & address(es) attached:
 Yes No

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: March 30, 1999

A. Patent Application No.(s) B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:
Name: Frank Chau, Esq.
Street Address: F. CHAU & ASSOCIATES, LLP
1900 Hempstead Turnpike, Suite 501
City: East Meadow State: NY Zip: 11554

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1

7. Total fee (37 C.F.R. §3.41): \$40.00 ✓
 Enclosed
 Authorized to be charged to deposit account ✓

8. Deposit account number:
50-0510/IBM (Yorktown Heights) ✓
(Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account)

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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.
Frank V. DeRosa
Registration No. 43,584
Name of Person Signing *Frank V. DeRosa* Signature 3/30/99 Date
Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments and documents: 2

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Public burden reporting for this sample cover sheet is estimated to average about 30 minutes per document to be recorded, including time for reviewing the document and gathering the data needed, and completing and reviewing the sample cover sheet. Send comments regarding this burden estimate to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Office of Information Systems, PK2-1000C, Washington, D.C. 20231, and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0651-0011), Washington, D.C. 20503.

Assignment

Whereas, I/we

INVENTOR (1) **Michael P. Perrone** of **Yorktown**
AND CITY County of **Westchester** and State of **New York**

INVENTOR (2) **Eugene H. Ratzlaff** of **Hopewell Junction**
AND CITY County of **Dutchess** and State of **New York**

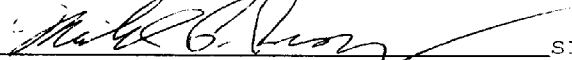
TITLE have invented certain improvements in
SPATIAL SORTING AND FORMATTING FOR HANDWRITING RECOGNITION


DATES THAT INVENTORS and executed, respectively, a United States patent application
SIGNED THE therefor on (1) March 30, 1999; and (2) March 30, 1999.
DECLARATION

Whereas, INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION, a corporation of New York, having a place of business at Armonk, New York 10504, (hereinafter called IBM), desires to acquire the entire right, title and interest in the said application and invention, and to any United States and foreign patents to be obtained therefor;

Now therefore, for a valuable consideration, receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, we, the above named, hereby sell, assign, and transfer to IBM, its successors and assigns, the entire right, title and interest in the said application and invention therein disclosed for the United States and foreign countries, and all rights of priority resulting from the filing of said United States application, and we request the Commissioner of Patents to issue any Letters Patent granted upon the inventions set forth in said applications to IBM, its successors and assigns; and we hereby agree that IBM may apply for foreign Letters Patent on said invention and we will execute all papers necessary in connection with the United States and foreign applications when called upon to do so by IBM.

Signed and sealed

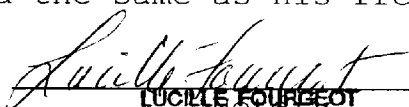
CITY AND (1) at Yorktown Hgts., NY
DATE on March 30, 1999,  SIGNATURE
(**Michael P. Perrone**) INVENTOR
FIRST NAME MIDDLE INITIAL LAST NAME

CITY AND (2) at Yorktown Hgts., NY
DATE on March 30, 1999,  SIGNATURE
(**Eugene H. Ratzlaff**) INVENTOR
FIRST NAME MIDDLE INITIAL LAST NAME

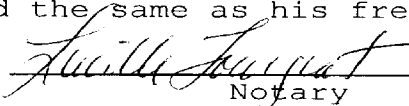
State of New York) ss.:
County of Westchester)

(1) On this 30th day of March 1999, before me INVENTOR personally came **Michael P. Perrone** to me personally known, and known to me to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing assignment, and he acknowledged to me that he executed the same as his free act and deed.

State of New York) ss.:
County of Westchester)


LUCILLE FOURGEOT
NOTARY PUBLIC, State of New York
No. 4502670
Qualified in Westchester County
Commission Expires 06/30/99

(2) On this 30th day of March 1999, before me INVENTOR personally came **Eugene H. Ratzlaff** to me personally known, and known to me to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing assignment, and he acknowledged to me that he executed the same as his free act and deed.


Notary
LUCILLE FOURGEOT
NOTARY PUBLIC, State of New York
No. 4502670
Qualified in Westchester County
Commission Expires 06/30/99

PATENT