

A/DSKI-411

09/254087

04-19-1999

900 Rec'd PCT/PTO 01 MAR 1999

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101014443

MAD 3-1-99

LAH 52/60

Case Docket No. 990170

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PATENTS ONLY

To the Assistant Commissioner for Patents.
Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

Kiyofumi NISHIURA

Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? NO

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

Name: **SUMITOMO METAL INDUSTRIES, LTD.**

Street Address:

5-33, Kitahama 4-chome, Chuo-ku,
Osaka-shi, Osaka 541-0041, Japan

Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? NO

3. Nature of conveyance: **Assignment**

Execution Date: **February 12, 1999**

4. Title: **APPARATUS FOR PULLING A SINGLE CRYSTAL**

5. 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: February 12, 1998

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

Additional numbers attached? NO

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

Name: Armstrong, Westerman, Hattori,
McLeland & Naughton
Suite 1000
1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

7. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1

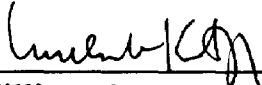
8. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41). \$ 40.00

XX Check enclosed

9. Deposit Account No.: 01-2340

10. 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.



William G. Kratz, Jr.
Reg. No.: 22,631

Date March 1, 1999

Total number of pages including cover sheet: 3

WGK/yap

ASSIGNMENT

In consideration of the premises and other good and valuable consideration paid, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the undersigned,

(1) Kiyofumi NISHIURA

who have made a certain new and useful invention, hereby sell, assign, and transfer unto

SUMITOMO METAL INDUSTRIES, LTD. 5-33, Kitahama 4-chome, Chuo-ku, Osaka-shi,
Osaka 541-0041, Japan

its successors and assigns (hereinafter designated "ASSIGNEE") the entire right, title and interest for the United States of America as defined in 35 U.S.C.100 in the invention entitled

APPARATUS FOR PULLING A SINGLE CRYSTAL

(a) for which an application for United States Letters Patent was filed on _____
and identified by United States Serial No. _____; or

(b) for which an application for United States Letters Patent was executed on _____
_____.

and the undersigned hereby authorize and request the United States Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue any and all United States Letters Patent which may be granted therefor and any and all extensions, divisions, reissues, substitutes, renewals, continuations, or continuations-in-part thereof, and the right to all benefits under the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property to the said ASSIGNEE, for its interest as ASSIGNEE, its successors, assigns and legal representatives; the undersigned agree that the attorneys of record in said application shall hereafter act on behalf of said ASSIGNEE;

AND the undersigned hereby agree to transfer a like interest, and to render all necessary assistance in making application for and obtaining original, divisional, substitute, renewed, continuation, continuation-in-part, reissued or extended Letters Patent of the United States, upon request of the said ASSIGNEE, its successors, assigns and legal representatives, and without further remuneration, in and to any improvements, and applications for patent based thereon, growing out of or related to the said invention; and to execute any papers by the said ASSIGNEE, its successors, assigns and legal representatives, deemed essential to ASSIGNEE's full protection and title in and to the invention hereby transferred.

I(We) hereby grant the following law firm the power to insert on this Assignment any further identification which may be necessary or desirable in order to comply with the rules of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for recordation of this document;

Armstrong, Westerman, Hattori, McLeland & Naughton

SIGNED on the date(s) indicated aside my(our) signature(s):

INVENTORS

DATE SIGNED

1) *Kiyofumi Nishiura*
Name: Kiyofumi NISHIURA

February 12, 1994