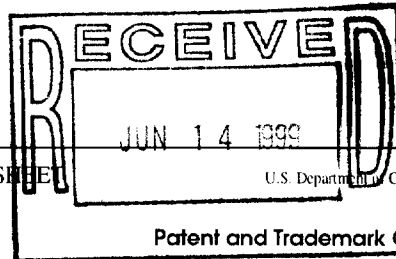


06-16-1999



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FORM PTO-1595 (Rev. 6-93)

OMB No. 0651-0011 (exp. 4-94)

PATENTS ONLY

U.S. Department of Commerce

Patent and Trademark Office

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

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

Michael W. Spiering  
Richard L. Ahlgrim  
Bruce E. Morris

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

3. Nature of conveyance:

- Assignment
- Security Agreement
- Other
- Merger
- Change of Name

Execution Date:

6-14-99

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

Name: Big Inch Marine Systems

Internal Address:

Street Address:

Northwoods Industrial Park West  
12235 FM 529

City: Houston State: TX Zip: 77041-2806

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

4. Application number(s) or registration 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):

09/272,663

B. Patent No.(s):

Additional numbers attached?  Yes  No

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

Name: Michael C. Barrett  
Arnold White & Durkee  
P.O. Box 4433

City: Houston State: Texas Zip: 77210

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

if check insufficient or inadvertently omitted

8. Deposit account number: 01-2508/BIGC:046/BAM  
(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.

Michael C. Barrett

*Michael C. Barrett*

6-10-99

Name of Person Signing, Reg. No. P-44,523

Signature

Date

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

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:  
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Office of Public Records,  
Crystal Gateway 4, Room 335, Washington, D.C. 20231

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING  
37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Office of Public Records, Crystal Gateway 4, Room 335, Washington, DC 20231, on the date below:

6-10-99

Date

*Michael C. Barrett*

Signature

ASSIGNMENT

FOR GOOD AND VALUABLE CONSIDERATION, the receipt, sufficiency and adequacy of which are hereby acknowledged, the undersigned, does hereby:

SELL, ASSIGN AND TRANSFER to Big Inch Marine Systems (the "Assignee"), having a place of business at Northwoods Industrial Park West, 12235 FM 529, Houston, Texas 77041-2806, the entire right, title and interest for the United States and all foreign countries in and to any and all improvements which are disclosed in the application for United States Letters Patent, Serial No. **09/272,663** which has been filed on **March 18, 1999** and is entitled "**REMOTE ARTICULATED CONNECTOR**", such application and all divisional, continuing, substitute, renewal, reissue and all other applications for patent which have been or shall be filed in the United States and all foreign countries on any of such improvements; all original and reissued patents which have been or shall be issued in the United States and all foreign countries on such improvements; and specifically including the right to file foreign applications under the provisions of any convention or treaty and claim priority based on such application in the United States;

AUTHORIZE AND REQUEST the issuing authority to issue any and all United States and foreign patents granted on such improvements to the Assignee;

WARRANT AND COVENANT that no assignment, grant, mortgage, license or other agreement affecting the rights and property herein conveyed has been or will be made to others by the undersigned, and that the full right to convey the same as herein expressed is possessed by the undersigned;

COVENANT, when requested and at the expense of the Assignee, to carry out in good faith the intent and purpose of this assignment, the undersigned will execute all divisional, continuing, substitute, renewal, reissue, and all other patent applications on any and all such improvements; execute all rightful oaths, declarations, assignments, powers of attorney and other papers; communicate to the Assignee all facts known to the undersigned relating to such improvements and the history thereof; and generally do everything possible which the Assignee shall consider desirable for vesting title to such improvements in the Assignee, and for securing, maintaining and enforcing proper patent protection for such improvements;

TO BE BINDING on the heirs, assigns, representatives and successors of the undersigned and extend to the successors, assigns and nominees of the Assignee.

Signature: *Michael W. Spiering*  
Name: Michael W. Spiering

Date: 7 June 99

STATE OF TEXAS )  
 ) ss.  
COUNTY OF HARRIS )

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this 7<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1999, personally appeared Michael W. Spiering, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same of his own free will for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

[SEAL] 

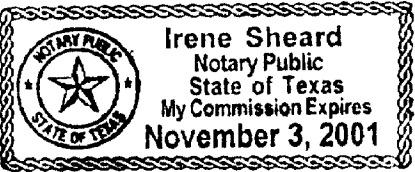
*Irene Sheard*  
Notary or Consular Officer

Signature: *Richard L. Ahlgrim*  
Name: Richard L. Ahlgrim

Date: 7 JUNE 99

STATE OF TEXAS )  
 ) ss.  
COUNTY OF HARRIS )

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this 7<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1999, personally appeared Richard L. Ahlgrim, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same of his own free will for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

[SEAL] 

*Irene Sheard*  
Notary or Consular Officer

Signature: Bruce E. Morris  
Name: Bruce E. Morris

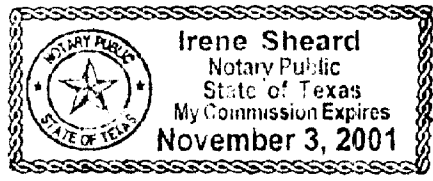
Date: 7 June 99

STATE OF TEXAS )  
 ) ss.  
COUNTY OF HARRIS )

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this 7<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1999, personally appeared Bruce E. Morris, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same of his own free will for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Irene Sheard  
Notary or Consular Officer

[SEAL]



ARNOLD, WHITE & DURKEE

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