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Name (line 1) Francois-Noel Richard

Name (line 2)

Second Party

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Name (line 1) Jose Simoes

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Name (line 1) Vesuvius Crucible Company

Name (line 2) a Delaware Corporation

Address (line 1) 103 Foulk Road, Suite 32

Address (line 2)

Address (line 3) Wilmington

Delaware

19803

City

State/Country

Zip Code

Domestic Representative Name and Address

Enter for the first Receiving Party only.

Name

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Address (line 2)

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Correspondent Name and Address

Area Code and Telephone Number

412-788-4441 x254

Name James R. Williams

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Address (line 2) 4604 Campbells Run Road

Address (line 3) Pittsburgh, PA 15205

Address (line 4)

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Patent Application Number(s)

09/284166

Patent Number(s)

If this document is being filed together with a new Patent Application, enter the date the patent application was signed by the first named executing inventor.

Month Day Year

Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)

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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. Charges to deposit account are authorized, as indicated herein.

James R. Williams

Name of Person Signing

Signature

Date

PATENT APPLICATION ASSIGNMENT
FROM INVENTORS TO VESUVIUS CRUCIBLE COMPANY

We , Francois-Noël Richard , a citizen of France, residing in France at Avenue Anatole France, 78, Nancy F-54000, FRANCE, and Jose Simoes residing in Belgium at Rue du Port 3/12, Saint-Ghislain B-7330, BELGIUM, have made a certain new and useful invention as set forth in an application for United States Letters Patent having serial number 09/284,166, based on International Application No. PCT/IB97/01281 entitled:

PLANT FOR TRANSFERRING LIQUID METAL, METHOD OF OPERATION, AND REFRACTORIES.

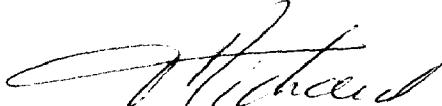
Vesuvius Crucible Company, a corporation of the State of Delaware and having an office at 103 Foulk Road, Suite 32, Wilmington, Delaware 19803 ("Vesuvius") is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to the invention and in and to any and all Letters Patent of the United States and foreign countries that may be obtained therefor.

NOW, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt for and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, We do hereby sell, assign, transfer and set over unto Vesuvius, its legal representatives, successors, and assigns, the entire right, title and interest in and to the invention as set forth in the above-mentioned application, including any continuations, continuations-in-part, divisions, reissues, re-examinations or extensions thereof, and in and to any and all patents of the United States and foreign countries that may be issued for the invention;

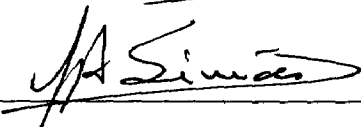
We hereby agree with Vesuvius that We will not execute any writing or do any act whatsoever conflicting with these presents, and that We will, at any time upon request, without further or additional consideration but at the expense of Vesuvius, execute such additional assignments and other writings and do such additional acts as Vesuvius may deem necessary or desirable to perfect Vesuvius' enjoyment of this grant, and render all necessary assistance in making application for and obtaining original, divisional, continuations, continuations-in-part, reexamined, reissued, or extended Letters Patent of the United States or of any and all foreign countries on the invention, and in enforcing any rights or choses in action accruing as a result of such applications or patents, by giving testimony in any proceedings or transactions involving such applications or patents, and by executing preliminary statements and other affidavits, it being understood that the foregoing covenant and agreement shall bind, and inure to the benefit of the assigns and legal representatives of assignor and assignee;

We request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue any Letters Patent of the United States that may be issued for the invention to Vesuvius, its legal representatives, successors or assigns, as the sole owner of the entire right, title and interest in and to the patent and the invention covered thereby.

26 May 1999
 Date


 Signature

08 JUNE 1999
 Date


 Signature