

ASSIGNMENT

PATENT

WHEREAS, Darrell L. Sickels (hereinafter "ASSIGNOR") of Troy, Ohio invented Wire Feed Apparatus and Method With Non-Linear Stage, serial number 09/374,066, filed August 13, 1999;

WHEREAS, Illinois Tool Works Inc. (hereinafter "ASSIGNEE"), a corporation having a place of business at 3600 West Lake Avenue, Glenview, IL 60025, and a mailing address of the same, is desirous of acquiring an interest therein;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00) and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, ASSIGNOR hereby does sell, assign and transfer unto Assignee, its successors, assigns and legal representatives, the full and exclusive right to the invention as described in the aforesaid application, in the United States and all foreign countries, together with the right of priority under the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Models, and any other international agreements to which the United States adheres, and hereby authorizes and requests the Commissioner of Patents to issue said Letters Patent to ASSIGNEE, for the sole use and benefit of ASSIGNEE, its successors, assigns and legal representatives,

AND HEREBY AGREES to transfer a like interest upon request of ASSIGNEE, its successors, assigns and legal representatives, and without further remuneration, in and to any improvements and applications for patents based thereon, growing out of or relating to the invention; and to provide all reasonable assistance and execute any papers deemed essential by ASSIGNEE, its successors, assigns and legal representatives, to ASSIGNEE's full protection and title in and to the invention hereby transferred,

AGREEING, FURTHERMORE, upon request of ASSIGNEE, and without further remuneration, to execute any and all papers desired by ASSIGNEE for the filing and granting of foreign applications and the perfecting of title thereto in ASSIGNEE.

EXECUTED this 7th day of October, 1999.



Darrell L. Sickels