10/26/1999 NTHAI1

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

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PATENT REEL: 010332 FRAME: 0287

PATENT

Express Mail#EL221795616US

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, we, Timothy R. Hymer of 5113 Scarlett O'Hara Lane, Villa Ridge, Missouri 63089 and Stephen E. James of 106 Pheasant Run, O'Fallon, Illinois 62269, have invented a certain new and useful zinc alloy containing a bismuth-indium intermetallic compound for use in alkaline batteries for which we have executed an application for Letters Patent in the United States identifying us as the only inventors thereof (sald application being identified as Howell & Haferkamp, L.C., Docket 15011-1506); and

WHEREAS, Big River Zinc Corporation, a corporation of the State of Delaware having its principal office and place of business at Route 3 & Monsanto Avenue, Sauget, Illinois, 62201, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention and improvements as disclosed in said application, in and to said application, and in and to the patent to be obtained thereon.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00) to us in hand paid, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and adequacy of all of which are hereby acknowledged, we, Timothy R. Hymer and Stephen E. James, have sold, assigned and transferred and do hereby sell, assign and transfer unto said Big River Zinc Corporation, its successors or assigns, the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention and improvements as the same are disclosed in said application which was executed by us preparatory to filing for Letters Patent, in and to said application, and in and to any Letters Patent, including divisionals, continuations, reissues, reexaminations and extensions to be obtained therefor in the United States and all foreign countries; and we further agree to cooperate with the assignee hereunder in the obtaining and sustaining of any and all such Letters Patent as the assignee may desire to apply for, but at the expense of said assignee.

The Commissioner of Patents or other proper official is hereby authorized and requested to issue said Letters Patent to said Big River Zinc Corporation in accordance with this Assignment.

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PATENT REEL: 010332 FRAME: 0288

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand the
October 1999.
Timothy R. Hymer
STATE OF ILLINOIN:
COUNTY OF St. Clicking :
On this 15th day of 1999 before me, a Notary Public, within and for the County of 5th 1990 before me, a Notary Public, within and for the County of 5th 1990 before me, a Notary Public, within and for the County of 5th 1990 before me, a Notary Public, within and for the County of 5th 1990 before me, a Notary Public, within and for the County of 5th 1990 before me, a Notary Public, within and for the County of 5th 1990 before me, a Notary Public, within and for the County of 5th 1990 before me, a Notary Public, within and for the County of 5th 1990 before me, a Notary Public, within and for the County of 5th 1990 before me, a Notary Public, within and for the County of 5th 1990 before me, a Notary Public, within and for the County of 5th 1990 before me, a Notary Public, within and for the County of 5th 1990 before me, a Notary Public, within and for the County of 5th 1990 before me, a Notary Public, within and for the County of 5th 1990 before me, a Notary Public, within and for the County of 5th 1990 before me, a Notary Public, within and suppose the foreign me, a Notary Public, within and for the County of 5th 1990 before me, a Notary Public, within and suppose the foreign me, a Notary Public, within and for the County of 5th 1990 before me, a Notary Public, within and suppose the foreign me, a Notary Public, within and suppose the foreign me, a Notary Public, within and suppose the foreign me, a Notary Public, within and suppose the foreign me, a Notary Public, within and suppose the foreign me, a Notary Public, within and suppose the foreign me, a Notary Public, within and suppose the foreign me, a Notary Public, within and suppose the foreign me, a Notary Public, within and suppose the foreign me, a Notary Public, within and suppose the foreign me, a Notary Public, within and suppose the foreign me, a Notary Public, within and suppose the foreign me, a Notary Public, within and suppose the foreign me, a Notary Public, within and suppose the foreign me, a Notary Public, within and suppose the foreign me, a No
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal the date and year last above writter.
Notary Public Notary Public "OFFICIAL SEAL" SANDRA K. ANDERSON Notary Public, State of Illinois My Commission Expires 09/28/02
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand the 15th day of
October 1999. Stephen E. James
STATE OF ILLINOIS: CCUNTY OF St Clauc
On this 15th day of October 1999 before me, a Notary Public, within and for the County of 5th Claub, State of Juinolo , personally appeared Stephen E. James, to me known to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing assignment and acknowledged that he executed same as his free act and deed.
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal the date and year last above written.
Sandia Andollon Notary Public
My Commission Expires: 092800 "OFFICIAL SEAL" SANDRA K. ANDERSON Notary Public, State of Illinois My Commission Expires 09/28/02

PATENT **RECORDED: 10/18/1999 REEL: 010332 FRAME: 0289**