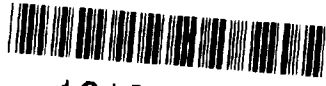


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ATTY. DKT. 98B140

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

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

Robert Michael LEE
Graham Sydney LAWRENCE

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

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

Name: The BOC Group plc
Internal Address: _____

Street Address: Chertsey Road
Windlesham, Surrey GU20 6HJ
ENGLAND

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

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

3. Nature of conveyance:

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

Execution Date: November 4, 1999

4. 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: NOVEMBER 18, 1999

A. Patent Application No.(s)

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

09/442974

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

Name: Philip H. Von Neida
Internal Address: Patent, Trademark & Licensing Department

Street Address: The BOC Group, Inc.
100 Mountain Avenue

City: Murray Hill State: NJ Zip: 07974

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41): \$ 40.00

- Enclosed
- Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit account number: 02-2865

(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.

Philip H. Von Neida
Philip H. Von Neida
Registration No. 34,942

NOVEMBER 18, 1999
Date

Total number of pages comprising cover sheet: 1

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JOINT ASSIGNMENT

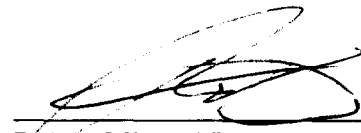
For value received, we **Robert Michael LEE and Graham Sydney LAWRENCE**, citizens of The United Kingdom, residing, respectively at **10 Park Road, Aldershot, Hampshire GU11 3PU ENGLAND and Woodstock, Warren Wood Drive, High Wycombe, Bucks HP11 1DY ENGLAND**, do hereby sell and assign to **The BOC Group plc**, an English Company of Chertsey Road, Windlesham, Surrey GU20 6HJ, England. its successors or assigns, the entire right, title and interest, in our improvement in **FILLING CONTAINERS WITH GAS** for which we have executed an application for Letters Patent of the United States on the same date or dates of this Joint Assignment which application claims priority from United Kingdom application number 9825763.7, filed November 25, 1998: and, together with any Letters Patent which may be granted therefor, and any divisions, reissues, continuations or extensions thereof, and authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue any Letters Patent resulting therefrom to said Company as assignee. and covenant that we have full right so to do and agree that we will communicate to said Company or its representatives any facts known to us respecting said improvement and testify in any legal proceedings, sign all lawful papers, execute all divisional, continuation and reissue applications in connection therewith, make all rightful oaths and generally do everything possible to aid said Company, its successors, assigns or nominees to obtain and enforce in the United States proper protection for said improvement.

Date

Assignor

Witnessed By:

4/11/99




Robert Michael Lee


 4/11/99

At: BOC GASES UK
GUILDFORD

4/11/99



Graham Sydney Lawrence

 4/11/99

At: BOC GASES UK
GUILDFORD