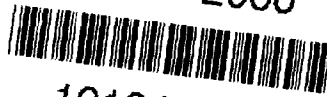


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BRUCE E. HAYDEN
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Signature

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ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, I, James E. Gray, residing at 12454 North 29 Drive, Phoenix, AZ 85029 am the inventor of an invention or improvement in:

**METHOD AND DATA PROCESSING SYSTEM FOR DETECTING
PATTERNS IN SQL TO ALLOW OPTIMIZED USE OF MULTI-COLUMN
INDEXES**

for which I have executed an application for Letters Patent of the United States of America, of even date herewith as to my respective signature; and

WHEREAS, Bull HN Information Systems Inc., a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware and having its principal offices at 300 Concord Road, Billerica, Massachusetts 01821-4186, is desirous of obtaining the entire right, title and interest in, to and under the said invention and the said application in the United States of America and in any and all countries foreign thereto;


NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable considerations, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged I have sold, assigned, transferred and set over, and by these presents do hereby sell, assign, transfer and set over, unto said Bull HN Information Systems Inc., its successors, legal representatives, and assigns, the entire right, title and interest in, to and under the said invention, and the said application, and all divisional, renewal, substitutional, and continuing applications thereof, and all Letters Patent of the United States of America which may be granted thereon and all reissues and extensions thereof, and all applications for Letters Patent which may be filed for said invention in any country or countries foreign to the United States of America, and all Letters Patent which may be granted for said invention in any country or countries foreign to the United States of America, and all extensions, renewals, and reissues thereof; and I hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks of the United States of America, and any official of any country or countries foreign to the United States of America, whose duty it is to issue patents on applications as aforesaid, to issue all Letters Patent for said invention to said Bull HN Information Systems Inc., its successors, legal representatives and assigns, in accordance with the terms of this instrument.

AND I HEREBY covenant that I have full right to convey the entire interest herein assigned, and that I have not executed, and will not execute, any agreement in conflict herewith.

AND I HEREBY further covenant and agree that I will communicate to said Bull HN Information Systems Inc., its successors, legal representatives and assigns, any facts known to me respecting said invention, and testify in any legal proceeding, sign all lawful papers, execute all divisional, renewal, substitutional, continuing, and reissue applications, make all rightful declarations and/or oaths and generally do everything possible to aid said Bull HN Information Systems Inc., its successors, legal representatives and assigns, to obtain and enforce proper patent protection for said invention in all countries.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand on the dates set below my respective signature.

ASSIGNOR:


James E. Gray

Date of Execution: December 16, 1999