

02-09-2000

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420 Rec'd PCT/PTO 06 DEC 1999

Docket No. 53157USA1A



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Conveyance Type:

- Assignment
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Name of conveying party(ies)

Execution Date (Month/Day/Year)

Frederic P. A. Le Riche

December 1, 1999

Name and address of receiving party(ies):

3M Innovative Properties Company
P.O. Box 33427
St. Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427

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Additional names of conveying party(ies) attached?

- Yes
- No

Application number or patent number:

- This document is being filed with a new patent application on December 6, 1999
- This document is to be recorded against the following patent application or patent:

Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT):

Enter PCT application number only if a U.S. Application Number has not been assigned: PCT/US98/14319

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

Name: Carolyn V. Peters, Phone Number: 651-736-7929
Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
P.O. Box 33427
St. Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427

Number of Properties:

Enter the total number of properties involved

1

Fee Amount:

Fee Amount for Properties Listed (37 CFR 3.41)

X \$40.00

Method of Payment:

Charge to Deposit Account No. 13-3723

= \$40.00

12/13/1999 MCLAYBRD 00000089 133723

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Authorization to charge additional fees: Yes No

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

Carolyn V. Peters

Printed Name of Attorney

Signature

December 6, 1999

Date

Pages:

Total number of pages of the attached conveyance document including any attachments

1

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:

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PATENT

REEL: 010528 FRAME: 0061

DECLARATION, POWER OF ATTORNEY, AND PETITION

I, a below named inventor, depose and say that: (1) my residence, citizenship, and mailing address are indicated below; (2) I have reviewed and understand the contents of my patent application, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to herein, which is identified as PCT International Patent Application No. PCT/US98/14319 filed 09 July 1998, bearing Attorney Docket Number 53157PCT8A; (3) I believe that I am the original, first, and sole inventor or discoverer of the invention or discovery in

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BETWEEN OPPOSITE EDGES AND CONTAINING ONE OR MORE SHEETS**

DIFFERENT FROM OTHER SHEETS

described and claimed therein and for which a patent is sought; and (4) I hereby acknowledge my duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to the patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56*, and that no application for patent or inventor's certificate on this invention or discovery has been filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns in any country foreign to the United States of America except European Application No. EP 96.116040.5 filed 07 October 1996 upon which I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code Section 119.

I hereby appoint Gregory D. Allen (Reg. No. 35,048), Scott A. Bardell (Reg. No. 39,594), Stephen W. Bauer (Reg. No. 32,192), Dale A. Bjorkman (Reg. No. 33,084), Jennie G. Boeder (Reg. No. 28,952), William J. Bond (Reg. No. 32,400), Warren R. Bovee (Reg. No. 26,434), Stephen W. Buckingham (Reg. No. 30,035), John A. Burtis (Reg. No. 39,924), Paul W. Busse (Reg. No. 32,403), Gerald F. Chernivec (Reg. No. 26,537), James D. Christoff (Reg. No. 31,492), David R. Cleveland (Reg. No. 29,524), Philip Y. Dahl (Reg. No. 36,115), Janice L. Dowdall (Reg. No. 31,201), Lisa M. Fagan (Reg. No. 40,601), Gregory J. Feulner (Reg. No. 41,744), Darla P. Fonseca (Reg. No. 31,783), John A. Fortkort (Reg. No. 38,454), Melanie G. Gover (Reg. No. 41,793), Gary L. Griswold (Reg. No. 25,396), Doreen S. L. Gwin (Reg. No. 35,580), H. Sanders Gwin (Reg. No. 33,242), Michael A. Hakamaki (Reg. No. 40,011), Karl G. Hanson (Reg. No. 32,900), Néstor F. Ho (Reg. No. 39,460), Jeffrey J. Hohenshell (Reg. No. 34,109), Robert W. Hoke (Reg. No. 29,226), John H. Hornickel (Reg. No. 29,393), MarySusan Howard (Reg. No. 38,729), Stephen C. Jensen (Reg. No. 35,207), Robert H. Jordan (Reg. No. 31,973), Harold C. Knecht III (Reg. No. 35,576), Kent S. Kokko (Reg. No. 33,931), Charles D. Levine (Reg. No. 32,477), Douglas B. Little (Reg. No. 28,439), Eloise J. Maki (Reg. No. 33,418), Lisa M. McGeehan (Reg. No. 41,185), Matthew B. McNutt (Reg. No. 39,766), Michelle M. Michel (Reg. No. 33,968), William D. Miller (Reg. No. 37,988), Peter L. Olson (Reg. No. 35,308), Daniel R. Pastirik (Reg. No. 33,025), David B. Patchett (Reg. No. 39,326), Carolyn V. Peters (Reg. No. 33,271), Terryl K. Qualey (Reg. No. 25,148), Ted K. Ringsred (Reg. No. 35,658), James A. Rogers (Reg. No. 37,228), Daniel C. Schulte (Reg. No. 40,160), Leland D. Schultz (Reg. No. 30,322), Steven E. Skolnick (Reg. No. 33,789), Robert W. Sprague (Reg. No. 30,497), Brian E. Szymanski (Reg. No. 39,523), James J. Trussell (Reg. No. 37,251), F. Andrew Ubel (Reg. No. 36,704), and Lucy C. Weiss (Reg. No. 32,834), my attorneys and/or agents with full powers (including the powers of appointment, substitution, and revocation) to prosecute this application and any division, continuation, continuation-in-part, reexamination, or reissue thereof, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith; the mailing address and the telephone number of the above-mentioned attorneys and/or agents are

Attention: Carolyn V. Peters
3M Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
P.O. Box 33427
St. Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427
Telephone No. 651-736-7929

The undersigned petitioner declares further that all statements made herein of his own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

*Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 is attached.

Wherefore, I pray for grant of Letters Patent for the invention or discovery described and claimed in the aforementioned specification and I hereby subscribe my name to the foregoing specification and claims, declaration, power of attorney, and this petition, on the day set forth below.



1/12/99

Frederic P. A. Le Riche

Date

Residence: Osny, France

Citizenship: France

Post Office P.O. Box 33427

Address: St. Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427

§1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

- (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

- (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or
- (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
 - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
 - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

(c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

- (1) Each inventor named in the application;
- (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.

(d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.

ASSIGNMENT

Whereas I, the below named inventor, with residence and citizenship as indicated below; have made an invention in

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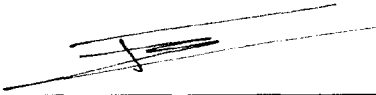
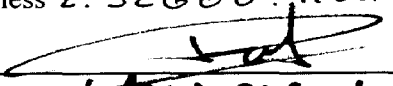
and have executed an application for Letters Patent of the United States of America based thereon; which application is identified as PCT International Patent Application No. PCT/US98/14319 filed 09 July 1998, bearing Attorney Docket Number 53157PCT8A;

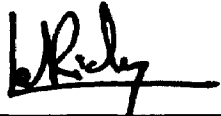
Now, therefore, for good and valuable consideration, receipt of which is acknowledged, I have agreed to assign and transfer and do hereby assign and transfer unto the 3M INNOVATIVE PROPERITES COMPANY, a wholly owned subsidiary of MINNESOTA MINING AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY (sometimes designated as the Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing Company), a corporation of Delaware, having its principal office at Saint Paul, Minnesota, its successors and assigns, the entire right, title, and interest in and to the said invention and application, and in and to any division or continuation (in whole or in part) of said application, and in and to any and all improvements in the said invention made by me or made jointly with others (provided any such improvement is made during my employment by the said Company or within one year thereafter), and in and to any and all Letters Patent, reexaminations, reissues, or extensions thereof, of the United States of America and countries foreign thereto (including the right to apply for Letters Patent, Utility Models, or Inventors' Certificates in foreign countries in its own name and to claim any priority rights for such foreign applications to which such applications are entitled under international conventions, treaties, or otherwise), which have been or may be granted thereon or on any divisional, continuation (in whole or in part), renewal, reexamination, reissue, or other or further application based in whole or in part upon the said invention or improvements thereon, to be held and enjoyed as fully and exclusively as they would have been by me had this assignment and transfer not been made,

I do further agree for myself and for my heirs, executors, and administrators, to execute and deliver without further consideration any further applications, assignments, and documents, and to perform such other acts as I lawfully may, that may be deemed necessary by the said Company, its successors, assigns, and nominees, fully to secure its right, title, and interest as aforesaid and to obtain or maintain Letters Patent, Utility Models, or Inventors' Certificates in any and all countries;

And I do hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents to issue any and all Letters Patent which may be granted upon any of the said applications, to the said Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company, as the assignee of the entire right, title, and interest therein.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto signed my name on the day and year set forth below.


Witness L. JEGOU R. 02/12/99

Witness L. BOUSSAC R. 02/14/99


Frederic P. A. Le Riche
Residence: Osny, France
Citizenship: France
1.12.99
Date