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1.19.00

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To the Assistant Commissioner of Patents: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

GORDON J. SMITH

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

International Business Machines Corporation
New Orchard Road
Armonk, New York 10504

jc678 U.S. PTO
09/487909
01/19/00

3. Nature of conveyance:

X Assignment

Execution Date: 1/17/00

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 1/17/00

A. Patent Application No.(s)

B. Patent No.(s)

09/487909

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

Matthew J. Bussan
IBM Corporation
Intellectual Property Law
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Rochester, MN 55901-7829
(507) 253-8557

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1

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

X Authorized to be charged to
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8. Deposit account number:

09-0465

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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.

Kerry Thornhill

Name of Person Signing

Kerry Thornhill

For: FELSMAN, BRADLEY, VADEN,
GUNTER & DILLON, LLP

1/19/00

Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet: 2

PATENT

REEL: 010563 FRAME: 0219

A S S I G N M E N T

Whereas, I, (1) GORDON J. SMITH
County of Olmsted

of Rochester,
and State of Minnesota,

have invented certain improvements in

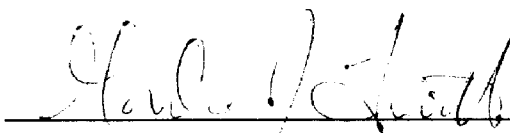
**ERGONOMIC SAFETY ASSIST MECHANISM FOR HANDLING MICRO-SIZED COMPUTER
HARD DISK DRIVES**

and executed a United States patent application therefor on
(*Dates Inventors Signed Declaration*) (1) January 17, 2000.

Whereas, INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION, a corporation of New York, having a place of business at Armonk, New York 10504, (hereinafter called IBM), desires to acquire the entire right, title and interest in the said application and invention, and to any United States and foreign patents to be obtained therefor;

Now therefore, for a valuable consideration, receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, I, the above named, hereby sell, assign, and transfer to IBM, its successors and assigns, the entire right, title and interest in the said application and invention therein disclosed for the United States and foreign countries, and all rights of priority resulting from the filing of said United States application, and I request the Commissioner of Patents to issue any Letters Patent granted upon the invention set forth in said application to IBM, its successors and assigns; and I hereby agree that IBM may apply for foreign Letters Patent on said invention and I will execute all papers necessary in connection with the United States and foreign applications when called upon to do so by IBM.

Signed at Rochester, MN on 1/17, 2000.



GORDON J. SMITH