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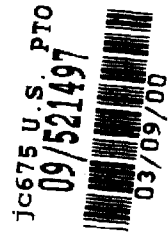
ADEMARK OFFICE

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Attorney Docket No.3191J-000008

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COVER SHEET FOR RECORDAL OF DOCUMENT (PATENT)



Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 3.31, enclosed herewith is a document for recordal in this case. The following information is provided:

(1) Name Of Party Conveying The Interest:

GERALD E. RICKHEIM

(2) Name And Address Of Party Receiving The Interest:

TEXTRON INC.
40 Westminster Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Handwritten: 09/521497

(3) Description Of The Transaction To Be Recorded:

Assignment License
 Change of Name Other _____

(4) Application(s) and/or Patent(s) Against Which Enclosure Is To Be Recorded:

Serial Number _____, filed _____
 Application being filed concurrently herewith.
 Patent Number _____ issued _____

(5) Name And Address Of The Party To Whom Correspondence Concerning The Request To Record Should Be Mailed:

David P. Utykanski
Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.
P. O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303

(6) **Number Of Applications and/or Patents Identified In The Cover Sheet And Total Recordal Fee:**

Number of Applications/Patents: One (1)

Total Recordal Fee Enclosed: \$40.00

7) **Date(s) The Document Was Executed:** March 3, 2000 by Gerald E. Rickheim

To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct, and if the attached is not an original document, the undersigned verifies that it is a true copy of the original.

If, for some reason, Applicant(s) has/have not paid a sufficient fee, please charge our Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any further fees which may be due. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

By: David P. Utykowski
David P. Utykowski
Reg. No. 39052
Attorney for Applicant(s)

Date: 3/9/00

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, I, GERALD E. RICKHEIM, residing at West 257 South 6590 Pheasant Drive, Waukesha, Wisconsin 53189 (hereinafter referred to as Assignor), have invented a new and useful invention entitled:

BED KNIFE BLADE CONSTRUCTION FOR REEL MOWERS

and set forth in an application for Letters Patent of the United States executed on even date herewith; and

WHEREAS, TEXTRON INC., (hereinafter referred to as Assignee), a corporation of the State of Delaware, having its principal place of business at 40 Westminster Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02903, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention and said application for Letters Patent of the United States, and in and to any Letters Patent or Patents, United States or foreign, to be obtained therefor and thereon:

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00), and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the Assignor has sold, assigned, transferred and set over, and by these presents do sell, assign, transfer and set over, unto the Assignee, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, his entire right, title and interest in and to the above-mentioned invention, application for Letters Patent, and any and all Letters Patent or Patents in the United States of America and all foreign countries which may be granted therefor and thereon, and to any and all divisions, continuations, and continuations-in-part of said application, or reissues or extensions of said Letters Patent or Patents, and all rights under International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, the same to be held and enjoyed by the Assignee, for its own use and behoof and the use and behoof of its successors, legal representatives and assigns, to the full end of the term or terms for which Letters Patent or Patents may be granted, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by the Assignor, had this sale and assignment not been made.

AND for the same consideration, the Assignor hereby covenants and agrees to and with the Assignee, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, that the Assignor will, whenever counsel of the Assignee, or the counsel of its successors, legal representatives and assigns, shall advise that any proceeding in connection with said invention, or said application for Letters Patent, or any proceeding in connection with Letters Patent for said invention in any country, including interference proceedings, is lawful and desirable, or that any division, continuation or continuation-in-part of any application for Letters Patents, or any reissue or extension of any Letters Patents, to be obtained thereon, is lawful and desirable, sign all papers and documents, take all

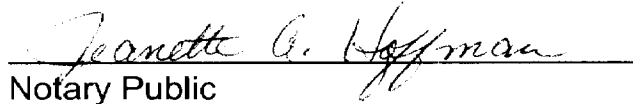
lawful oaths, and do all acts necessary or required to be done for the procurement, maintenance, enforcement and defense of Letters Patent for said inventions, without charge to the Assignee, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, but at the cost and expense of the Assignee, its successors, legal representatives and assigns.

The Assignor hereby requests the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue his entire right, title and interest to said Letters Patents of the United States to the Assignee for the sole use and behoof of the Assignee, its successors, legal representatives and assigns.


Gerald E. Rickheim

State of Wisconsin)
) ss.
County of Racine)

Before me personally appeared said Gerald E. Rickheim, and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be his own free act and deed, this 3rd day of March, 2000.


Notary Public
My Commission Expires: August 26, 2001

SFAL