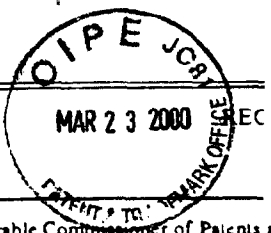


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Internal Address: D-60318 Frankfurt am Main
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ASSIGNMENT

For valuable consideration, the receipt and adequacy of which is hereby acknowledged, I/we

Dr. Joachim STECKELBERG, Lorsbacher Straße 68a, 65719 Hofheim, Germany

Citizenship: German,

hereby sell, assign, and transfer unto DyStar Textilfarben GmbH & Co. Deutschland KG

a corporation organized under the laws of Germany located at D-60318 Frankfurt am Main, Germany,

the entire right, title and interest in and to my/our application for Letters Patent of the United States, the specification of which was filed on January 07, 2000 as Serial No. 09/479,711

entitled: DISAZO COMPOUNDS, THEIR PREPARATION AND THEIR USE AS DYESTUFFS

and my/our entire right, title, and interest in and to all my/our inventions disclosed in said application for Letters Patent, and in and to all divisional or continuation applications that may be filed for United States Letters Patent for any of said inventions, and in and to all patents that may be granted on the foregoing applications, and I/we hereby agree, whenever requested, to communicate to said assignee, its successors and assigns, any facts known to me/us respecting said inventions, to testify in any legal proceeding, and to execute all applications or papers necessary to obtain and maintain proper patent protection on said inventions in the United States.

Inventor(s):

Dr. Joachim Steckelberg  Date: 01.03.00