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MRD 3-23-00

PATENTS

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Patent and Trademark Office

To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks. Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):  
 Taiji MIZUTA, Fumio MORIMUNE, Mitsuo TOMONAGA and Takayoshi MIYAZAKI

Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached?  Yes  No

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):  
 Name: KABUSHIKI KAISHA KOBE SEIKO SHO  
 Address: 3-18, Wakinohamacho 1-chome, Chuo-ku, Kobe-shi, Hyogo-ken, Japan

3. Nature of Conveyance:  
 Assignment  Merger  
 Security Agreement  Change of Name  
 Other

Execution Date: December 20, 1999

Additional name(s) and address(es) attached?  Yes  No

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: N/A

A. Patent Application No.(s)  
09/473,947

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached?  Yes  No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:  
 OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.  
 Attorneys at Law  
 Fourth Floor  
 1755 Jefferson Davis Highway  
 Arlington, Virginia 22202

6. Total applications and patents involved: 1

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41): \$40.00  
 Enclosed  
 Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit account number: 15-0030  
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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.*

John K. Pike, Ph.D.  
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Norman F. Oblon  
 Name of Person Signing

Registration Number: 24,618

Signature:

Date: 3/23/00

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PATENT  
 REEL: 010706 FRAME: 0077

ASSIGNMENT

09/473,947

For value received, we,

Taiji MIZUTA and Fumio MORIMUNE, residing at c/o OSAKA ALLOYING WORKS, CO., LTD., 45-5-9, Shirakatacho, Fukui-shi, Fukui-ken, Japan, and Mitsuo TOMONAGA and Takayoshi MIYAZAKI, residing at c/o Kobe Corporate Research Laboratories in Kobe Steel, Ltd., 5-5, Takatsukadai 1-chome, Nishi-ku, Kobe-shi, Hyogo-ken, Japan, hereby sell, assign, and transfer to OSAKA ALLOYING WORKS, CO., LTD., a corporation existing under the laws of Japan, located at 45-5-9, Shirakatacho, Fukui-shi, Fukui-ken, Japan, and KABUSHIKI KAISHA KOBE SEIKO SHO, a corporation existing under the laws of Japan, located at 3-18, Wakinohamacho 1-chome, Chuo-ku, Kobe-shi, Hyogo-ken, Japan, and its successors, assigns, and legal representatives, the entire right, title, and interest for all countries including the United States of America, in and to certain inventions relating to

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described in an application for Letters Patent of the United States,  having an oath or declaration by me/us executed on even date herewith;  bearing Serial No. 09/473,947 and filed on December 29, 1998 and all patents which may be granted therefor, and all divisions, reissues, continuations and extensions thereof, and authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue all patents on said improvements or resulting therefrom to said Company as assignee of the entire interest, and covenant that I/We have full right so to do, and agree that I/we will communicate to said Company or its representatives any facts known to me/us respecting said improvements and testify in any legal proceedings, sign all lawful papers, execute all divisional, continuing and reissue applications, make all rightful oaths and generally do everything possible to aid said Company, its successors, assigns, and nominees, to obtain and enforce proper protection for said invention in the United States.

The Assignor(s) hereby authorizes and requests the attorneys of OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. of Arlington, Virginia, to insert in the spaces provided above the filing date, serial number, and attorney docket number of said application if not previously inserted.

09/473,947

Signature Taiji Mizuta  
Taiji MIZUTA

Date December 20, 1999

Signature Fumio Morimune  
Fumio MORIMUNE

Date December 20, 1999

Signature Mitsuo Tomonaga  
Mitsuo TOMONAGA

Date December 20, 1999

Signature Takayoshi Miyazaki  
Takayoshi MIYAZAKI

Date December 20, 1999